

*Sensational wildlife, superb people and the world's best Chinglish in -*

# **Sichuan Province, China**

***(and a few sites in Peninsular Malaysia)***

**14<sup>th</sup> April to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Dave Sheils and Steve Anyon-Smith

## **Executive summary**

Go.



## **The Plan**

Dion Hobcroft, a good friend and natural historian *par excellence* recommended Sichuan Province in China as a top class birding destination. Dion suggested we contact Ms Yia Min, the manager of the Chengdu-based travel agency Sichuan China Youth Travel

Service. So my long-suffering travel companion and legendary chick magnet Dave Sheils and I quickly organised a 26 day foray that took us to some of the best wildlife habitat that China has to offer. Happily these sites coincide with mind-bending scenery. The mind-bending aspect is due to a problem caused by stretching your neck far enough to see the top of much of it, as the mountains are so steep. And best of all, most of the itinerary took us into the minority ethnic regions of the Qiang and Tibetan folk, with all the associated culture and architecture. Yes, okay, the architecture that the “Cultural Revolution” failed to destroy, which happens to be quite a lot as it turns out.

Some have written or said that a “tour” in this region is the most physically demanding of birding tours. Well, maybe, but a lot of birds could be seen without extreme effort. The extra effort proved rewarding.

We deliberately spent more time in the region than the up-market birding tour groups generally spend, because:

1. we could afford to (our per day cost being around a quarter of that of the expensive alternatives),
2. the travel days could be diluted with more field time,
3. we are not all that good at identifying birds by call or sight, and
4. we wanted to spend some time meeting people, drinking alcohol and exploring non-wildlife places.

I came away with the firm view that 26 days was perfect for our itinerary (see below), although our timing was just a little too early for many migratory birds – something we suspected before we left. However, this period also has much less rain than a journey that might start a month later. Fortunately we did not lose one minute of birding time due to rain. The trade-off between seeing fewer summer migrants and having perfect weather was a valuable one. One other advantage was that there were a number of winter birds still present. This boosted our waterfowl list as well as adding small passerines like the bluethroat.





**Itinerary** (as executed – a couple of minor changes were made after we started)

This itinerary took in the low fertile “Red Plain” area around Chengdu, the foothills (not that there are too many foothills as such given the vertical nature of the mountains in these parts), broadleaf and coniferous montane forests, the high mountains above the tree line, and the almost flat river valleys on the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau around Hongyuan.

In Malaysia we visited Taman Negara National Park, a vast area of lowland tropical evergreen forest, in addition to the cooler montane forest at Fraser’s Hill – lying at around 1300m asl.

*General comments on sites visited are included in the Diary section (below).*

Day zip (14 April): Depart Sydney at 2220 on Malaysia Airlines MH142

*Overnight in plane*

Day 1 (15 April):

- Arrive Kuala Lumpur 0640
- Depart Kuala Lumpur 0920 on Malaysia Airlines flight MH 350
- Arrive at Chengdu at 1350
- Visit Cheng Du Panda Breeding Centre.

*Overnight Lhasa Grand Hotel.*

Day 2 (16 April):

- Early morning excursion to Du Fu's Thatched Cottage
- Transfer to Emei Shan via Leshan Buddha

*Overnight at Emeishan Hotel at the foot of Emei Shan.*

Day 3 (17 April):

- Transfer by Green Bus to Jieyin Dian. Ascend to Golden Summit.

*Overnight at Golden Summit Hotel (I think it was actually some other place).*

Day 4 (18 April):

- Descend to Jieyin Dian “by leg”, playing with the Tibetan stump-tailed macaques along the way
- Continue by Green Bus to Wannian Monastery car park and catch cable car to the monastery

*Overnight in Wannian Monastery.*

Day 5 (19 April):

- Descend to Emei Shan City and transfer to Wawu Shan

*Overnight at Gongtong Hotel*

Day 6 (20 April):

- Birding in Wawu Shan.

*Overnight at Gongtong Hotel*

Day 7 (21 April):

- Birding in Wawu Shan.

*Overnight at Gongtong Hotel*

Day 8 (22 April):

- Transfer to Wolong

*Overnight at Panda Inn*

Day 9 (23 April):

- Walk up to Wuyipeng Research Station

*Overnight at Wuyipeng Research Station*

Day 10 (24 April)

- Birding in Wuyipeng in the morning
- Return to Wolong

*Overnight at Panda Inn*

Day 11 (25 April):

- Go to Balang Shan Pass



*Overnight at Panda Inn*

Day 12 (26 April):

- Excursion in the Valley of Death

*Overnight at Panda Inn*

Day 13 (27 April):

- Back to Balang Shan Pass
- More valley trekking

*Overnight at Panda Inn*

Day 14 (28 April):

- Transfer via Balang Shan to Siguniang Shan (Rilong town)

*Overnight at Xinhong Hotel*

Day 15 (29 April):

- Visit Tibetan side of Balang Shan Pass
- Go for a long plod up a very pretty valley, avoiding monks along the way

*Overnight at Xinhong Hotel.*

Day 16 (30 April):

- Transfer to Maerkang

*Overnight at Maerkang Hotel.*

Day 17 (1 May):

- Full day excursion to Mengbi Shan.

*Overnight at Maerkang Hotel.*

Day 18 (2 May):

- Transfer to Hongyuan

*Overnight at Hongyuan Hotel.*

Day 19 (3 May):

- Day at Hongyuan

*Overnight at Hongyuan Hotel.*

Day 20 (4 May):

- Transfer via Chuanzhusi to Jiuzhaigou

*Overnight at Youyue Grand Hotel outside Jiuzhaigou entrance.*

Day 21 (5 May):

- Excursion inside Jiuzhaigou park.

*Overnight at Youyue Grand Hotel outside Jiuzhaigou entrance.*

Day 22 (6 May):

- Excursion inside Jiuzhaigou park.

*Overnight at Youyue Grand Hotel outside Jiuzhaigou entrance.*

Day 23 (7 May):

- Morning excursion behind road mender's hut outside Jiuzhaigou entrance
- Drive to Guanxian for Mt Qin Cheng or "Green City" Mountain.

*Overnight Minjiang Hotel outside of Green City Mountain.*

Day 24 (8 May):

- Birding on Green City Mountain

*Overnight Minjiang Hotel outside of Green City Mountain.*

Day 25 (9 May):

- Morning birding outside Green City Mountain
- Drive to Chengdu to get new air tickets seeing the folk at Malaysia Airlines cancelled our flight
- Buy a large amount of DVDs that cost 85 cents each – just how do they do it for the price.....?

*Overnight at Lhasa Grand Hotel*

Day 26 (10 May):

- Drive to Chengdu airport to leave Chengdu for Kunming at 1030 on some China Airways thing
- Catch the 1420 Malaysia Airlines flight to Kuala Lumpur
- Transfer to Hotel Malaya

*Overnight at Hotel Malaya*

Day 27 (11 May):

- Catch taxi to Crowne Plaza Hotel to arrive by 0845
- Depart KL for Taman Negara at 0900

*Overnight at Taman Negara Resort*

Day 28 (12 May):

- At Taman Negara

*Overnight at Taman Negara Resort*

Day 29 (13 May):

- At Taman Negara

*Overnight at Taman Negara Resort*

Day 30 (14 May):

- At Taman Negara

*Overnight at Taman Negara Resort*

Day 31 (15 May):

- Catch the 0900 boat to Tembeling Jatty
- Catch taxi to Fraser's Hill

*Overnight (regrettably) at Puncak Inn*







Day 32 (16 May):

- At Fraser's Hill

*Overnight at Puncak Inn*

Day 33 (17 May):

- Catch various buses to KL
- Buy even more high-quality DVDs at prices that amaze.....

*Overnight at Hotel Malaya*

Day 34 (18 May):

- Transfer to KLIA for 0955 MH 141 to Sydney
- Arrive Sydney at 1950



### **Sichuan China Youth Travel Service**

We used the services of Sichuan China Youth Travel Service for all our transport, accommodation and guiding needs in China. Our contact was the very professional Ms Yia Min. Min quoted us a very reasonable rate. She was always keen to help us with answering questions and allowing changes to her suggested itinerary, both before we left, and during the trip. It should be noted that Min's company arranges the ground content for many of the international birding companies that travel to Sichuan.

Most importantly, Min arranged for a fabulous English-speaking guide - the more than competent Zu Hang, and the ever-cheerful and largely competent driver, Mr Lee. Our vehicle was a Mitsubishi Pajero 4WD. Min's company is highly recommended. She can be contacted at [chinabird@tom.com](mailto:chinabird@tom.com). I don't believe trying to organise and pay for such a trip independently would return any significant savings.

## **Our Guide**

Zu, our licensed guide, spoke conversational English without hesitation. He proved to be skilled, generous, affable and best of all he trusted us to wander off by ourselves, both in the parks and in towns and cities. Zu is not an expert birding guide and was not promoted as such. His job was to act as interpreter and be a Mr Fix-it when anything threatened to go pear-shaped.

Zu's major advantage over most guides is that he has broad wildlife field experience. He has acted as the local guide for Birdquest, Victor Emmanuel Nature Tours and others. So he knows the sites and the birds and mammals that are likely to be seen in each of them. He was more than happy to add his eyes and ears to the hunt and a number of good things were added to our list through his observations.

Local officials and hotel staff were never a problem to Zu. He dealt with any matters efficiently and without ever being aggressive. He was also generous to the point that we had to continually ask him what he was paying for to make sure he didn't pay for things for which we were responsible. Zu is very highly recommended as a guide – he is happy to guide on general interest tours as well - and can be emailed at [hzu77@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:hzu77@yahoo.com.cn)



## **Our Driver**

Our vehicle had not been in any major prang by the look of it. That said, I am not at all confident it will stay that way. Mr Lee was extremely attentive to the driving task. He



didn't take his eyes off the road for a second. So we failed to hit anything but the potential on some roads was ever-present with the greatest risk being a driver coming the other way undertaking the sort of suicidal overtaking manoeuvre of which Chinese drivers are overly fond. Accidents on Chinese roads are often very spectacular affairs.

Mr Lee was obliging in terms of our start and finish times – he has also had a lot of experience with birdwatchers. But I developed the impression that he would rather lie in bed in his undies and watch television. This feeling was aided by the fact that he spent a lot of his spare time lying in bed in his undies watching television. I guess it is a little more pleasant than waiting on roadsides in the hope that the likes of us would emerge from the forest somewhere.

Despite my concerns, I would recommend Mr Lee as a driver because I think that he is a better driver than any others you are likely to get – and he never stopped smiling!



### **Wildlife** (see also notes under “Key Species” at the end of the report)

We identified 261 different birds and 20 mammals in China and an additional 130 birds (not including those we had seen in China) and 21 mammals in Malaysia. We were very happy with this.

Along with a number of trip reports we had copies of the *Birds of China* and the *Birds of South East Asia*. For mammals we relied on *The Mammalian (sic) of China* and the *Mammals of Borneo*. We had no fancy tapes and only a vague idea of what birds were calling. Experience elsewhere in Asia allowed us to identify bird families easily enough.

Of the **Birds**, the highlights were most certainly the chooks – pheasants and partridges – 13 species spotted (+1 in Malaysia) and the parrotbills – 9 species seen. The chickens were the standout. We missed seeing Chinese monal and Severtzov's grouse but found all the others that we were reasonably within range.

It is hard to imagine more beautiful and cheeky little birds than the smaller of the parrotbills, particularly fulvous, golden and spectacled. Other easily seen and fine birds included grandala and some splendid tits. Tits always seemed to hang around with others of their ilk, generally in numbers divisible by two. That's why they call them tits I suppose.

The biggest disappointment were the warblers. Not because we didn't see any (or many) but because we did, eg. at all times. One hopes that at some time in the near future some brave but influential taxonomist will find it in his or her heart to lump all *Phylloscopus* warblers into a single bird and call it the "Tree Warbler" or something. I ceased to take much interest in them after I was reasonably confident I could identify each by GIS and call. Even so, I wouldn't want to be facing the Birding Court on some of my sightings. I pretty much ignored from the outset any that I had seen elsewhere. The warbler section of the bird list is rather under-recorded after the first sighting.

Sichuan doesn't do raptors very well.

**Mammals** were more in evidence than you would expect for a place like China. Whilst failing in the silk purse list of giant panda, red panda and golden monkey we were fortunate indeed with the diversity and sighting circumstances of those we did manage to find. There is certainly an all-singing and all-dancing mammal fauna in many of the sites we visited. Some of these were inspiring in that there appeared to be little if any hunting pressure, even close to villages or within yak-lands. Of course not all areas are so lucky – nor are they in any other country.

Best sightings were hog badger (twice), leopard cat (twice), alpine musk deer, Siberian weasel, alpine (or altai) weasel, blue sheep (many), Chinese goral and tufted deer (three times). Best of the dead ones were red panda (dead of natural causes) and serow (dead on account of being half-eaten by a leopard). Squirrels, pikas and other rodents swelled the list. We missed golden monkey at Wuyipeng by two days, red panda by three and giant panda by a couple of days into the future – one was to be released into the wild the day after we left Wolong, else we could have upset some of the purists by watching it run away, or, more likely, sit on its arse and eat bamboo.

The mobs of blue sheep (or bharal) at Balang Shan Pass were wonderful. Early one morning we were treated to the spectacle of seeing an almost continuous line of these mighty animals stretched along a high ridge for about a kilometre or so as they caught the first of the morning sunshine.

Dave and I both agreed that many Chinese mammals are doing much better than their mates in places like Nepal, and certainly far better than any of their cousins in Mongolia.



**Reptiles** – one, a snake.

**Insects** (annoying) – none.

**Insects** (not annoying) – nothing startling. Most have eaten by the tree warblers.

## **Food and Women**

I was advised by usually reliable sources that Sichuan Province was best known for beautiful food and “the most beautiful women in China” so I have grouped these two together.

**Food** first. If you don’t like a little chilli in your food then don’t leave home. I love spicy food but after the first couple of weeks of almost nothing else but “chilli this” or “chilli that”, I was dreaming of steak with chips and vegies or a whole slowly roasted sheep or three. Sometimes our meal would comprise 70% chilli, 15% chicken (or some kind of bird anyway) and 15% other spices including the rather brutal and explosive “numb seed”. This seed can kill all known bacteria and rips two layers of skin off the inside of your mouth. Your gob is then rendered useless and feels like it used to after a trip to the dentist when you were a kid. Numb seeds are quite tasty really. I liked them. So do the Sichuanese.





Breakfasts were the worst. At all meals except breakfast you would be offered complimentary tea. Coffee did not happen, but watery soup with rice in it did, much to our eventual horror. Never in the long history of China has anyone ever eaten a whole bowl of this stuff. Nobody knows where the millions of gallons of uneaten watery rice goes to, each and every day. Meanwhile our staff would slurp animal gut soup. Other breakfast bits were better, like the pork buns and the beer nuts. Beer nuts for brekkie but no tea or coffee – go figure.

Generally any menu item described as having meat in it had more fat and bones than actual meat. So “double-cooked pork” was actually double-cooked pork fat, etc. The best meat we had was corned yak – eaten with large amounts of ground dried chilli, naturally.

Vegetables were in much better shape, as you might expect. The various mushrooms and eggplant dishes never disappointed. Fruits were also varied, abundant and of the highest quality.

Food in Sichuan was very inexpensive anywhere we went. And at no time did any of it make us sick.

The women of Sichuan are not fat, have rather pretty faces and they smile a lot. I am not sufficiently skilled or qualified to make any other comment.....







## **Chinese people**

All the people we met were just great. We were often a curiosity; indeed we were such a rare sight we spent a whole week without seeing a single foreigner. Nobody was threatening, unfriendly or unhappy at seeing us. Mostly we provided something of a distraction; or else were treated as honoured guests. We understood that officials rarely cause the kind of problems for Westerners that they might for the locals. We did not have a single issue with anyone. Wonderful people. Enough said. Pity they can't stop spitting everywhere, particularly on the floors of restaurants and the like.





We had no hint of any personal security problem. You can develop your own theory for this.

## Hotels

Hotels are the only accommodation option for most tourists, including us. I may be quite wrong but I think that every hotel we stayed in was built by, and is owned by, the Chinese Government (*I since discovered this is not the case*). In itself this would not normally be a problem. The Chinese know how to build a really lovely hotel, or at least a really lovely hotel foyer, resplendent with chandeliers and beautiful and smiling front desk staff by the dozen. The foyers always gave hope that the rooms would be similarly furnished. Now they may have been when they were built, but for many, that is now a faded memory.

The only real problem with Chinese hotels is that the day after they open, the maintenance stops. I think only one hotel had everything working – hot water (always a lucky dip), toilet flush, at least a couple of lights, an electric blanket or some form of heating, and the availability of a room key. Many had multiple failures. In some the things that worked were in the minority. They weren't too bad, I guess. We survived.



## Public Toilets

You should never go to a public toilet in rural China. Really, there is no need. Your education should never extend that far.

## Weather

We could not possibly have had better weather. Although it sometimes rained and or snowed at night, this never interrupted our plans. In fact it probably helped us to see more wildlife, especially in alpine areas.

When we arrived in Chengdu in mid-April the daytime temperatures were 13° and by the time we left in mid-May it was 30°. In between we were comfortable at most sites with a light jumper or long-sleeved shirt and at no time did we find it too hot or cold for comfort.

## Beer and Wine

The beer was acceptable without being exciting. Its normal form of arrival was via a green bottle of 528ml. It cost between 3 yuan and 10 yuan, which after applying the currency conversion, means it cost somewhere between nothing at all and not much more than that. I suppose the average price approached \$A1. Beer was widely available, even where it had to be carried up mountains by porters, unlike the not so easily found product of the same name in Malaysia.

Wine was sampled on a number of occasions. Some was abominable (perhaps made from the by-products of snowmen?) whilst the one that was labelled “Great Wall” was a quite drinkable red, but hardly as bold as the reds at home. I was to discover, to my downfall, that after a couple of beers, two bottles of red was somewhat too much to drink before attempting some spotlighting on a precipitous and slippery trail – see diary entry for May 8.



## Roads and traffic

As a half-baked “traffic engineer” I found much that amused on Chinese roads. Aside from the very good motorways around Chengdu, no road had a shoulder. Ubiquitous open box drains functioned in much the same way that the unusual leaves of pitcher plants do, in that any vehicle that fell into them would not leave. At least not in an original condition anyway. As no road had a shoulder, when we asked our driver to stop he did so by doing just that – stopping – in the traffic lane. Everyone did this. Driving was reminiscent of the giant slalom, weaving around stopped vehicles from one side of the road to the other. Only when two vehicles stopped next to one another was there any real problem, and this happened many times. Drivers in opposing lanes would simply stop in the middle of the road and have a chat.

My biggest gripe about our visit to Sichuan was the incessant blowing of horns by at least 90% of drivers. Even when, as a pedestrian, you have established eye contact with a driver, removed yourself from the road reserve entirely (or hidden as best you can), given explicit hand signals that you acknowledge the driver’s right to kill you should you wander back onto the road, and then beg him (always him) not to touch the horn, you will get an extended blast on approach and then a lesser blast to let you know that he has passed. This happens every few seconds on some roads.



The Chinese have probably not had much experience as drivers. They seem to have little mechanical sympathy. Many won’t make any contribution to the gene pool.

Traffic volumes weren’t too bad, even in Chengdu, by global standards.

With a few notable exceptions the condition of the road surface was pretty good. This was remarkable given that it must surely be the most difficult of areas to build roads. The mountains are always falling down and the weather and the number of over-loaded heavy vehicles must make maintenance a nightmare. Luckily the Chinese have no labour shortage. From the remotest rural road to the most heavily trafficked freeway, there were always people sweeping roads. I was often given to wonder where China would be if all these people had productive employment.

## **Scenery**

Without a doubt the scenery in the mountainous parts of Sichuan is first class. The mountains are impossibly steep. Running your eye up the sides of valleys may lead to you falling over backwards, and yet even these almost sheer walls support vegetation of some kind. And for hundreds of kilometres valleys like this are stacked in every direction.

It was a delight to visit areas still supporting wildlife that had been fought over for millennia. Along with critters, these areas contained a wealth of historic, architectural and cultural treasures. All the more remarkable for a province that supports umpteen times the population of Australia.

By sheer coincidence some of China's most scenic sites formed part of our itinerary. These included Emei Shan (Shan = mountain), the Leshan Buddha, Wolong National Park and Jiuzhaigou World Heritage Region. In the mix were the plains at the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau and Mt Qin Cheng and its remarkable temples and ancient forests, some of which had been planted before the "discovery" of the Americas.





## **Plastic Bags and Dead Things**

Sichuan Province, and probably all of China, will soon be a continuous mat of interwoven plastic bags. Every plastic bag and plastic sheet ends up downstream. It will not be pretty. The only things that compete with plastic bags for space in the rivers are dead animals. Whilst this is more environmentally friendly, it is not a good look. Some of the dead animals may have been placed in the rivers inside plastic bags but I can't prove this.

## **Air – or the local substitute thereof**

Most of us have long forgotten the times when you could reasonably expect to drink water straight from a tap when on holidays, like you can in Australia. We just buy bottled water. In Chengdu it would not be unreasonable to bring your own air for the purposes of breathing normally.

Some travel literature suggests that Chengdu is a somewhat foggy place. It might well be, but the fog has to find a place to land amongst all the more interesting fug. This almost solid wall of grey-red-green crud hangs in a menacing manner all around Chengdu and anywhere in at least a hundred kilometres in every direction (including up) from it. It resembles an aerial version of Thai green curry. Many folk have never seen the sun, especially if aged under sixty or so. Quite seriously, we met tourists at Emei Shan that started pointing with their cameras and whoopin' and hollerin' and creating such a din

that we thought they had spotted some rare form of crested mountain gnargler. No such luck – they had merely spotted the sun peeking through a hole in the “clouds” and were busy photographing it! I am dead serious here. And even here the halo they had seen in the clouds and interpreted as a message from god was merely the sunlight refracting from a blend of airborne metal.

Thankfully the higher you go the least worse it gets. Forget about living in Chengdu, not even for a bet.





# Diary

## Day 0 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2006

Brain-calming music and a few quiet drinks preceded our trip to the airport for our 2220 Malaysian Airlines 777-200 flight to Kuala Lumpur. We left on time and arrived early. Although the flight was full, mercifully there were no babies to kill so I managed a little sleep in the plane.

It is never a good idea to fall asleep at KLIA. It is not that you won't hear the announcement that there has been a gate change, because there will be no announcement. Every ten minutes we took turns to check the prettily coloured departures television. When we found the inevitably changed departure gate we went there and despite the total lack of anything resembling information we just kept asking anyone nearby until the boarding scrum formed.



## Day 1 – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2006

Our early morning flight was mainly filled by Chinese, many of whom had managed to drink their duty free allocation before they boarded.

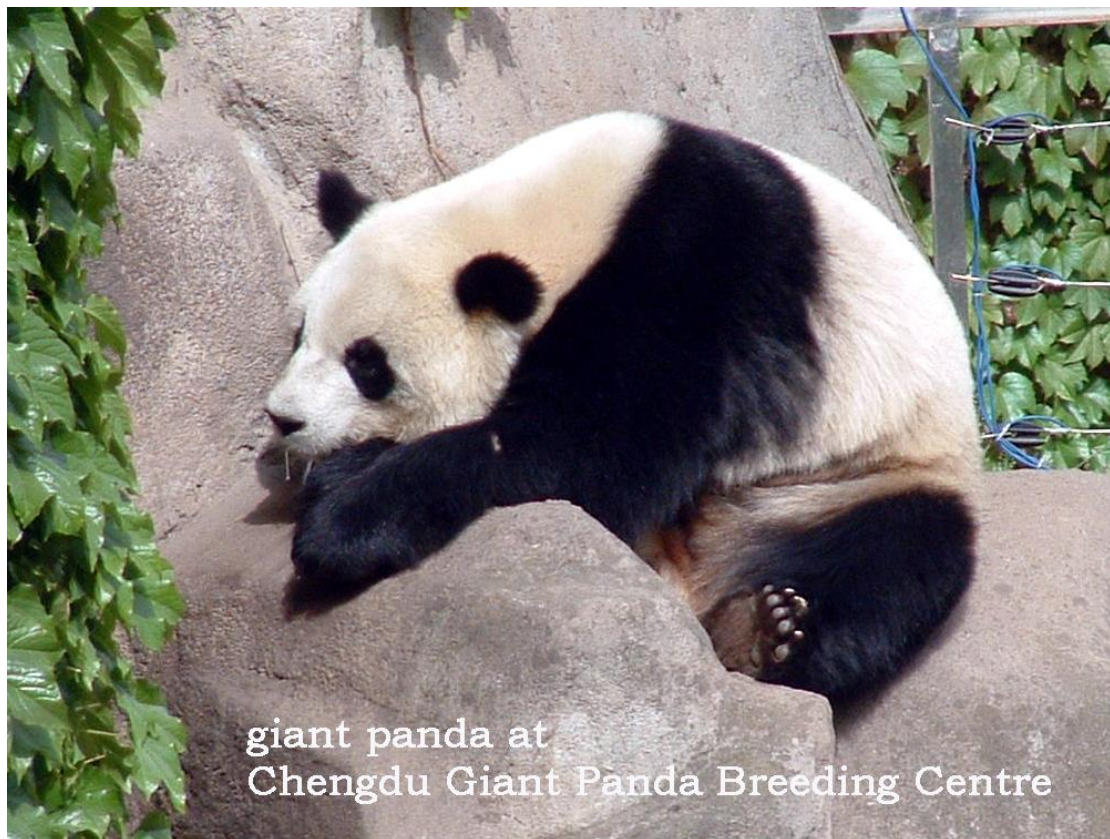
After an on-time arrival at Chengdu the immigration official asked me 20 questions on why I was visiting China for a second time. Although it puzzled me at first it soon became clear that I shouldn't be too flippant with my answers – this guy was serious.

Our guide, Zu, met us as we emerged from customs. As soon as we identified ourselves he was off across the car park like a startled weasel. It appeared as though he might have just escaped from an institution somewhere. He had a vast mop of dark curly hair and looked as though he had tried to kiss a heated branding iron judging by the bits missing from his lips. It turns out that he had just spent six months or thereabouts in Tibet. The hair thing was also cured.

Our driver, Mr Lee (we never discovered his other name) cheerfully dumped our gear into the back of his prized Pajero and, whilst his driving was put on probation, off we went to the Lhasa Grand Hotel. Upon arrival I thought that many of the hotel staff looked as though they had seen substantial military training but this observation may have been in error (*it probably wasn't*).

En route to the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Centre we saw an old lady lose in a competition to see which was harder, her or a car. Never mind, we received an introduction to Sichuanese birds, giant pandas (GPs) and road safety all within a few minutes of one another. It is not possible to overstate the amount of screen time GPs get on Chinese television. There would be enough material for them to have their own dedicated channel and then some. Except that after about ten minutes they are about as interesting as koalas aren't, their runner-up in the cute animal stakes. As far as interesting animals go, give me an orangutan or Michael Jackson. The GPs either sat about or ate bamboo. Pity Mr? Jackson didn't do more of that.

Wild birds at the GP place were everywhere. I had imagined that any city birds in China would have gone bye-byes years ago but there were quite a few charming examples found more easily at the CGPBC (I love this) than elsewhere. My favourites were vinous-throated parrotbill, white-browed laughingthrush, streak-breasted scimitar-babbler, grey-capped greenfinch and black-throated tit; the latter being one of the smaller Chinese tits we would see on this holiday. 15 birds to start our list.



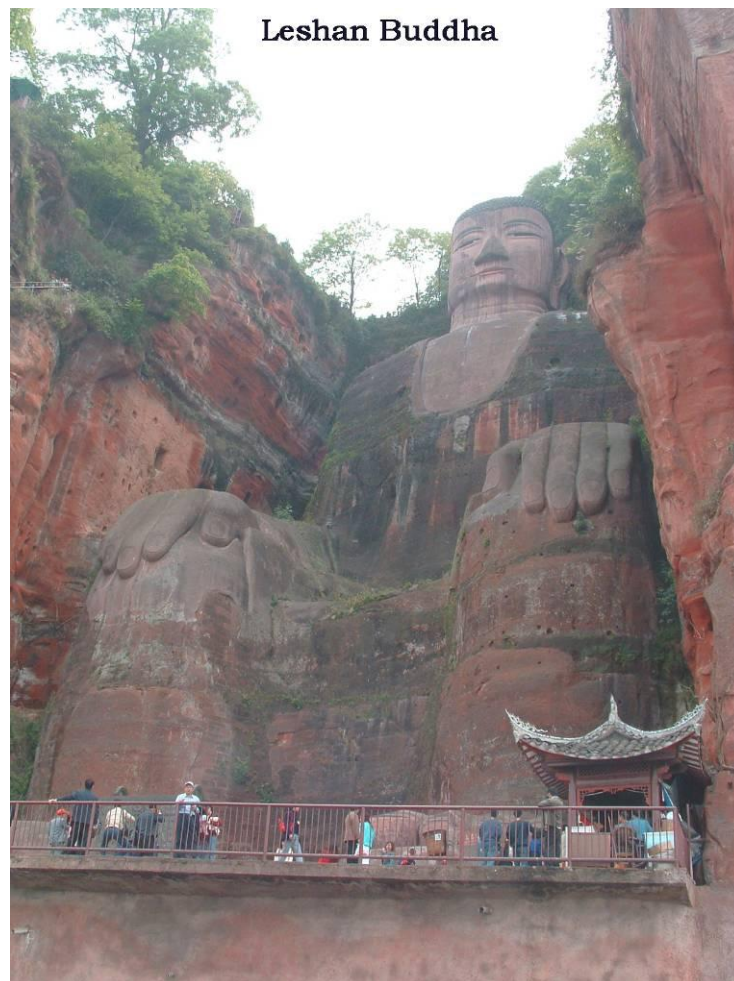
We stocked up on water and comestibles for our trip at an awesome supermarket, and then ate at a wonderful Sichuan restaurant before an appointment to meet Min, the

manager of the travel agency we were engaging. She appeared to be a charming lady. I must have looked like shit given the events of the day but we chatted about Chinese tourism and the importance of the birdwatching “industry”. Bed.

## **Day 2 – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

Du Fu’s Thatched Cottage presented another opportunity to see some lowland birds whilst at the same time allowing an introduction to Chinese exercise techniques. This large park, dedicated to some long-dead but revered poet, seemed to cater for all people at all times. I expected a dusty lane and an old hut but the reality was a cross between Sydney’s Centennial Park and the Pitt Street Mall. There were some good birds though, more remarkable on account of the number of people scattered among them and the interesting type of air that they breathed. Best were red-winged laughingthrush, a seriously lost rustic bunting, yellowish-bellied bush-warbler and even a nervous white-breasted waterhen.

Onto the freeway and off to see the 8<sup>th</sup> Century Leshan Buddha, the world’s largest, and impressive by any measure, even if the measure is the number of tourists swarming all over it. We viewed this monster by boat.



A short distance to the west of the Leshan Buddha is Emei City, and not much further west of this is the hotel and tourism precinct at the foot of Emei Shan. Emei Shan is one of the four most important Buddhist mountains in China. We stayed at the impressive-ish



Emei Shan Hotel, a sprawling 4-star establishment that appeared to have no geographic start or finish point. Dave and I went for a wander at the foot of the mountain, seeing a few birds and red-bellied squirrels but thinking (in error) that there were a lot of tourists about.

After a couple of critically necessary ales after our dinner of chilli with chilli, Jack made his entrance. *(I have to laugh – whilst I was playing “Who wants to be a millionaire” in the plane coming home they had a question that asked where the Jack Daniels distillery was located. I’m still waiting for my million pounds).*

### **Day 3 – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

At some stage during the night the phone rang. I figured it was one of the local working women hoping to have her hairy cheque-book signed, so I ignored it. A short time later there was an annoying but persistent bashing on the door. Resplendent in my best undies and an ugly and unkempt look on my face, I hesitantly opened the door to be confronted by a large man in a nice uniform that included a hat and a big torch, and a young lady who struggled to keep her composure. We all said “sorry” a number of times. They wouldn’t go away, so as I hadn’t been arrested I invited the gentleman inside. He then closed our window and left. Must have been something to do with ghosts – the Chinese hate them.

We said goodbye to the ghost-infested Emei Shan Hotel and fled to the Emei Shan bus station, the domicile of hundreds of buses whose mission in life it is to get tourists up a very large hill and back. A bus leaves for the mountain every couple of minutes. The 50km trip to the top of it (the “Golden Summit”) consists of a log-jam of buses. We watched as the vegetation changed as we ascended. The types of trees with newly minted leaves at the bottom of the mountain had progressively less foliage as we climbed until most deciduous trees had no foliage at all by the time we reached the top.

We arrived at the bus terminal at about 1000 and walked up to Jieyin Dian to catch the cable car to the summit, ticking off a few birds along the way. It was a glorious sunny and windless spring day but the summit resembled a war zone. There is not too much level ground on the Golden Summit. What bits of it that aren’t covered by hotels and other buildings this year, will be by next year. Some hundreds of labourers, aided by thousands of tons of construction material, were carting, hammering, sawing, yelling and grunting in a seemingly random attempt at some world record or other for making noise. There were few birds.

After Dave had a brief but sexually confusing encounter with a large scrum of frustrated monks, we hopped onto a monorail to the semi-detached peak of the Ten Thousand Faces of Buddha (or something like that) that lies just out of noise range of the Golden Summit. This relatively unpopulated peak was quiet except for the constant blaring of Buddhist chanting from a loudspeaker that might have been the cause for the earlier behaviour of the monks. We had better luck with the birds here with streaked barwing, Sichuan treecreeper, dark-breasted rosefinch and poor views of Chinese bamboo-partridge, amongst others.

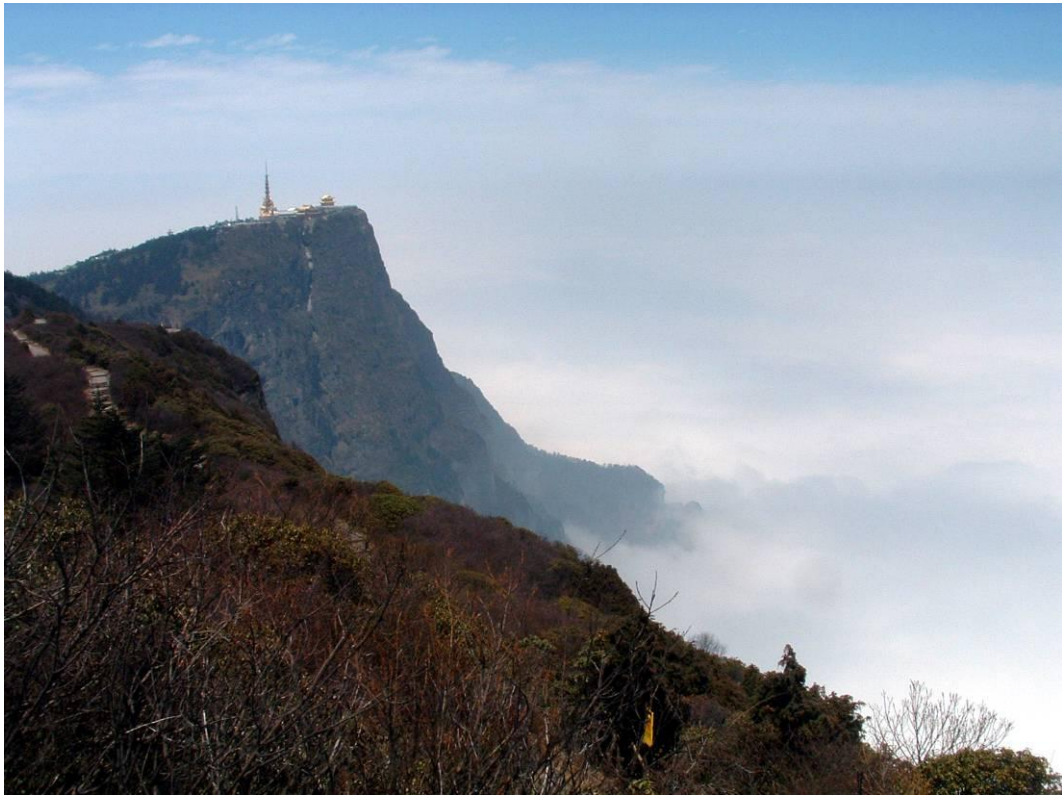
Our return to the Golden Summit coincided with an increase in the noise so we gave up and drank beer instead.



One of the most remarkable achievements of the hotel builders on the Golden Summit is how they have managed to build so many of them on a narrow ridge and yet none of them have a view from any of the rooms. We later discovered that this is because all the hotels' sewage and rubbish is located downhill, and not too far downhill at that.



We wondered whether we would freeze to death in the least inspiring hotel we had seen.



#### **Day 4 – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

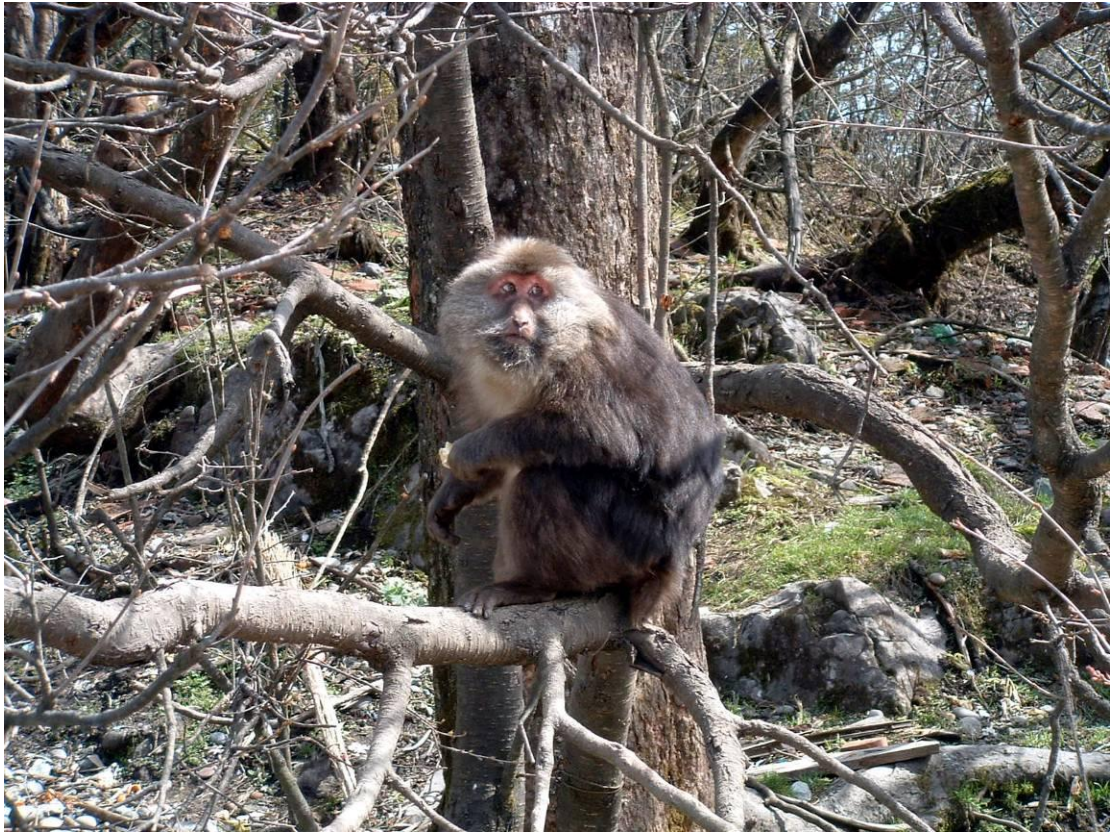
As the hotel provided no towels or hot water we packed up cold and dirty.

A visit to one of the myriad rubbish tips was productive in seeing a number of birds. We added quite a few to our list but there was nothing remarkable. We then descended the 570m to the bottom cable car station by foot. Golden bush-robin was the best bird seen. We had hoped to see Tibetan stump-tailed macaques (also known as Pere-David's macaque or Chinese stump-tailed macaque) on the stairs leading down to the bus station but had no luck.

We marvelled at the views, but the highlight was watching the religious experience enjoyed by some middle-aged Chinese tourists who had managed to see the sun for the first time. They misinterpreted what they thought was a halo for the photo-chemical effect of the sunshine straining through a soup of suspended heavy metals that was actively trying to escape the valley. They were enraptured nevertheless. Never even think about a posting in Chengdu.

We caught up with the monkeys just below the bus station. They were impressive and rather passive beasts but most of the locals kept their distance.





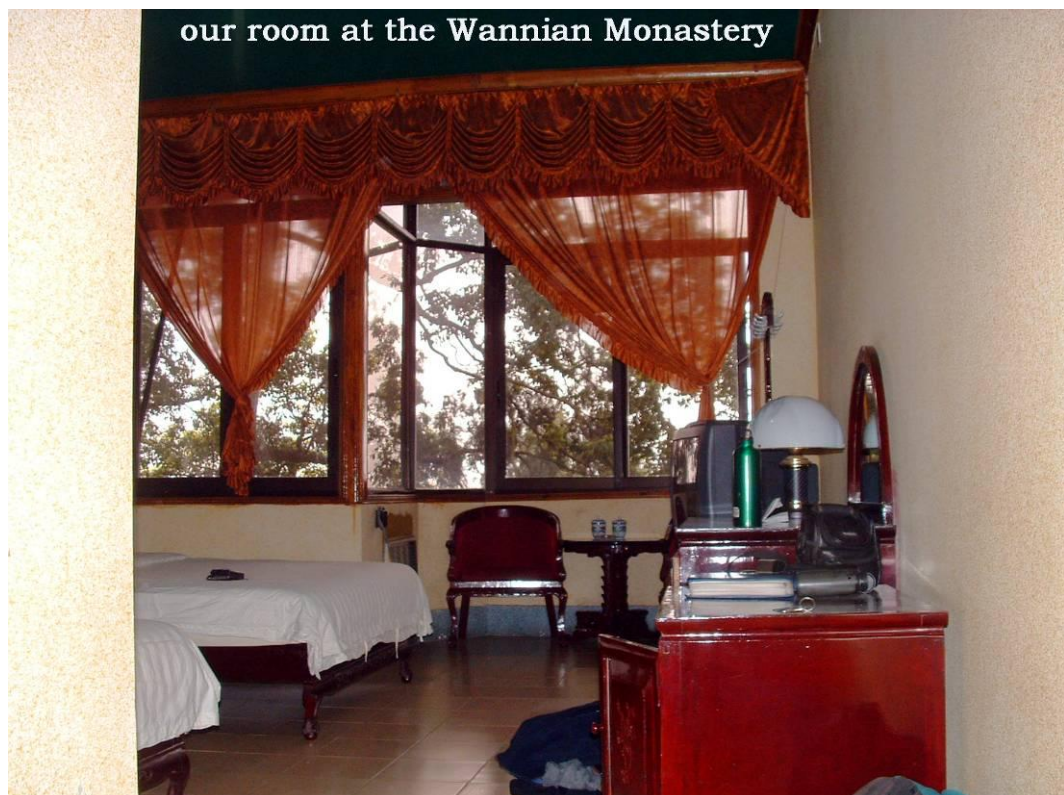
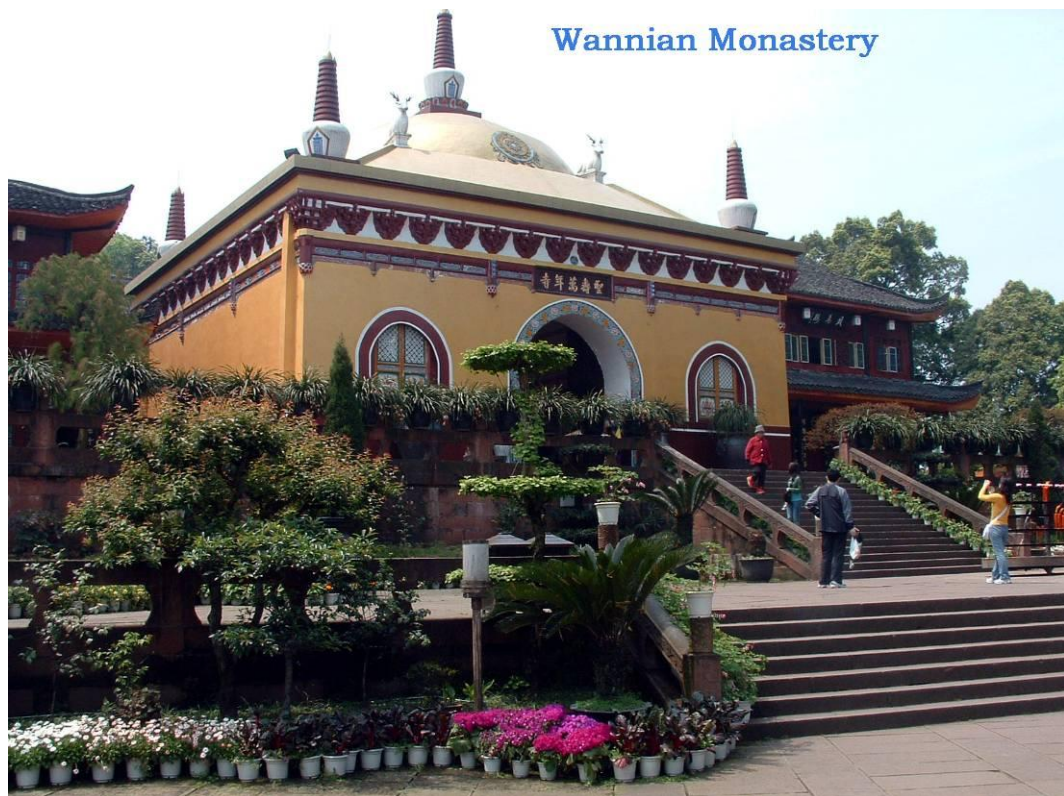
We bussed down to the Wannian Monastery car park to have lunch before catching the cable car service to the monastery. The very modern and impressive cable car took us to the rather beautifully sited and (re)constructed monastery. We found accommodation here – probably the best place we stayed during the entire holiday (thanks Zu!). A rather energetic lady escorted us to our room. She delighted in our thorough lack of understanding of the continuous instructions that poured from her mouth in what was probably flawless Mandarin – we'll never know.

The “Pipeline Trail” leads from the back left hand corner of the monastery and follows a gravity fed water supply pipe. It started life as an aqueduct, and a significant engineering feat in its own right. Whilst various generations of pipes have replaced the original canal, the route travels through some great wildlife habitat and does so for several kilometers. The forest is mixed evergreen / deciduous broadleaf and soon had us staring at Chinese bamboo-partridges right at our feet, as well as black-chinned yuhina, brownish-flanked bush-warbler and hill blue flycatcher.

Our stay in the monastery meant eating a vegetarian dinner. This was heralded by the enthusiastic banging of gongs. The food was delicious, inexpensive and interesting in that the cook had managed to use vegetables, sauces and fungi to replicate the flavours of various meats.

An awesome day.





### **Day 5 – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We ate at 0600 and after chasing a couple of tawny owls out of the monastery grounds we were back on the pipeline trail. We followed it to its source, seeing a pair of Lady



Amherst's pheasants (poorly), more bamboo-partridges, Tibetan stump-tailed macaques, bay woodpecker, grey-headed parrotbills and lots of other local delights.



We left the monastery in the late morning and dropped down to Emei City where Dave managed to get his hair cut with yet more newly found gay friends. I gave one of my stuffed koala toys to the plainest of the gaggle of women attracted by the white monkeys at the hairdressers. She managed a misty-eyed “thank you” after substantial language coaching by her friends. We also changed some money at a bank.

The road to our next site – Wawu Shan - was long and tortuous. At times we were stuck in traffic or held up by mudslides. Where Emei Shan was tourist hell, Wawu Shan was



deserted. Along with the usual hordes of staff, we made up the rest of the population. There was not a single vehicle other than ours.

Dinner consisted of a few scraps of chicken that had to be mined from a mound of chilli.

### **Day 6 – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We caught the cable car to the top of Wawu Shan but not before seeing giant laughingthrush on the stairs leading to the cable car station. The cable car was very slow and somewhat less lavish than others we had been on. The top of the mountain is oddly fairly level. The vegetation is a sea of bamboo interspersed with a very old and dying pine forest. Needs a few low level fires methinks. It had rained during the night making the stone trail glassy and a tad treacherous. We thought we might see Temminck's tragopan, but we found no sign of them, and the couple of locals we asked confessed they hadn't seen them either. With parrotbills we had more luck, with the delightful fulvous being very common, in addition to brown, three-toed and grey-hooded.

We returned by cable car, grabbed a couple of longnecks and some peanuts and walked down the main road in search of whatever. More stump-tailed macaques, bird waves that included grey-headed and golden parrotbills, and just as we were planning to return a male Lady Amherst's pheasant hopped off the road as we rounded a corner. Happy!!!!

Mr Lee and Zu then arrived to drive us back up the hill for a spicy dinner (what else!) and the odd beer.



**Day 7 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2006**

### **The Day of the Dog / The Night of the Salamander**

A long snaking trail of rubbish dumped over the side of the road a few hundred metres from the car park attracted many critters. A large rufous-coloured rat failed to be identified more precisely but hordes of Pere-David's rock squirrels and a lone but welcome Siberian weasel got the day off to a flying start.

We spent the best part of the day driving and walking on various parts of the mountain (but not including the summit), dodging fog and succeeding in not seeing too much. Although at one point Dave poked off the road into some forest and was ambushed by a male Lady Amherst's at close range.

“Woof, woof, woof” etc. After lunch I wondered what sort of dickhead would bring a barking dog up the mountain. Sadly, for the dog, it didn't bark for long, as it found itself placed on the dinner menu. We declined, but I was tempted.

A few beers. Some cloudy fluid gained from a large and ominous-looking glass container that sat next to the pickled salamander jar followed these. Spicy eggplant and pork fat completed dinner.

The restaurant manager greeted Zu's unnecessary announcement that Dave and I were going spotlighting with stern refusal. But the rather intoxicated general manager gazumped her and directed that we should be careful. I wasn't aware of what we should be careful of, at the time, but I am now.



Within a few hundred metres of leaving the car park we had bagged leopard cat, freezing just a few metres away on the side of the road, a tawny owl lurking at the rubbish slope, and a masked palm civet. Mr Lee, Zu and The Salamander Man then appeared unexpectedly in the Pajero. There was much merriment as a number of grown men, all



half-pissed, jumped about in the dark from slippery rock to slippery rock along a steep fast flowing creek and attempted to snatch the rather strong and slippery salamanders from their feeding pools. There was some success but I got the feeling that The Salamander Man was disappointed when we let them go again. Rumour had it that salamanders are “good for the stomach”. Yeah, like roast leg of lamb is good for the stomach.

Jack.

### **Day 8 – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2006**

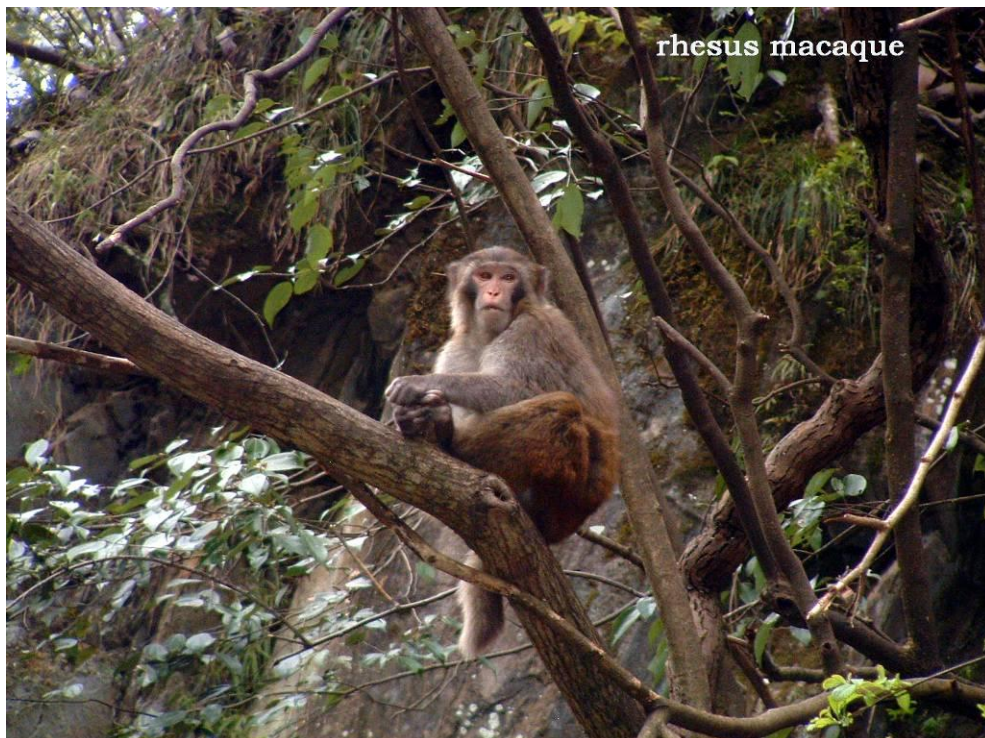
We left Wawu Shan for Wolong National Park. The drive took eight and a half hours, and was uninspiring but not without a little interest. Mr Lee’s driving was precise. This means he didn’t hit anything. This does not mean that luck didn’t play a part.

A large dam project got us wondering what happened to all the people that lived in the valley that would soon be inundated.

Thousands of workers were playing with rocks in the river leading to Wolong. What they were actually trying to achieve was unclear. It may have had something to do with building a new road but the method eluded me.

A few hundred metres shy of our hotel, the Panda Inn, a large troupe of rhesus macaques was feeding next to the road on the ground.

The only other notable event for the day was my falling base over apex on the treacherously slippery hotel dining room floor. Luckily I landed on my left elbow, which was already bugged anyway.





## Day 9 – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006

The Plan ordered that we walk up to the Wuyipeng Giant Panda Research Camp, located further up into the mountains and away from any road. We were advised that the Chinese in charge of things at Wuyipeng had changed the rules, which was designed to extort more money from us. So if we still wished to go, we had to pay \$US30 per person per day for a guide that we didn't need (who spoke no English anyway) and a porter that we didn't really need either. Aside from our own fees we volunteered to pay for the \$US30 for our guide as it was unclear if he had to pay for this out of his own pocket. As a result of this new set of bullshit fees, we cut short our stay at Wuyipeng from two nights to just one – hardly enough really.

After a short drive up the valley we hooked up with the delightful Mr Lee, a 65 year old porter, and the rather boring and useless Mr Jung (or whatever his name was). The walk up the mountain was interminable and rather tiring but we didn't stop and reached the top in an hour and the camp half an hour after that. A male golden pheasant had graciously given us great views as we trudged up, as had a left-over bluethroat in the fields below. The accommodation at the camp was good and clean and the local researchers very friendly and helpful. The cook, a Mr Wong, was a charming man, a real barrel of laughs and very skilled in the kitchen. He also had an interesting dental history. He seemed fond of the contents of a large cloudy bottle with contents that tasted most unlike water.



We had missed golden monkeys by two days and red panda by three. The closest we got to a giant panda was some desiccated panda shit. The scenery was grand and the potential for a fine list of critters was evident.

Mr Lee, the porter, had not sprinted up the mountain for one very good reason (aside from his age) – he had been carrying, inter alia, a box of beer. Fine chap indeed.

An evening spotlight revealed nothing of interest.

### **Day 10 – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We walked all the trails and had stunning views of several male Temminck's tragopans, a pair of blood pheasants, and several three-toed parrotbills. The Panda Trail had a pair of tufted deer staring at us. Myriad small passerines swelled our bird list. A great morning's work.

Nick Athanas and Sam Wood arrived doing a scouting expedition for a Tropical Birding tour starting a few weeks later. We exchanged a few notes before trudging back down the mountain as our 24 hour guided tour had expired. This despite the earlier departure of our "guide" who had got sick of waiting for us given that he had no idea of where we had disappeared.

We revisited the local macaque team before lapsing into the familiar pursuit of happiness via beer and peanuts.



Giant Panda! ..... hold on, no it isn't

### **Day 11 – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We had planned to visit the areas of Wolong located in the 2700-3400 metre zone but the weather was so perfect we ended all the way up on Balang Shan Pass at 4500m. Aside from the great mountain scenery we had a scoped view of 40-odd blue sheep high on a ridge just out of view from the road. There were lammergeiers engaging in aerial courtship, but the biggest adrenalin rush was generated by Dave seeing a black bear, which later shape-shifted into a Himalayan marmot, a mistake anyone could have made excepting for the fact that we hadn't yet had a drink! Feathered friends included many

grandala, blue rock thrush, Chinese babax, common pheasants and a few of the usual suspects.

Of interest was our descent. We wanted to walk along the road at around the tree line level. The boys said they would drive ahead. We then went off-road cutting a corner through some likely looking wildlife habitat and emerging onto the road a few bends below. We couldn't remember how many kilometers ahead Zu said they would drive and we had only the vaguest notion of how many kilometers we had cut from the descent by cutting corners.

We agreed that Dave would walk up the road while I walked down (he is young and strong and I am falling over on my left elbow). We walked for hours. All sorts of odd thoughts drifted through our minds in terms of where we could possibly be and why it was taking so long to find one another.

After I had walked 10 kilometres from the original drop off point (in road miles anyway), the familiar sound of Mr Lee's Pajero could be heard. Everyone apologized to everyone else and we all learnt something, although I'm not entirely sure what that was.



We skated through the dining room of the Panda Inn for a couple of well deserved ales and, just for a change, a spicy dinner.

**Day 12 – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

### **The Valley of the Dead**

The stunning mountain scenery more than compensated for what had probably been the worst day in the field for seeing wildlife. We did see some deadlife; most of it



had been killed and / or partially eaten. Our guess was that spotlighting the valley might have been very interesting, or, more likely, terminally exciting. Forest leopards stalked The Valley of the Dead. It was the same valley where Zu had found a deconstructed giant panda a couple of years earlier. We found two dead serow, one of which had probably just been killed the night before. Apparently blood pheasants don't taste very good - they abounded.



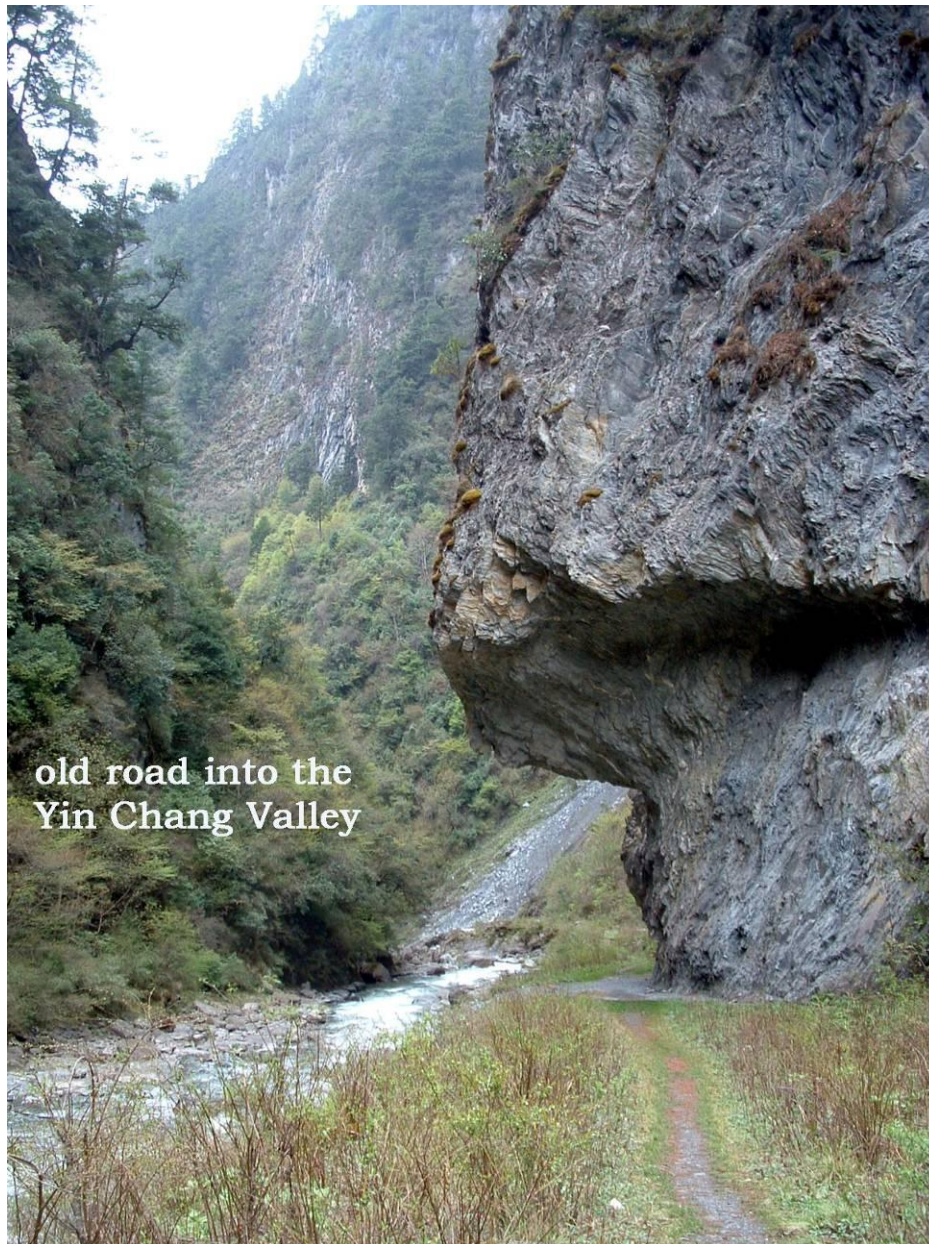
A short walk before lunch produced a red panda, intact but lying like a dry biscuit on the floor of a cave.



The other valley we explored – Yin Chang Valley – was interesting for other reasons. The precipitous cliffs were one thing, the road that Chairman Mao's army built along the valley floor was something else again. The valley really doesn't have a floor as such, it is too steep, but Mao built a road anyway by hacking into the cliff face. The engineering feat blew me away. Much of the road has been reclaimed by falling into the river.



I needed a rest.



### **Day 13 – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We rose at 0400 so that we could be above the tree line by first light. En route we had great views of a leopard cat on the side of the road. We stopped just above the last of the trees and listened to so many pheasants calling out below it was ridiculous. We managed to see only blood pheasant - bugger. Further up the pass we heard Tibetan snowcocks' calling, and eventually sighted a couple. We were to find about eight to ten more before we learnt to ignore them. Sam and Nick caught up with us (their driver had slept in and they were not happy) and we drove to the pass where we soon flushed a group of snow partridges. Unfortunately we could not locate where they landed.

Stopping at what we thought was a good spot to scan the hill on the other side of the valley for deer, proved quite worthwhile. It turns out that the spot we chose to sit had been an old Tibetan sky burial site, complete with a fair chunk of someone's skull. It took a while to convince Zu of this. Over a dozen white-eared pheasants poked about the snow and grass on the other side of the valley. This made me very happy as our chook count for the day was starting to look pretty solid.



The sky was clouding over so we returned to Wolong village. I charged up the hill behind the Wolong Hotel to eventually find a pair of the endemic slaty bunting. Golden pheasants were calling everywhere.

Dave and I took a couple of Blue Snow beers up “Hidden Valley” for a post mortem and to get our vitamin balance right. Returning we ran the “hot” water for half an hour before having a warm shower. It takes at least that long for the warm water to emerge. I never discovered how this could possibly be so.

#### **Day 14 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

We checked out of the Panda Inn and at 0600 we were on our way back up the valley and toward Balang Shan Pass for the last time. The total lack of traffic coming in the other direction was mysterious. The amount of overnight snow on the ground was an indicator that maybe the road ahead was not too navigable.

The lower slopes of the pass were jam-packed with birds that had descended to get below the heavy snowfall. There were trees and bushes dripping with grandala, accentors, mountain-finches, rosefinches and anything else you could conjure. What to do? Stay low and sort through passerines or go up high and look for mammals



and chooks in the snow? We managed more blood pheasants and a poor view of Verreaux's monal-partridge before going high.

Our tree line stopping place produced three different deer – alpine musk deer, tufted deer and Chinese goral. We failed to see the Chinese monal pheasants that Sam and Nick had earlier seen.



We crossed Balang Shan Pass and descended toward Rilong picking up a few new birds along the way. By early afternoon we had checked in to the Xinhong Hotel after earlier stopping to stare at the 6250m Siguniang Shan and buying some tamarind fruits.

Smiling Tibetans were a feature of Rilong, as was our introduction to the Qiang people and their architecture, dress and lifestyle. We visited some Qiang ruins of indeterminate age whilst imagining how the people lived during the time of the construction of the many stone watchtowers that were scattered along the valley sides.

The town's altitude - about 3400m - didn't feel that high judging by the ease at which beer could be consumed.

Few hotels in Sichuan have English food menus. Come to think of it, I don't think any of them did. Dinner was ordered with Dave and I making farmyard noises, our guide having been given orders to watch television.

A sensational day in the field!



6250m Siguniang Shan

### **Day 15 – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

I left the hotel restaurant without paying for breakfast. This was based on the assumption that it was included in the room price – and it was. A young girl was dispatched to our room to extract the money. She already knew we didn't understand a word she was saying but she had a job to do. She ended up laughing so uncontrollably that she collapsed on the floor. Only when I looked away did she manage an escape. Later, during dinner, she introduced herself with a "Good afternoon, welcome to our hotel". She received a stuffed kangaroo for her trouble.

We found some birds on the drier Tibetan side of Balang Shan that we had not previously seen. These included Severtzov's tit-warbler and white-tailed rubythroat, both calling their heads off as the first rays of sunshine found their scrubby habitat. We scanned the rocky cliffs and hills on both sides of the valley and were excited to see so many blue sheep that counting them would have been impossible and almost meaningless. None of them were in the national park. It seems that the Chinese have not killed off all their wildlife.

Of course the accursed blood pheasants competed for space as they walked along the roadsides.

In the afternoon we journeyed up the valley from Rilong. We paid our \$A20 for the privilege of viewing a ruined (courtesy of Mao) 400 year old monastery that was rebuilt from one that had been there for 1600 years previous to that. A boardwalk then poked its way up a valley. It wasn't too exciting but the views were okay.





400 year old Buddhist temple destroyed during the “cultural revolution”



ancient lookout tower



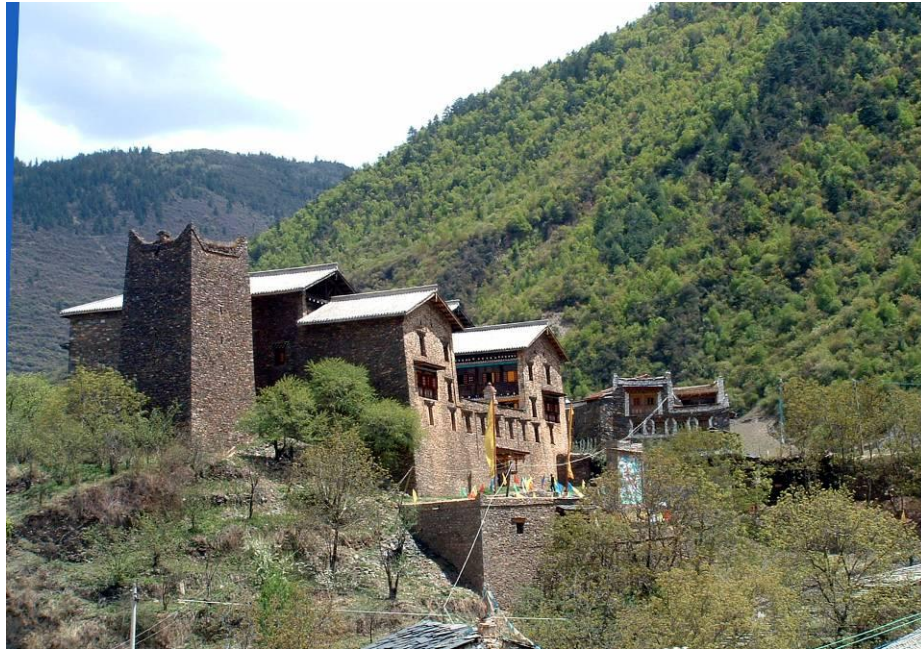
## Day 16 – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2006

Travel day. We drove downstream of Rilong for several hours. As we left, the apple trees were just starting to blossom. By the time we reached a junction in the river and the road turned back uphill the apple trees were in full leaf.

The architecture of the Qiang people is distinctive and good. The latter opinion is based on the fact that their homes are made of stone. Hence, despite having occupied the valley for thousands of years there was still good forest higher up on the slopes and in places these reached to the bottom of the valley.

After reaching a pass at Mengbi Shan we descended to the next major valley and a stunningly beautiful and intact Tibetan town that was so stunning and beautiful that I forgot to record its name. (*Its name is Zhuokeji*). We poked about the town with Zu impressing us with his expert commentary. He really does know his country.





A short distance downstream is the provincial city of Maerkang (or Barkam on some maps). The city architecture is unremarkable and relatively modern. The streets are a different matter. Tibetan, Qiang and Han Chinese all roamed about in their tradition garb, and to my naïve eyes, without the slightest cultural or ethnic friction. Many proudly announced their heritage to us without us asking. A monk showed us his picture of the Dalai Lama. We saw not a single foreigner here and were not to see one for almost a week.

Dave and I delighted in poking about the fruit, vegetable and fish markets, impressed by the friendly people and the high quality of the offerings. We bought some delicious (but not *delicious*) apples and a watermelon.



mixture of Chinese, Tibetan and Qiang folk



*Trust me here – my observations about China are just that – observations. I am not so stupid that I am totally unaware of Chinese history – ancient or modern. But that knowledge can be almost meaningless, indeed counterproductive, when you interact with just a few people in a small corner of a very large country.*

Then it was time for drinks. The Chinese don't have bars as I know them. There are many sidewalk teahouses but tea late in the afternoon is the last thing that your "on tour" wildlife seeker needs. Teahouses do serve beer, as we discovered, although consuming it does tend to "draw the flies" as it were. So we enjoyed the company of many passers-by and patrons alike as we sat at a busy intersection sipping on our lagers.

The most confronting thing I was to experience in China happened here. A beautiful Tibetan lass was in some pain as she arrived and sat with us. A puzzled look on my part to one of her male companions was returned with a mime indicating she had had an operation and something was removed and thrown away. I was guessing.

*When I think of my visit to China, it was the images gained from sitting on the sidewalk at Maerkang that first come to mind.*



**Day 17 – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006**

**Golden Week, Day 1**

There are a few "Golden Weeks" scattered throughout the year in China. These are weeks when government workers and those of most major companies have leave, and anyone who can afford it gets out of town. We were advised not to be in China during a Golden Week, and especially this one. It didn't really affect us too much



but we did learn about domestic Chinese travel patterns, and their tendency to drive in convoys.

The morning was spent on Mengbi Shan, but for wildlife (other than blood pheasants) it was disappointing. We probably visited an altitude that was too low – but it did look good when we started.

We spent more time in Zhuokeji before returning to Maerkang. Here we climbed the hill behind the city to the monastery “precinct”. There were hundreds of birds, especially rosethroats, which were everywhere. These included Blandford’s, beautiful, pink-rumped and the magnificent “three banded”.



We managed something of a beery teahouse crawl, swatting off pesky monks here and there and eventually ending up where we drank the day before. We seemed to present incalculable local curiosity value. Dinner was at a hot-pot place, which tested our digestive systems. There is only so much oil and chilli that a man can eat.

Anyone who visits Maerkang and doesn’t find it an interesting and rewarding experience has a problem.

**Day 18 – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2006**

As the hotel car park was a log-jam of cars I took the “walk up to the monastery” option for an hour and scored a couple of birds including the awesome common starling – erk.



Next stop was the town of Hongyuan up on the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau and located on the Yellow River. The drive started in a valley so steep that I couldn't see anything from my window except for a rock wall. The valley slowly became shallower and finally we popped over a pass to reveal the relatively flat Tibetan Plateau. It evoked strong memories of Mongolia but here there were actual roads and a little more wildlife (although less waterfowl it must be said).



It didn't take long before we had our first black-necked crane, quite near the road and in the company of common redshanks and domestic yaks. Waterfowl included ruddy shelducks, tufted duck and common merganser.

Chanting monks, gonging monks and mobile phone answering monks kept us entertained when we stopped at a monastery built in 1398. We spent the best part of an hour looking at ancient thangkas and other paintings and relics. A whole day could have been taken up and there would have still been things of interest to see and do.

After lunch at Hongyuan it was fairly clear that Mr Lee was more interested in his fascination with Chinese daytime television than driving, so I walked around town and out of it. The best place for birds was a swampy patch of part-sewage part-drain in the middle of town. It was full of waders, mostly redshanks but also wood sandpipers and a Temminck's stint. A few passerines swelled the mix and added our only sighting of white-cheeked starling.

So we passed the 200 bird mark, celebrating with a couple of beers and a bottle of Great Wall Cab Sav.

### **Day 19 – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2006**

A very pleasant and productive day. We drove north toward a bend in the Yellow River passing a black-lipped pika and Hume's groundpecker plague along the way. We turned east just short of the river and travelled toward an enormous shallow valley dotted with cranes and yaks, seeing ferruginous pochards, a little owl perched on the power lines and an alpine weasel causing stress to the local lark population.

Dave and I charged off into some stony and quite barren hills to search for, and soon find, Tibetan partridge and woolly hare, amongst various types of lark, almost all of which were boring. There were many Himalayan marmots leading us to the conclusion that there was not too much hunting in these parts.

One of the weirdest things we found was a Darjeeling woodpecker in the middle of a town drumming on a steel electricity pole. There wasn't a tree for miles.

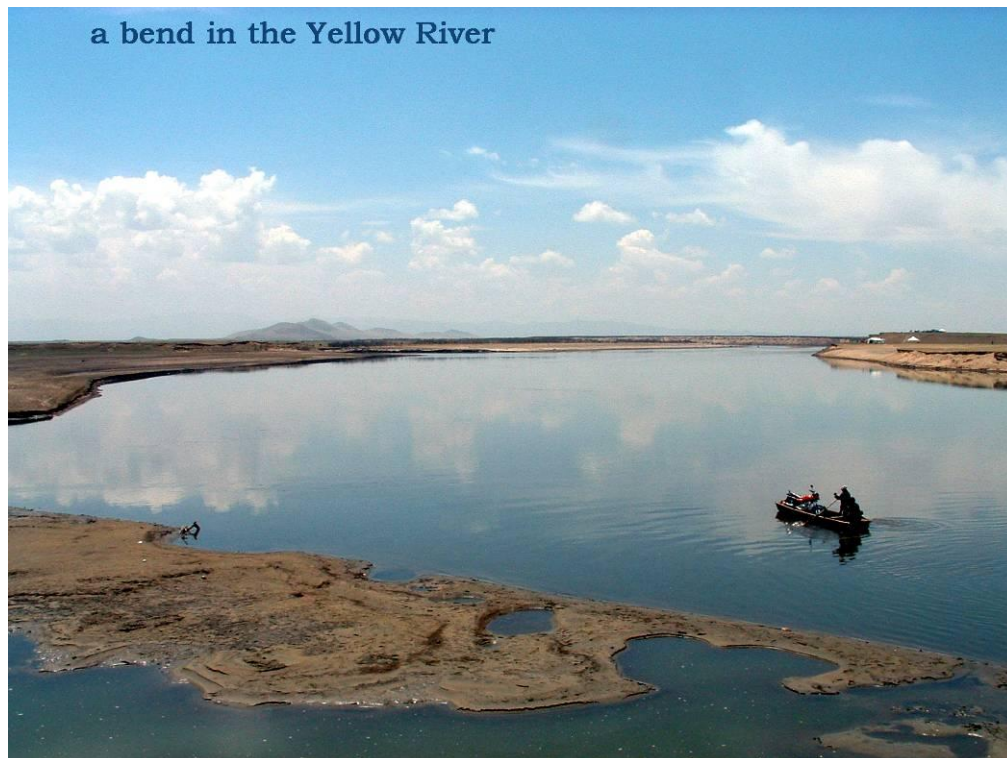
The Yellow River had its attendant gulls, breeding sand martins, more larks and more groundpeckers.

We were back in Hongyuan by mid-afternoon and felt restless enough to go for a walk up into the hills seeing red-throated flycatcher and another woolly hare.

Meal times were starting to be feared for the sameness of the fare offered. I had to visit the kitchen of the restaurant and point at bits of dead things.

In our hotel, the best in town, you could play water roulette – not just for hot water, but for any water at all.





#### **Day 20 – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

My shower consisted of the 1.25 litres of water left in the electric jug. The hotel staff or the next houseguest had to deal with the lack of anything with which to flush the toilet.

A driving day toward Juizhaigou. By a happy coincidence we saw our first significant daytime rain. We stopped a few times as we travelled through a long broad valley, adding greylag goose and a few more cranes to our total. We had probably seen about a dozen black-necked cranes to this point and we had stopped looking.

A roadwork that never seemed to end greeted us when we arrived back at the edge of the plateau. How 2WD vehicles negotiated the mud and slippery surface I couldn't imagine. We happily and safely landed back on the tarmac an hours drive or so south of Jiuzhaigou.

Lunch of instant noodles spicy enough to power car batteries was enjoyed at a “road menders’ hut” at the top of the valley that drains through the city of Jiuzhaigou Hotel (my name), but not the park itself. After surviving the unusual combination of spices, I walked ahead down the road for a while, seeing a pair of koklass pheasants on the roadside.

A large artificial lake alongside the road and half way to town was a paradise. Not only did we see a male koklass pheasant next to where we parked the car (flushed by Mr Lee – thanks), we managed to see a number of unexpected waterfowl that included spot-billed duck, garganey, bar-headed goose, ruddy shelduck and many mallards. Common moorhens were also present.

Our hotel, the Jiuzhaigou Grand, was the closest one to the park entrance. The rooms were excellent and had a view! We had a couple of Becks, some junk food, and a good lie down. We tried to visualize a park with 20,000 Chinese tourists in it. That was for the next day, in the middle of Golden Week.

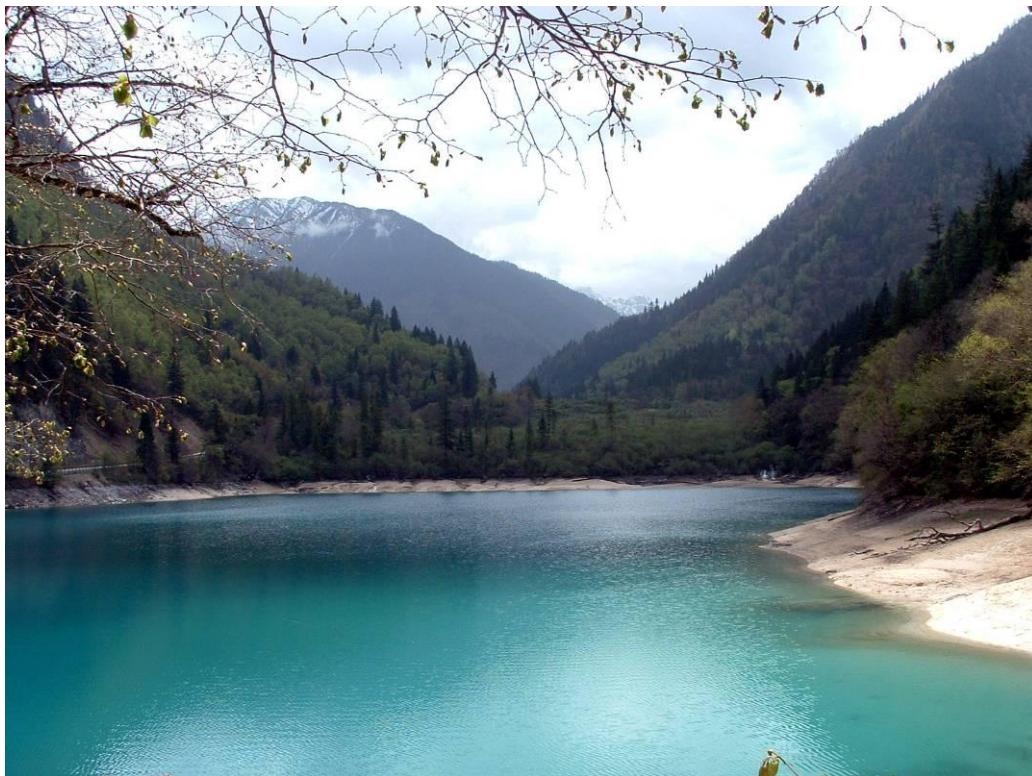


### **Day 21 – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

This was probably the longest and most difficult day's birding I have ever had. We spent 11 hours in the field and saw very few birds. The disruption that 20,000 domestic tourists can cause can be imagined, but unless you have had first hand experience, your imagination will fall well short of reality. These were not bad people, not in the sense that they were evil or resembled George Bush or anything, they were just noisy, and it cannot be overstated - rather too numerous. One of our problems was that a local rule was being strictly enforced - that you must not leave any of the rather good but limiting boardwalks.

Never mind, Dave and I did go AWOL from the boardwalk in the Primeval Forest, managing to bag a Gould's shortwing into the bargain. There were quite a few other birds once we escaped the boardwalk noise, but we promised Zu we would not be too long so as not to get him into any trouble. Regrettably we should have spent more time there but it was difficult enough getting back onto the boardwalk without attracting too much attention. I was practicing my Spanish and Dave his German, in case any of the uniformed staff in the park approached us.





To be fair, there were many warblers - these were rightfully ignored - and the lakes were very pretty when it comes to pretty things, and the rest of the scenery was nothing short of awesome, but you see, we didn't want to share it all with so many other kids.





The level of control exercised by officials over the crowd was hilarious. At one point a young girl stepped off the boardwalk into some weedy grass so that her friend could photograph her. The beady eyes of a be-tongued rubbish picker-upper spotted them before he started screaming in front of dozens of people. It was absurd, in a Pythonesque sort of way.



I have calculated that Chinese toilet rolls have no end point. Much time can be wasted by making arbitrary tears across the rolls. The rolls are perforated, although not always in straight lines, and rather paradoxically the lines of perforation are the strongest points on the roll. From these lines the paper then rips longitudinally. This



all gives you something to do while you ponder the likelihood of the toilet flush working.

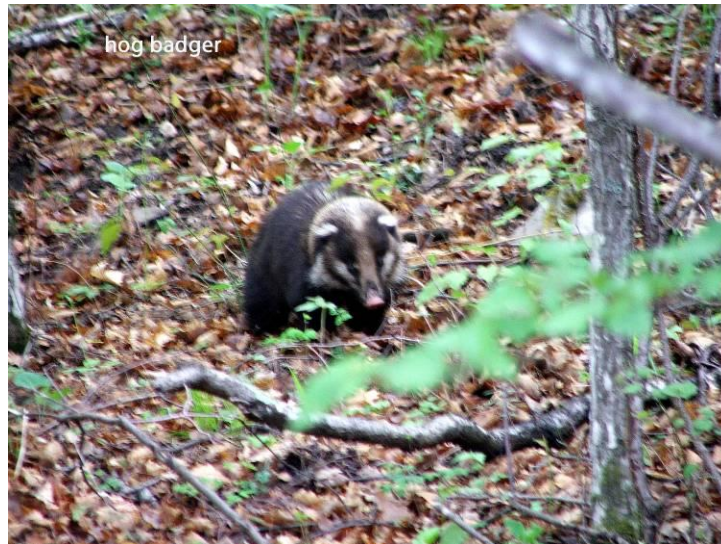
## **Day 22 – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Another day in Juizhaigou. We figured that this would be a better day to see wildlife and it was. The strategy was simple really – ignore all the notes and trip reports from others and go to where there weren't any other people. This simple formula could be applied on the basis that most visitors spend only one day in the park (the entry cost alone @ 310 yuan tells you that) and they all spend their time at the most scenic spots. So we avoided these and saw lots of things.



We caught the 0630 bus to the main road junction in the park and then walked the 15km or so all the way back to the entry gate along the boardwalk. Aside from people near the few watery lake bits we saw nobody. Best of the birds were spectacled parrotbills building a nest, Indian blue robins, Chinese thrushes, common pheasants, Fujian niltava, sooty tit and slaty bunting. Much better than these were the two sightings of hog badgers we managed next to or under the boardwalk. The boardwalk even had a sleepy snake coiled up on it and a nightjar that flushed from under it. Great use of a fine cool sunny day.

We returned mid-afternoon and undertook a desperate search for red wine. We procured some Chengdu Dry Red and amused ourselves in front of a Tibetan song and dance performance that must have been organized for our benefit. And perhaps the few other tourists. But we were the only ones drinking wine.



### **Day 23 – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

We left Jiuzhaigou at 0600 and stopped at the lake we enjoyed on the way in. We added water rail, common shelduck and a few passerines to our list. A bittern boomed away in the background.

Next stop was the “road menders’ hut” where we set forth on an ambitious hunt for blue-eared pheasant. We kicked all the blood and koklass pheasants out of the way when a blue-eared started calling. We were quite close when it flushed and flew clear of the forest giving crappy views of the bird in flight. Never mind, it’s on my list. There were heaps of other birds and plenty of evidence of mammals. It would have been very productive to have spent the day there.

A late breakfast was enjoyed in the fascinating, ancient and much fought over walled city of Songpan. This 1300 year old city is quite remarkable, although why anybody would want to start a fight over it is anyone’s guess.







It was all downhill after that. We dropped 3000m in altitude along a river valley that became rather monotonous. There were impossibly steep side valleys, regular but uninteresting villages and numerous hydro stations. The scary driving courtesy of Mr Lee and everyone else on the road had Dave and I in full agreement that it was one of the most frightening travel days we've had, anywhere. Every driver was in a constant state of overtaking and horn-blowing. And there isn't a single overtaking lane anywhere.

We lunched at a forgettable town opposite a four storey tall building that was slowly being demolished by hand as bits of it rained down onto the footpath and street.

We arrived at our hotel, which as far as I can tell has no name, in the late afternoon. We were staying very close to Mt Qin Cheng (or Green City Mountain). This mountain has some fine lowland forest. Dave and I had a few ales and the last of the Jack.

#### **Day 24 – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

It had rained during the night and was still falling lightly when we started our ascent of Mt Qin Cheng. The temples that dot its slopes are both architecturally interesting and historically significant. Much Taoist Chinese history could be explained here. Well maintained paths snaked all through the primary and planted forests, the latter planted hundreds of years ago. There were prodigious numbers of birds, probably more individuals than we had seen anywhere else. The much lower elevation ensured a late surge to our trip list with tiger shrike, black-headed sibia, spot-breasted scimitar-babbler, chestnut-tailed minla, rufous-faced warbler, brown-breasted bul-bul and a collared scops-owl perched low down and being harassed by fulvettas. There were a host of others.

There were many cuckoos calling but as we hadn't seen any on the trip so far we kept our record intact here.



We found out that our flight from Chengdu to Kuala Lumpur had been cancelled. It always pays to reconfirm.

After one too many bottles of Great Wall Cab Sav we went spotlighting, or at least that was the plan. I had wobbly boots on both feet and before we had managed to get too far along the wet stone path I had gone missing over the side of it. My dramatic loss of altitude was shared by a few small trees, my head, my left elbow (which luckily was already buggered by two previous incidents), my tail bone, my left shoulder and my right knee. Opinions by eyewitnesses on the distance covered by my unscheduled side-trip vary, but suffice to say torch-light could still be seen and a stretcher was not called. Fortunately I was drunk at the time or I might have hurt myself.

Slept well.

### **Day 25 – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Many body parts hurt but I went for a plod around the hotel grounds avoiding cuckoos wherever I went.

Zu took us to a different part of the mountain to search for birds but the number seen corresponded to our level of interest. We bailed to Chengdu and the Malaysia Airlines office to get our newly minted tickets to Kunming, a place we had no interest in going anywhere near, except that we could get on a flight to KL from there.



After checking into our old friend, the Lhasa Grand Hotel, Zu and Mr Lee took us to a better than average hot-pot restaurant for our farewell feast. Most of the several dozen restaurant staff took an interest in the white monkeys' ability to use chopsticks, fish for tit-bits in boiling oil, and see how much lunchtime beer was required to put out their mouth and stomach fires. The answer to the last question was – a lot.



We poked about a bookstore but found little of interest (or little that was intelligible when you can't read Chinese). Dave discovered a wonderful DVD store that sold new release movies for 85 cents each (before haggling). Just how do they do it for the price? It was hard to stop buying. *(I am now the proud owner of a few DVDs that will require me to get a working knowledge of Mandarin. All the big name USA ones are okay.)*

### **Day 26 – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

The boys picked us up on time and took us to the airport. The light rain made me happy as we had avoided it all through the trip and the original itinerary had us at a park in Chengdu this morning. So we didn't miss much on account of our flight changes.

We flew to Kunming at 1020 on a China Airlines airbus.

## Malaysia

Our afternoon flight to KL found us there in good time to check into the Hotel Malaya, change some money and have a quick look in the bargain DVD shops.

### Day 27 – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2006

A cab took us to the Crowne Plaza hotel from which we caught the Taman Negara Resort shuttle bus to the Tembeling jetty. Here we hopped onto a riverboat for the three hour ride to Taman Negara National Park.



We arrived and checked in a little before 1600. This gave us time to get a few campground bum birds and mammals out of the way and avoid trampling or being trampled by the numerous bearded pigs. We went across to the floating restaurants for dinner. Best sightings were black-thighed falconet, grey-breasted spiderhunter and rhinoceros hornbill.

The food at the resort is still too expensive for the likes of me, but staying there allowed better access to the forest, particularly at night. A spotlight along the Tahan River revealed many lesser mouse deer and a masked palm civet.

### Day 28 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006

We walked up the Tahan River and then along the Jenut Muda trail to the Teresek Lookout, circling left back to the river and returning the way we came, all in time for lunch. A tiger had walked though the mud on Jenut Muda the day before (after heavy rain). Another's tracks were seen ten kilometers away on the same day by some Americans. A leech plague prevented further exploration.

Our best sightings were banded pitta, green broadbill and barking deer on the Jenut Muda Trail and white-handed gibbons below the lookout. The afternoon was largely spent sitting in the shade and looking at a fruiting fig tree in the resort grounds. It



was to host over 30 different birds, including 11 bul-buls. Wow, more bul-buls – you need that.

As none of the floating restaurants sold beer and the prices at the resort are a joke, the evening spotlight was a sober affair aimed toward the canopy walkway. The ubiquitous lesser mouse deer were joined by a barking deer and a termite-eating rat.



#### **Day 29 – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

We hired a boatman to take us to the Blau wharf. We poked about the various leech-infested trails near the Blau Hide with the stunning Prevost's squirrel the only animal of note. Between the Blau and Yong hides we flushed a garnet pitta that had been standing in the middle of the trail. We bumped into an orang asli (native folk) village causing the bare-breasted women to cover up and run away. Then it was a long hot walk up and down hills doing our best to just avoid seeing anything too interesting.

Back at the resort our fruiting fig bird list grew as Dave conjured straw-headed bulbul and a few others.

The spotlight venue was the Tahan River Trail, which produced the usual mess of mouse deer, a common porcupine and a colugo in the camping area. Two brown hawk-owls were seen in the resort grounds.

#### **Day 30 – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

During the last couple of days a group of friendly and very keen Thai birders (all women) kept crashing into us. They gave me details of where to find rufous-

collared and rufous-backed kingfishers (the first bridge on the Tahan River Trail), and they were spot on! Two new birds for me. The same trail also produced close and stunning views of the gorgeous Malaysian rail-babbler as it poked about a few feet away. Diard's trogon, Low's squirrel and Indo-Chinese ground squirrel guaranteed the morning was not wasted.

A sharp-eyed chap at the Family Restaurant pointed out three smooth otters playing in the water and on the riverbank opposite.



The post-lunch “fig tree sit” in the company of the Thais was less productive as long-tailed macaques had trashed most of the figs. The Thai leader, Sopitcha Tontithadapitak, treasurer of the Bird Conservation Society of Thailand, told us there were 100,000 birders in Thailand, which really made my day. And it seems some are starting to travel abroad to see birds. Healthy signs for Thai conservation.

Heavy late afternoon rain killed off any chance of spotlighting but we were not all that interested in any case.





### **Day 31 – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

The 0900 riverboat took us back to the jetty where we hopped onto a long distance taxi to Fraser's Hill. We arrived there a little after 1400 after stopping at Raub for lunch. We checked into the Puncak Inn (a mistake) due to an unfortunate and unimportant set of circumstances that are unlikely to repeat themselves. If you are intending to go to Fraser's Hill stay at the hotel a couple of hundred metres before the Puncak Inn (some Islamic name I can't recall) on the "up road".

We walked the Bishop's Trail but it was very quiet. We managed to find the commoner birds around Fraser's without too much drama. The campground bums are pretty good looking with silver-eared mesia probably the nicest junk bird you are likely to come across.

### **Day 32 – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

We walked the "down road" to The Gap. It was a great walk but having done it before in 1998 I found no new birds but still found plenty to keep us entertained. As The Gap Rest House was seemingly deserted we ate a simple meal at the odd facility across the road before waiting at the bottom of the hill for the bus from Raub. This ancient Mercedes 911 (circa 1962) grunted its way up the mountain where other more modern vehicles had failed, with one taxi-truck terminally shitting itself on the first rise.



Another afternoon walk along the Bishop's Trail in both directions failed to produce much, but it is hard to call a walk a disaster when you get to see stunning long-tailed broadbills in flocks and up close.

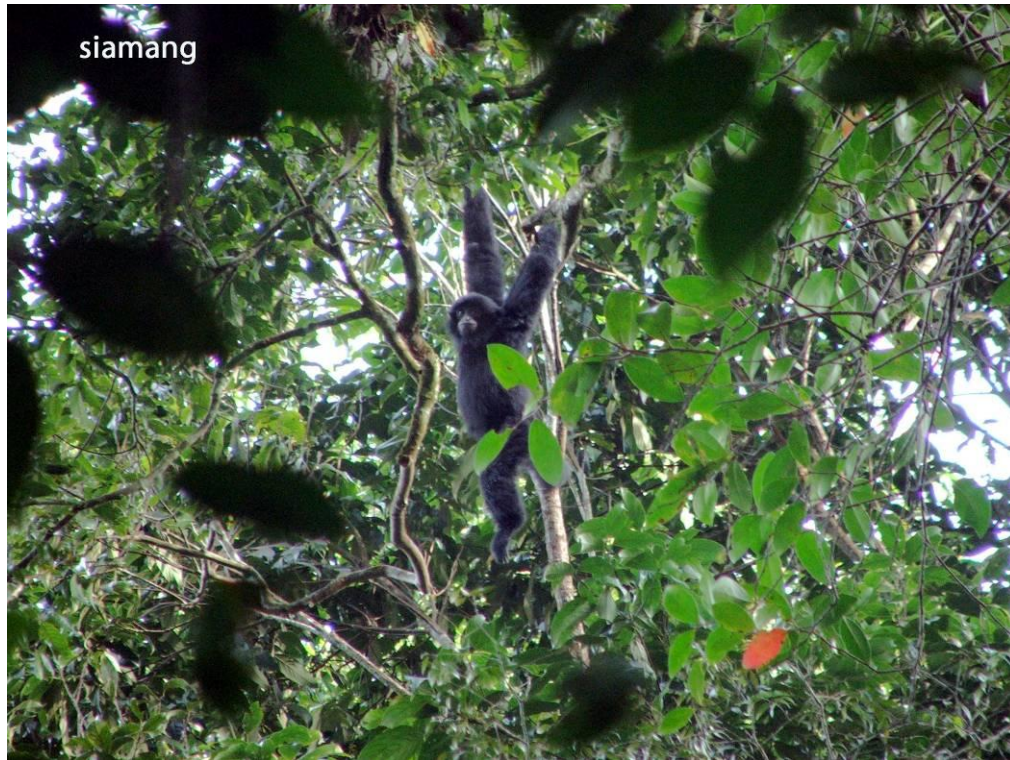
Beer and Jack.

### **Day 33 – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Off before breakfast for our last look in the field. We failed to see cutia but the family of siamang on the Bishop's Trail more than made up for it. With them were fire-tufted and black-browed barbets, long-tailed broadbills, red-headed trogons and bay woodpeckers. The Henmant Trail added white-tailed robin to our list.

The 1145 bus to Raub was next on the menu. From the Raub terminal we jumped on a KL-bound bus, with a taxi to the Hotel Malaya from there. We procured a few more DVDs before a wonderful meal in the hotel restaurant, followed by a number of beers and a Guinness in the rather atmospheric street outside. A nice end to a five star quality holiday.





#### **Day 34 – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Happily we could check our luggage at KL Central train station - if you are flying with Malaysia Airlines. So all smooth sailing for our “Arrow Train” transfer to KLIA. The 75 kilometre journey takes 28 minutes, in a very similar fashion to the way Sydney trains operate, not.

The airport procedures at KLIA were slick and simple. The 777-200 flight saw us with personal video screens and hardly any other passengers to share them with. The crew were friendly and obliging and a few Aussie reds and an ale or two much enjoyed.

The Australian customs people took no action on the 53 DVDs in my luggage.

Now.....

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26<sup>th</sup> May 2006  
all enquiries welcome

**Special thanks to my good mate and travel companion Dave Sheils**

## Bird and mammal list for China

The number in the columns to the right of the bird or mammal name refers to the first day number of the holiday that the bird was seen in each location - see itinerary for locations. The plate numbers refer to the plate in the relevant bird guidebook.

cd - Chengdu  
df - Du Fu's Thatched Cottage  
ems - Emei Shan (except Golden Summit)  
gs - Golden Summit of Emei Shan  
waw - Wawu Shan  
wol - Wolong (except Balang Shan Pass)  
bs - Balang Shan Pass  
ms - Mengbi Shan  
hy - Hongyuan  
jui - Jiuzhaigou  
gc - Mt Qin Cheng ("Green City Mountain")

ALL BIRDS AND MAMMALS IN BOLD TYPE HAVE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEIR SIGHTINGS DETAILED BELOW THE TABLE - THESE ARE CHOOKS, OWLS, ENDEMICS, PARROTBILLS AND GOULD'S SHORTWING - AND THE BEST OF THE FURRIES.....





page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
1	Snow Partridge							13				
1	Tibetan Partridge									19		
1	Tibetan Snowcock							13				
1	E Verreaux's Monal-Partridge							14				
2	Chinese Bamboo-Partridge			4								
3	Blood Pheasant						10	11	17		23	
3	Koklass Pheasant										20	
3	Temminck's Tragopan						9					
4	E Blue Eared-Pheasant										23	
4	E White Eared-Pheasant							13				
5	Common Pheasant							11			22	
5	Lady Amherst's Pheasant			5		6						
5	E Golden Pheasant						9					
7	Bar-headed Goose										20	
7	Greylag Goose									20		
8	Common Shelduck										23	
8	Mallard										20	
8	Ruddy Shelduck									18	20	
8	Spot-billed Duck										20	
9	Garganey										20	
10	Ferruginous Pochard									19		
10	Tufted Duck									18		
11	Common Merganser									18		
12	Bay Woodpecker			5			10					
12	Speckled Piculet			2								
12	Three-toed Woodpecker										21	
13	Crimson-breasted Woodpecker						10					
13	Darjeeling Woodpecker			4						19		
14	Gray-faced (headed) Woodpecker						10				24	
15	Bar-tailed Treecreeper								17			
15	Eurasian Treecreeper						9				21	
15	Great Barbet					7						
15	Sichuan Treecreeper				3	6	8					
17	Black-capped Kingfisher						8				21	
17	Common Kingfisher		2									
18	Eurasian Hoopoe					7				19	23	
19	Asian Koel											23
22	Himalayan Swiftlet					6						
22	House Swift			4								
22	White-throated Needletail						10		18			
23	Little Owl								19			
24	Collared Scops-Owl											24
26	Tawny Owl			4		7						
27	Jungle (Grey) Nightjar										22	
28	Hill Pigeon							14				
28	Rock Dove	1	2	2								

page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
28	Snow Pigeon							11				
29	Oriental Turtle-Dove	1	2									24
29	Red Collared-Dove		2									
31	Black-necked Crane									18		
33	Common Moorhen									20		
33	Water Rail									23		
33	White-breasted Waterhen		2									
38	Common Redshank									18		
38	Common Sandpiper		2						17		23	
38	Wood Sandpiper									18		
40	Temminck's Stint									18		
45	Brown-headed Gull									19		
45	Great Black-headed Gull									19		
47	Whiskered Tern									19		
49	Black-eared Kite			2						15		
50	Cinereous Vulture							11				
50	Himalayan Griffon							11		18	20	
50	Lammergeier							11				
52	Chinese Goshawk						10					
52	Crested Goshawk						12					
52	Eurasian Sparrowhawk					7						
53	Upland Buzzard							15	17	19		
54	Black Eagle					6						
54	Golden Eagle						12					
54	Mountain Hawk-Eagle						11					
55	Eurasian Kestrel							14		20		
55	Saker Falcon						10					
56	Little Grebe		2								20	
59	Cattle Egret	1								19		
59	Intermediate Egret										20	
59	Little Egret	1	2									
60	Black-crowned Night-Heron										24	
60	Chinese Pond-Heron	1					12	17				
65	Wallcreeper					5						
66	Brown Shrike										21	24
66	Gray-backed Shrike			2			10		16	18	22	
66	Long-tailed Shrike		2									
66	Tiger Shrike											24
67	Azure-winged Magpie									19		
67	Black-billed Magpie								16	18		
67	Blue Magpie					5	9					24
67	Eurasian Jay			5		6					22	
68	Carrion Crow										20	
68	Common Raven							11		18		
68	Daurian Jackdaw									18		
68	Eurasian Nutcracker						9					
68	Large-billed Crow				3	6						



page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
68	Red-billed Chough								16	19		
68	Tibetan Ground-Jay									19		
68	Yellow-billed Chough							11				
69	Black-naped Oriole											24
70	Long-tailed Minivet			2		7	9		17		21	
71	Hair-crested Drongo											23
72	Gray-headed Canary-flycatcher					6						24
73	Blue Rock-Thrush						11		17			
73	Blue Whistling-Thrush			4		7	9				21	24
73	Plain-backed Thrush					8						
74	Chestnut Thrush				4	7		13	17		20	
74	Eurasian Blackbird	1	2									
74	Kessler's Thrush							13		18	21	
75	<b>E Chinese Thrush</b>										22	
76	Golden Bush-Robin				4	7						
76	<b>Gould's Shortwing</b>										21	
76	Orange-flanked Bush-Robin						9	14			21	
76	White-browed Bush-Robin						9					
77	Bluethroat						9		17			
77	Indian Blue Robin										22	
77	White-tailed Rubythroat							15				
78	Black Redstart									19		
78	Blue-fronted Redstart									19		
78	Daurian Redstart						11		17		20	
78	Plumbeous Redstart			2		7	9		17	19	20	
78	White-bellied Redstart										23	
78	White-capped Redstart			2		7	9		17	19	20	
78	White-throated Redstart							14				
79	Dark-sided Flycatcher			2		7						
79	Red-throated Flycatcher									19	22	
79	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	1			3	6	9				22	
80	Verditer Flycatcher					6						
81	Chinese Blue-Flycatcher										21	
81	Fujian Niltava										22	
81	Hill Blue-Flycatcher			5								24
81	Rufous-bellied Niltava						10	11	17			
82	Grandala							11				
82	Oriental Magpie-Robin		2	2								
82	Slaty-backed Forktail			3								
82	White-crowned Forktail										22	
83	Common Stonechat							14		18	20	
84	White-cheeked Starling									18		
85	Common Starling								18			
86	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch						9					
86	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch						9					
86	White-cheeked Nuthatch										21	
87	Coal Tit						14				21	

page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
87	Gray-crested Tit										22	
87	Great Tit	1		2				14	17	18		
87	Green-backed Tit					7	9				22	24
87	Yellow-bellied Tit			2		7	9				21	24
87	Yellow-browed Tit			4		7	9					
88	Black-browed Tit						12					
88	Black-throated Tit	1	2	2								24
88	Rufous-vented Tit			3					16		20	
88	Songar Tit							14				
88	<b>E Pere David's (rusty-br) Tit</b>						10					
88	<b>E Sooty Tit</b>										22	
89	Asian Martin							13				
89	Barn Swallow					8						
89	Eurasian Crag-Martin								16			
89	House Martin					8						
89	Red-rumped Swallow									18		
89	Sand Martin									19		
90	Brown-breasted Bulbul											24
90	Light-vented Bulbul	1	2	2								23
91	Black Bulbul			2								
91	Collared Finchbill			2								24
93	Brown Bush-Warbler										22	
93	Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler			4		7						
93	Buff-throated Warbler				3							
93	Dusky Warbler									18		
93	Yellowish-bellied Bush-Warbler		2								22	
94	Aberrant Bush-Warbler					6						
94	Chestnut-crowned Bush-Warbler					6						
95	Pallas' (rusty-rumped) Warbler		2									
96	Severtzov's (wh-br) Tit-Warbler							15				
97	Arctic Warbler			2								
97	Ashy-throated Warbler					7						
97	Inornate (yellow-br) Warbler		2									
97	Sulphur-breasted Warbler						10					
98	Buff-barred Warbler					7						
98	Greenish Warbler			3								
98	Large-billed Leaf-Warbler			4		7						
98	Lemon-rumped Warbler				4							
98	Tickell's Leaf-Warbler						10			18		
98	Yellow-streaked Warbler						9					
98	<b>E Chinese Leaf-Warbler</b>						9					
98	<b>E Emei Leaf-Warbler</b>					6						
99	Bianchi's Warbler					7						
99	Blyth's Leaf-Warbler				3	6						
99	Eastern Crowned-Warbler	1										
99	Goldcrest				4							
99	Grey-crowned Warbler					6						



page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
99	Rufous-faced Warbler											24
99	White-tailed Leaf-Warbler						10					
101	<b>E Pere David's (plain) Laughingthrush</b>						11			19	21	
102	Hwamei			2								
102	Spotted Laughingthrush					7						
102	White-browed Laughingthrush	1										
102	<b>E Barred Laughingthrush</b>						10	11				
102	<b>E Giant Laughingthrush</b>					6						
103	Black-faced Laughingthrush				4	7	10					
103	Red-winged Laughingthrush		2			6						
103	<b>E Elliot's Laughingthrush</b>				3		9		17		20	
104	Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler											24
104	Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler	1		5								
105	Pygmy Wren-Babbler						10					
105	Winter Wren			4								
106	Chestnut-tailed Minla											24
106	Red-billed Leiothrix			2		6						
106	Rufous-capped Babbler						9					24
107	Chinese Babax						11					
108	Dusky (Brown-capped) Fulvetta			4								
108	Golden-breasted Fulvetta			5		6	9					
108	Gray-cheeked Fulvetta			3		6						24
108	Spectacled Fulvetta										21	
108	Streak-throated Fulvetta				3	6	9					
108	<b>E Chinese Fulvetta</b>								17			
109	Black-headed Sibia											24
109	Streaked Barwing				3							
110	Black-chinned Yuhina			4								
110	Stripe-throated Yuhina					8						
110	White-collared Yuhina				3	7	11					
111	<b>Brown Parrotbill</b>					6						
111	<b>Gray-headed Parrotbill</b>			5		6						
111	<b>E Three-toed Parrotbill</b>					6	9					
112	<b>Ashy-throated Parrotbill</b>			2		6			17			
112	<b>Fulvous Parrotbill</b>					6						
112	<b>Golden Parrotbill</b>					7						
112	<b>Vinous-throated Parrotbill</b>	1	2									23
112	<b>E Gray-hooded Parrotbill</b>					6						
112	<b>E Spectacled Parrotbill</b>										22	
113	Horned Lark									19		
113	Hume's Lark									19		
113	Oriental Skylark									18		
113	Sky Lark									19		
113	Tibetan Lark									19		
114	Gould's Sunbird			4		6	9					
115	Chestnut-flanked White-eye			5							22	
115	Japanese White-eye			2		7						

page	bird	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jiu	gc
115	White-rumped Munia					8						
116	Eurasian Tree Sparrow		2							18		
117	Citrine Wagtail					7		14		18		
117	Gray Wagtail		2									
117	White Wagtail	1	2				9	14		20	21	
118	Blyth's Pipit									19		
118	Rosy Pipit					7	9	11	17		21	
119	Alpine Accentor							11				
119	Brown Dipper						8				20	
119	Rufous-breasted Accentor				4			11	17			
119	White-throated Dipper						12	14			20	
120	Gray-capped Greenfinch	1							17			
121	Brandt's Mountain-Finch							13				
121	Plain Mountain-Finch							13				
122	Beautiful Rosefinch								17			
122	Blanford's Rosefinch								18			
122	Dark-breasted Rosefinch				4							
122	Dark-rumped Rosefinch				3							
122	Pink-rumped Rosefinch							14	17			
123	Red-faced (fronted) Rosefinch							13				
123	Three-banded Rosefinch								17		20	
123	White-browed Rosefinch							13				
124	Collared Grosbeak				4			14	17			
124	Gray-headed Bullfinch				3		10		17	19	21	
124	White-winged Grosbeak						12				20	
126	Godlewski's Bunting							14		19		
126	<b>E Slaty Bunting</b>						13				22	





	Mammal	cd	df	ems	gs	waw	wol	bs	ms	hy	jui	gc
	<b>Alpine (or Altai) Weasel</b>									19		
	<b>Alpine Musk Deer</b>							14				
	Black-lipped Pika									19		
	<b>Blue Sheep</b>							11				
	<b>Chinese Goral</b>							14				
	<b>Himalayan Marmot</b>							11				
	<b>Hog Badger</b>										22	
	House Mouse					7	10					
	Large-eared Pika?							12				
	<b>Leopard Cat</b>					7	12					
	<b>Masked Palm Civet</b>					7						
	Pere David's Rock Squirrel					7						
	Perny's Long-nosed Squirrel										20	
	<b>-----Red Panda (dead of natural causes)</b>						11					
	Red-bellied Squirrel			2								23
	<b>Rhesus Macaque</b>						8					
	<b>-----Serow (killed by forest leopard?)</b>						11					
	Siberian Chipmunk				3							
	<b>Siberian Weasel</b>					7						
	Swinhoe's Striped Squirrel						9					
	<b>Tibetan Stump-tailed Macaque</b>			5	4	6						
	<b>Tufted Deer</b>						10					
	<b>Woolly Hare</b>									19		



## Sightings of some of the nicer stuff

### Birds

- Snow Partridge - a flock of about seven were flushed from the very top of Balang Shan Pass - on the ridge extending to the right as you go through the pass (100m)
- Tibetan Partridge - a pair ran away on some rocky hills near the Yellow River bend. I would suggest that anywhere that has active marmot burrows will have a range of other mammals and these chooks, as there is likely to be no hunting in that area.
- Tibetan Snowcock - anywhere on Balang Shan Pass above the 100km post. They were calling from everywhere on rocky slopes above the road.
- E Verreaux's Monal-Partridge - crap views of one running through the undergrowth below the tree line on Balang Shan Pass. Others saw one just at the tree line on the same day.
- Chinese Bamboo-Partridge - apparently common behind the Wannian Monastery along the Pipeline Trail. Heard calling elsewhere and seen in flight at the Golden Summit.
- Blood Pheasant - the most common pheasant we saw and seen just about anywhere. First seen at Wuyipeng on the main trail leading from the top of the mountain.
- Koklass Pheasant - seen along the road at the top of the valley leading into Jiuzhaigou. Also seen adjacent to the big artificial lake and apparently common behind the "road menders' hut".
- Temminck's Tragopan - quite common on all trails leading from the Wuyipeng Research Camp. Not seen elsewhere.
- E Blue Eared-Pheasant - one flushed from behind the "road menders' hut" without too much effort. More time here would likely have been productive (like a whole day....)
- E White Eared-Pheasant - large numbers seen across the valley on Balang Shan Pass from a point half way between kilometre markers 99 and 100.
- Common Pheasant - a few pairs seen below the tree line next to the road on BSP. Also common in Jiuzhaigou where there are fields or scrub. Also a number of birds seen feeding in fields around the Songpan area.
- Lady Amherst's Pheasant - Poor views of a pair at the very end of the Pipeline Trail at Wannian Monastery. Otherwise apparently not too difficult at Wawu Shan. Best place is the bamboo about 4km below the car park where there are some seasonal structures and obvious tampering with the forest.
- Little Owl - seen on power lines near the Yellow River bend near Hongyuan. Look for pikas.
- Collared Scops-Owl - on Mount Qin Cheng. We were attracted to its hiding place by the sound of agitated fulvettas.
- Tawny Owl - in the grounds of the Wannian Monastery and lurking near the rubbish Tip at Wawu Shan - about 300m down the road from the car park.
- E Chinese Thrush - only seen at Jiuzhaigou on the boardwalk between the main internal road junction and the entrance gate.
- Gould's Shortwing - unexpectedly seen in the Primeval Forest at Jiuzhaigou at the edge of the steep valley slope.
- E Pere David's (rusty-br) Tit - no real strategy here - seen in mixed flocks at Wuyipeng.
- E Sooty Tit - not uncommon at Jiuzhaigou at several sites between the entrance gate and the main internal road junction.
- E Chinese Leaf-Warbler - seen at Wuyipeng (does anyone REALLY care?)
- E Emei Leaf-Warbler - seen at Wawu Shan (see above)

- E Pere David's (plain) Laughingthrush – not seen as often as expected but you'll find it
- E Barred Laughingthrush – nice bird that was most common hanging around the Wuyipeng research camp. Also below the tree line on BSP.
- E Giant Laughingthrush – seen next to the stairs leading to the lower cable car station at Wawu Shan
- E Elliot's Laughingthrush – the bloody things are a curse
- E Chinese Fulvetta – only identified halfway up the back side of Mengbi Shan. Look for them somewhere else.
- Brown Parrotbill – large flocks on top of Wawu Shan.
- Gray-headed Parrotbill – large flocks seen on the Wannian Monastery Pipeline Trail and at Wawu Shan along the entrance road.
- E Three-toed Parrotbill – a few on top of Wawu Shan and more commonly at Wuyipeng on the Panda Trail
- Ashy-throated Parrotbill – common at low elevations
- Fulvous Parrotbill – common on top of Wawu Shan
- Golden Parrotbill – a few sightings along the entrance road to Wawu Shan
- Vinous-throated Parrotbill – common at low elevations
- E Gray-hooded Parrotbill – a single bird seen on top of Wawu Shan next to the hotel on the far side from the cable car station
- E Spectacled Parrotbill – two seen building a nest on the reed-filled lake at Jiuzhaigou about a few kilometres downstream of the main internal road junction
- E Slaty Bunting – a pair seen behind the Wolong Hotel but not without effort. Also seen along the boardwalk at Jiuzhaigou about 5km upstream of the entrance gate.

## **Mammals**

- Alpine Musk Deer – one animal seen thawing out after a heavy snowfall at the tree line on BSP.
- Alpine Weasel – one seen running near the side of the road at 10am near Hongyuan
- Blue Sheep – see diary. Hundreds on BSP.
- Chinese Goral - one animal seen thawing out after a heavy snowfall at the tree line on BSP.
- Himalayan Marmot – common on higher parts of BSP and around Hongyuan and elsewhere.
- Hog Badger – two widely separated sightings in the middle of the same day, about half way between the main internal road junction and the entrance gate at Jiuzhaigou.
- Leopard Cat – one seen about 200m from the car park at Wawu Shan. Another on the side of the road below the tree line on BSP.
- Masked Palm Civet – one seen about 500m from the car park at Wawu Shan.
- Red Panda (dead of natural causes) – found dead in a dry cave near the last bend in the road before the road winds up toward BSP.
- Rhesus Macaque – only seen 300m down the road from the Panda Inn, Wolong.
- Serow (killed by forest leopard?) – two recently killed animals in a side valley in Wolong.
- Siberian Weasel – seen early one morning feeding in the Wawu Shan rubbish tip ~300m downhill from the car park
- Tibetan Stump-tailed Macaque – see diary. (Also known as Pere-David's macaque and Chinese stump-tailed macaque). Seen at Emei Shan at the car park below the lower cable car station. Also seen along the Pipeline Trail at Wannian Monastery and along the road below Wawu Shan.
- Tufted Deer – a pair seen at Wuyipeng and two others on different days at the tree line on BSP.
- Woolly Hare – seen in the small cemetery behind Hongyuan (on the Monastery hill). Also seen a rocky Hillside near the "Yellow River bend".



## Malaysia

Plate	BIRD	T Negara	Fraser's H	other
3	Crested Fireback	28		
10	Checker-throated Woodpecker	27		
11	Bay Woodpecker		33	
11	Buff-necked Woodpecker	27		
12	Fire-tufted Barbet		33	
12	Red-throated Barbet	28		
12	Golden-throated Barbet	28		
12	Black-browed Barbet		33	
12	Coppersmith Barbet	28		
13	Oriental Pied-Hornbill	28		
13	Rhinoceros Hornbill	27		
13	Bushy-crested Hornbill		32	
14	Diard's Trogon	30		
14	Red-headed Trogon		32	
14	Blue-throated Bee-eater	28		
14	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	27		
15	Rufous-backed Kingfisher	29		
15	Banded Kingfisher	29		
15	Stork-billed Kingfisher	27		
15	White-throated Kingfisher	27		27
15	Black-capped Kingfisher	27		
15	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	31		
16	Indian Cuckoo		33	
18	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	29		
18	Green-billed Malkoha		32	
18	Raffles' Malkoha	28		
18	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	27		
18	Greater Coucal	28		
19	Blue-rumped Parrot	29		
19	Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot	27		
19	Dollarbird	27		
20	Gray-rumped Treeswift	28		
20	Asian Palm-Swift	27		
20	House Swift			27
21	Brown Hawk-Owl	29		
25	Little Green-Pigeon	28		
25	Thick-billed Pigeon	28		
26	Spotted Dove			27
26	Little Cuckoo-Dove		32	
26	Emerald Dove	27		
36	Red-wattled Lapwing	31		
41	White-bellied Sea-Eagle			33
41	Crested Serpent-Eagle	28		
42	Black Eagle	28	31	
46	Black-shouldered Kite			34

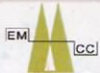
Plate	BIRD	T Negara	Fraser's H	other
46	Common Buzzard			34
49	Black-thighed Falconet			27
56	Banded Pitta	28		
56	Garnet Pitta	29		
57	Black-and-red Broadbill	27		
57	Long-tailed Broadbill		32	
57	Green Broadbill	28		
57	Asian Fairy-bluebird	28		
57	Greater Green Leafbird	28		
57	Lesser Green Leafbird	29		
57	Blue-winged Leafbird		32	
57	Golden-fronted Leafbird	28		
57	Orange-bellied Leafbird		32	
58	Bronzed Drongo	28		
58	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo		32	
58	Spangled (Hair-crested) Drongo		31	
58	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	27		
58	Brown Shrike	27		
59	Crested Jay	28		
59	Black Magpie	29		
60	Malaysian Rail-babbler	30		
60	House Crow			33
60	Slender-billed Crow			27
61	Common Iora	27		
61	Green Iora	30		
61	Black-naped Oriole			27
62	Large Cuckoo-shrike		33	
63	Scarlet Minivet		32	
64	White-throated Fantail		31	
64	Spotted Fantail	28		
64	Black-naped Monarch	28		
64	Asian Paradise-Flycatcher	28		
64	Rufous-winged Philentoma	27		
67	Rufous-browed Flycatcher		31	
67	Verditer Flycatcher		31	
68	Little Pied Flycatcher		32	
69	Large Niltava		31	
71	Oriental Magpie-Robin	28	31	27
71	White-rumped Shama	28		
71	White-tailed Robin		33	
71	Chestnut-naped Forktail	30		
73	Asian Glossy Starling		27	
74	Common Myna	27		27
74	Jungle Myna	27		27
76	Sultan Tit	29		
77	Barn Swallow	27	31	
78	Black-headed Bulbul	27		

Plate	BIRD	T Negara	Fraser's H	other
78	Black-crested Bulbul		32	
78	Gray-bellied Bulbul	28		
78	Puff-backed Bulbul	28		
78	Stripe-throated Bulbul	28		
78	Yellow-vented Bulbul	28		27
78	Red-eyed Bulbul	28		
78	Spectacled Bulbul	29		
79	Straw-headed Bulbul	29		
79	Finsch's Bulbul	28		
79	Ochraceous Bulbul	28	32	
79	Gray-cheeked Bulbul	28		
79	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	30		
79	Hairy-backed Bulbul	30		
79	Buff-vented Bulbul	28		
79	Streaked Bulbul	28		
79	Mountain Bulbul		31	
80	Mountain Tailorbird		31	
80	Dark-necked Tailorbird	29		
80	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	28		
84	Arctic Warbler	28		
85	Chestnut-crowned Warbler		32	
85	Yellow-bellied Warbler		32	
87	Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush		31	
88	Ferruginous Babbler		32	
88	Abbott's Babbler	27		
88	Black-capped Babbler	30		
88	Scaly-crowned Babbler	29		
89	Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler		32	
90	Pygmy Wren-Babbler		32	
91	Golden Babbler		31	
91	Chestnut-rumped Babbler	29		
91	Chestnut-winged Babbler	30		
91	Striped Tit-Babbler	29	32	
92	White-browed Shrike-Babbler		32	
92	Black-eared Shrike-Babbler		31	
92	Blue-winged Minla		31	
92	Chestnut-tailed Minla		31	
93	Silver-eared Mesia		31	
93	Mountain Fulvetta		31	
94	Long-tailed Sibia		31	
95	White-bellied Yuhina		32	
96	Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker	29		
96	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	30		
96	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker		32	
97	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	29		
97	Purple-naped Sunbird	30		
97	Black-throated Sunbird	30		



Plate	BIRD	T Negara	Fraser's H	other
98	Little Spiderhunter	27		
98	Long-billed Spiderhunter	30		
98	Gray-breasted Spiderhunter	27		
98	Streaked Spiderhunter		32	
99	Olive-backed Pipit		32	
100	White Wagtail	27		
101	Eurasian Tree Sparrow		31	27
102	White-rumped Munia	31		
	<b>Mammals</b>			
	Lesser mouse deer	27		
	Greater mouse deer(?)	27		
	Bearded pig	27		
	Masked palm civet	27		
	Long-tailed macaque	27		
	Plantain squirrel	27		
	Dusky leaf-monkey	27		
	Barking deer	28		
	Malay giant squirrel	28		
	Indo-Chinese ground squirrel	28		
	White-handed gibbon	28		
	Grey-bellied squirrel	28		
	Common treeshrew	28		
	Lesser treeshrew	28		
	Prevost's squirrel	29		
	Smooth otter	29		
	Common porcupine	29		
	Colugo	29		
	Himalayan striped squirrel		31	
	Siamang		33	
	Low's squirrel	29		


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九寨沟景区旅游须知  
Information for Tourists in Jiuzhaigou

九寨沟是拥有世界自然遗产、世界生物圈保护区、绿色走廊三大国际桂冠的重要自然遗产保护区和风景名胜。为了您“亲近自然”的生态旅游，请您在游览过程中，注意以下几点：

1. 禁止吸烟、喝酒、乱丢垃圾以及乱扔果皮纸屑等。请在指定站点上下车，不得在景区内随意丢弃垃圾。
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九寨沟景区旅游须知  
Information for Tourists in Jiuzhaigou

Jiuzhaigou is a natural world heritage, a national level scenic spot, a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, a World Biosphere Reserve, and a member of Green Circle 21. In order to protect Jiuzhaigou's natural environment for future generations, please follow these rules and keep the tourist rules:

1. Do not smoke or drink at any time. Do not throw any trash or litter in the park. There is a trash can at each stop.
2. To prevent fire from the valley, please do not smoke or light fire in the forest. Inflammable and explosive objects are not allowed to bring into the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.
3. Do not pick flowers. Care for each area and tree in the valley. Do not pick flowers from the valley to eat. Do not break branches off trees in bushes. Do not enter any place on the trail or side. To prevent the pollution, do not throw trash in the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.
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3. Do not pick flowers. Care for each area and tree in the valley. Do not pick flowers from the valley to eat. Do not break branches off trees in bushes. Do not enter any place on the trail or side. To prevent the pollution, do not throw trash in the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.
4. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects into the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.
5. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects into the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.
6. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects. Do not bring any inflammable and explosive objects into the valley. Please deposit your baggage and valuables in the police station at the entrance. Please bring along with you a small first aid kit and necessary medicine.

四川省邮政广告公司发布 2005-2300(PG)0125

峨眉山旅游客运中心专线车 (B线票单程)



灵秀温泉夜景

峨眉山旅游客运中心专线车 (B线票单程)

发票代码: 251110510658  
发票号码: 00082071  
壹拾壹圆  
¥11.00  
一人一票  
车次: 座号: 开车时间: 时


WANNIAN CABLEWAY  
MT. EMEI CHINA

Quota ticket  
Valid within 2 days ticket  
Return

Price: 60 YUAN

Receipt code: 251110670189  
Receipt No: 00000002

WORLD CULTURAL DAN NATURAL HERITAGE



TICKET FOR WANNIAN CABLE CAR

Receipt code: 251110670189  
Receipt No: 00000002



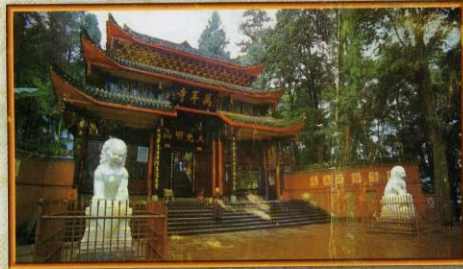
# 乘坐索道须知

- 凭票乘坐。每个吊椅限坐两人。
- 注意安全。上吊椅后请放下保护架，运行途中，不得抬起保护架和摇晃吊椅。下吊椅时请先抬起双脚，再用手抬起保护架，并从吊椅两侧下。
- 乘坐途中，请带好您的随身物品以防坠落。
- 遵守公共秩序，爱护景区卫生，请勿吸烟，乘坐途中不得乱扔废弃物。爱护景区一草一木、野生动物等。

## NOTICE

- One ticket for each person. Please get on the cableway chair at the designated position with your ticket. Each chair is for only two people.
- After you get on the chair, please lower the protective cradle in time. Don't lift while the chair is in operation. Before you get off the chair, you must first raise your legs, and lift the protective cradle from the either side.
- Please take care of your goods on the cableway.
- Observe the public order and preserve the environmental sanitation. No smoking. Please cherish every animal and every plant.

# 青城山索道



壹拾圆

峨眉山  
万年寺

香花券

Nº 0145126



世界遗产——青城山

THE WORLD HERITAGE——Mount Qingcheng

9

副券

道教发源地  
2006年5月8日

0094750

票价：90元  
Ticket Price  
RMB (¥) 90

打孔作废  
Punch invalid



# མཁོ་སྒྲིལ་མི། 四姑娘山

ཁྲོལ་ཁེན་གྲུང་གི་  
长坪沟 门票

**游览须知**

1. 严禁在景区内野外用火。
2. 爱护景区一草一木，不得乱刻乱画。
3. 废弃物请扔进垃圾箱。
4. 请注意游览安全，听从管理人员指挥。

**Attention**

1. No fire and smoking strictly.
2. Take care of every plant and no describing in the open.
3. Please put waste into dustbin.
4. Keep safe and obey the guide of the conservator.

中国·四川·阿坝·小金·四姑娘山管理局  
http://www.SiGuNiangMountain.com

四川吉康广告公司发布：2005-2300(PG)0147

## 副券

ཟུར་བཞོད།

**你准备好了吗？——带露走野四姑娘山，快乐户外！**

户外天堂 漂流      户外天堂 登山      户外天堂 攀冰

四姑娘山旅游开发有限公司

长坪沟观光车票

四川户外活动培训基地  
四川省青少年健康户外培训中心

四姑娘山景区旅游卖场（成都）  
四姑娘山户外活动中心（阿坝）

TEL: 028-66612066    83539667  
TEL: 0837-2791842    2791060

**游览须知**

黄河九曲第一湾 流淌在四川省阿坝藏族羌族自治州若尔盖县西部辽阔的黄河大草原上，曲曲绕绕，回肠荡气，若享有“欲醉，帐蓬相伴黄河，河曲马地野在这片广阔草地上”，“黄河天上来，红日地中流”。

进入景区游览者，请遵守：

1. 在景区内严禁野外用火，严禁吸烟。
2. 请爱护景区内一草一木，不得乱刻乱画。
3. 请注意环境保护，将垃圾扔在指定地点。
4. 请保护野生动物，严禁捕猎。
5. 请遵守游览秩序，注意安全。
6. 请尊重当地民族习惯。

若尔盖县旅游局

若尔盖县旅游景区示意图

## མཁོ་སྒྲིལ་ཁྲོལ་ཁེན་གྲུང་གི་སྒྲིལ་མི། 黄河九曲第一湾门票

ཁྲོལ་ཁེན་གྲུང་གི་སྒྲིལ་མི།  
发 票 联

发票代码: 251320570027  
发票号码: 78034621

ཟུར་ཉི་ཤུ།  
贰拾元

单位（盖章有效）      年    月    日



ISSUED BY MALAYSIAN AIRLINE SYSTEMS  
ENDORSEMENTS/RESTRICTIONS  
NONEND/NONREF W/OUT REF TO  
ISS OFF  
NAME OF PASSENGER (NOT TRANSFERABLE)  
ANYON SMITH/STEVEN MR  
CONJUNCTION TICKETS  
Passenger ticket and baggage check  
Subject to conditions of contract in this ticket  
DATE OF ISSUE  
23 FEB 06  
ORIGIN/DESTINATION  
SYD/SYD  
AIRLINE DATA  
287UAJ/DO  
ISSUED IN EXCHANGE FOR  
IATA BSP  
NATIONAL TICKET CN  
S PASSENGER  
AUSTRALIA  
02-3 5849 5  
PLACE OF ISSUE  
05  
X/O NOT GOOD FOR PASSAGE FROM  
TO SYDNEY  
TO KUALA LUMPUR  
TO CHENGDU  
TO KUALA LUMPUR  
TO SYDNEY  
CARRIER  
MH 142  
MH 350  
MH 351  
MH 141  
FLIGHT  
L 14 APR 2220  
L 15 APR 0920  
L 10 MAY 1510  
L 18 MAY 0955  
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XT AGT CHQ/OLD  
TOTAL  
AUD 3655.42  
AGENT  
5134455270  
FORM OF PAYMENT  
CPN AIRLINE CODE  
232 5134455270 0 0  
FORM AND SERIAL NUMBER  
CK  
ORIGINAL ISSUE  
MH6NYCLE  
APP CODE  
TOUR CODE  
DO NOT MARK OR WRITE IN THE WHITE AREA ABOVE

Issued By: Malaysian Airline System Berhad, 33rd Floor Bangunan MAS  
Jalan Sultan Ismail, 50250 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT ON PAGE 2  
NONEND/NONREF W/OUT REF TO  
ISS OFF  
NAME OF PASSENGER (NOT TRANSFERABLE)  
ANYON SMITH/STEVEN MR  
CONJUNCTION TICKETS  
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APP CODE  
TOUR CODE  
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ISSUED BY AIR CHINA  
ENDORSEMENTS/RESTRICTIONS  
NONEND/NONREF W/OUT REF TO  
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ANYON SMITH/STEVEN MR  
CONJUNCTION TICKETS  
Passenger ticket and baggage check  
Subject to conditions of contract in this ticket  
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09 MAY 06  
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CTU/KMG  
AIRLINE DATA  
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NATIONAL TICKET CN  
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CTU CA KMG 320.00  
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END E-TICKET  
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CA 30.00  
CA  
TAX/FEE CHARGE  
CNY 400.00  
TAX/FEE CHARGE  
CNY 400.00  
TOTAL  
CNY 400.00  
AGENT  
999 1653369334 1  
FORM OF PAYMENT  
CPN AIRLINE CODE  
999 1653369334 1  
FORM AND SERIAL NUMBER  
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ORIGINAL ISSUE  
0009612108  
DO NOT MARK OR WRITE IN THE WHITE AREA ABOVE