

A black gibbon is the central focus of the image, hanging from a thick, light-brown tree branch. The gibbon's dark, shaggy fur is the dominant color, with its face showing a lighter, brownish-grey tone. Its eyes are a deep, dark brown, and it has a small, dark nose. The gibbon's arms are extended, with its hands gripping the branch above its head. The background is a soft-focus green forest, with various shades of green leaves and branches visible. In the top right corner, there is a white text overlay that reads "Rob Jansen photography".

*Rob Jansen*  
photography

**Bird & Mammal Trip Report**  
**Malaysia & Singapore (Jun-Jul 2024)**

# Introduction

## About us

We are two enthusiastic nature lovers who travel the world together to search for stunning birds, fascinating mammals, and incredible nature. Our world travel started in October 2021 in South America. In January 2024 we went to Southeast Asia to continue our search for birds and mammals.

**Rob Jansen** is a biologist and wildlife photographer, and thus he has lots of knowledge about species and ecology. He's enthusiastic about all that's in nature but mainly photographs birds and mammals.

**Romy Jansen-Houtzager** is a marketing professional. Our social media accounts, the look and feel of this report and the website are her work. In the field, she is an excellent spotter and very patient (give me some of her patience ...and hurry!).



**Rob** with Malaysian Moon Moth



**Romy** with a Moth (*Antheraea lampei*)

## Information and how to use this trip report

This trip report covers our trip to peninsular Malaysia & Singapore. We travelled there from the 29<sup>th</sup> of June until the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2024. For all photos of our Malaysia & Singapore trip, comments, compliments, any specific questions, visit and/or contact us via our website. We would love to hear from you!

 [www.robjansenphotography.com/malaysia](http://www.robjansenphotography.com/malaysia)  [www.instagram.com/robjansenphotography](https://www.instagram.com/robjansenphotography)

 [www.robjansenphotography.com/singapore](http://www.robjansenphotography.com/singapore)

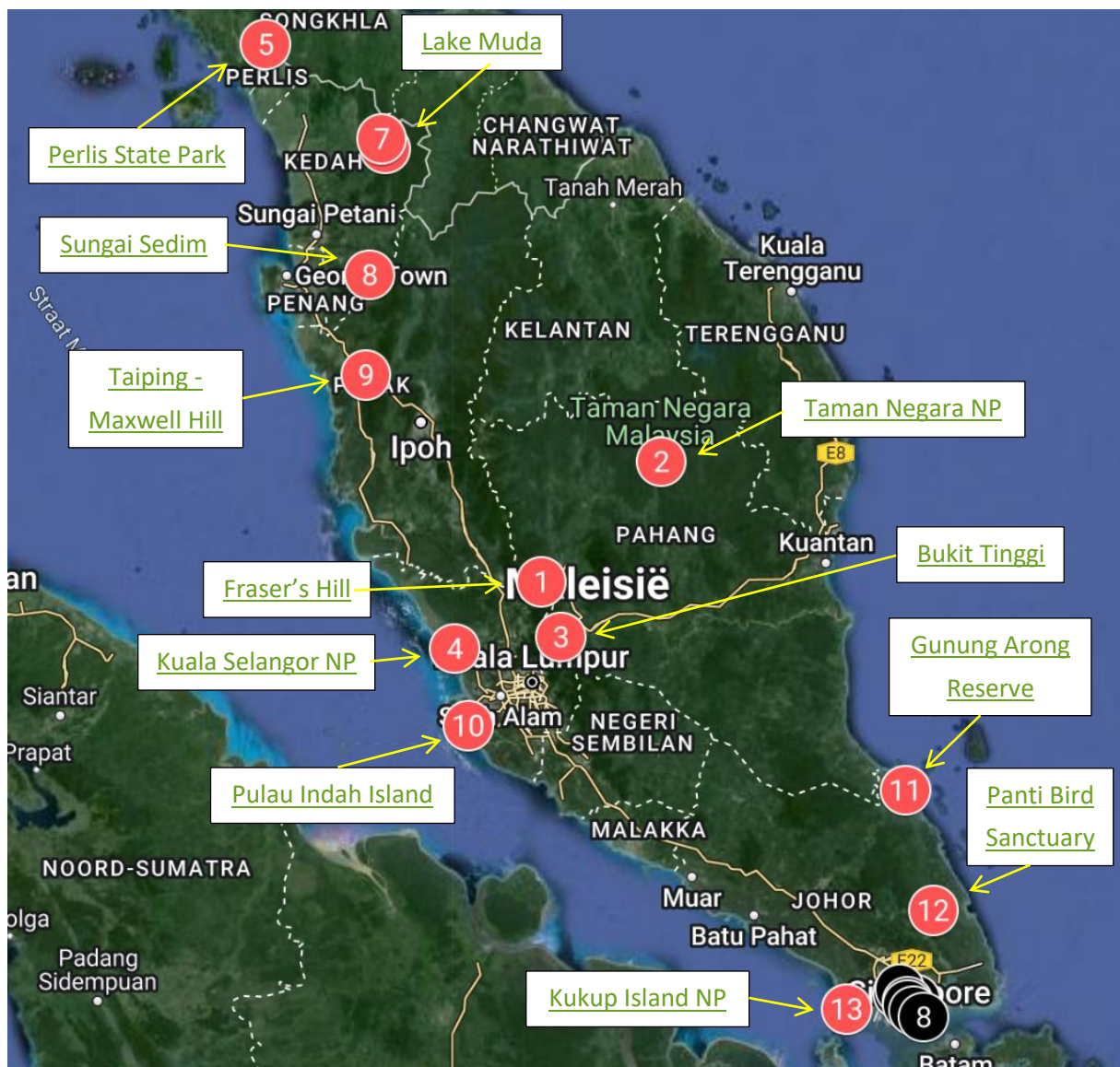
Species are highlighted in this trip report: **blue for birds**, **red for mammals** and **green for herpetofauna**. Target species which we missed at a specific spot are written in *italic*. This gives you an idea which species to pay extra attention to. All observations made by us in peninsular Malaysia & Singapore can be found on Observation.org. We observed a total of about 296 bird species and 34 mammal species in peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Click here for the: [bird list](#), [mammal list](#) or the [total species list](#).

For more trip reports see our website: [www.robjansenphotography.com/trip-reports](http://www.robjansenphotography.com/trip-reports)

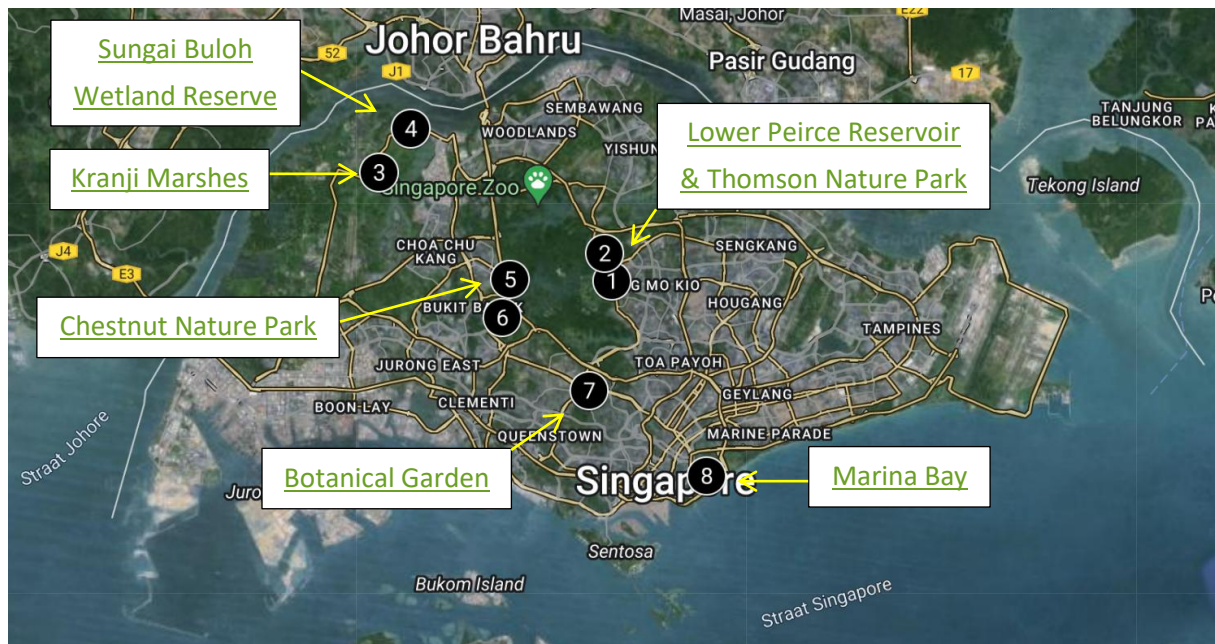
## Map and specific locations

After bird- & mammalwatching a big part of South America we went to Southeast Asia, beginning in Thailand, continuing through Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam (see previous trip reports). After this we visited Malaysian Borneo for 1.5 months. To conclude our 3-year journey we headed towards peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. The map underneath shows places we visited in these two countries. You can click on the heading to go to that specific section in this trip report if you are only planning on visiting a certain part of the country during your vacation.

### Malaysia



## Singapore



We made a [map in Google My Maps](#) with pointers of interesting trails and places and specific bird and mammal locations. You can view this map, download the points and add them to your own map (click on the three dots above the legend and download the KML file and drag this to your own map), or add them in the app 'Maps.me'. Maps.me has most walking trails on it and is usable offline. Route navigation by car doesn't always work great and it's better to use Google Maps for that purpose.

## Weather and timing

We mostly timed our visit to these countries as a sequel to the other countries we had previously visited. July doesn't seem like the best time to visit Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. It's after breeding season, so the birds are quiet and didn't respond as well to playback. July is also still too early to get any of the migrants, except possibly for the first Plain-pouched Hornbills in North Malaysia. End of November through to January is the main rainy season in Singapore. A word of caution when traveling to Singapore in September: this is the main period when the country experiences a lot of smog originating from slash-and-burn practices in Indonesia.

## Transportation

### Malaysia

We rented a Proton Persona from Seiyon Rent A Car at Kuala Lumpur Airport for 25 days, paying a total of RM2510. The company was responsive via WhatsApp (+60 10 655 0591) and email (reservation@seiyon.com.my), which was convenient. Although we requested to drop the car off in Johor, they quoted a high one-way fee of RM550 because they don't have an office there. Despite their

slogan, "Arrive, Drive, Go," we had to wait a long time before someone arrived at the desk. However, we ultimately drove a new car without any problems at a good price.

### Singapore

We used both Grab and public transport to get anywhere in Singapore. Google Maps would give the accurate public transport options. You can tap using a contact bank card (credit cards should normally work), mobile phone or smart watch with a wallet activated. Alternatively, public transport cards can be obtained at 7-11 for example, for 10 SGD (including 5 SGD credit).

## Literature

- Puan, C.L., Davison, G & Lim, K.C. (2020). Birds of Malaysia. Covering Peninsular Malaysia, Malaysian Borneo and Singapore. Lynx & Birdlife International Field Guides. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. *After the Colombia version I was fan of the Lynx bird books. The drawings are good, although sometimes I wish for a bit more (e.g., clearer bottom and upper side of birds that are often encountered flying). I also like that they pay attention to ssp. and possible splits with clear distribution maps on the same page as the bird description; this is something that was missing in the other bird books of SE Asia.*
- Francis, C. (2019). Field guide to the mammals of South-east Asia. Bloomsbury Publishing. *Just an amazing mammal guide and so happy it came out just before our travel. It's available digitally as well if you are travelling lightweight. It has distribution maps and short descriptions opposite to the drawings and more extensive information in the back of the book.*
- BirdNet app for recording the bird sounds. *If you don't know all the sounds, BirdNet can give a possible ID, but it doesn't work great in SE-Asia*

## Equipment

**Photography:** Sony A9 II + 200-600mm + 1.4x converter + Sony 24-105mm, GoPro Hero 9

**Binoculars and telescope:** Swarovski EL 8x32 WB, Eden 8x32 XP, Swarovski 65HD + 25-50mm

**Heat scope/Thermal imager:** Lahoux Spotter NL 625 ([lahouxbirding.com](http://lahouxbirding.com)). We got to test this new and improved thermal camera from a company in The Netherlands. I have tried other brands, but we are super happy with the sharpness, modes, and light weight of this heat scope! More here: [robjansenphotography.com/lahouxbirding](http://robjansenphotography.com/lahouxbirding)

**Spotlighting:** Fenix HT18 Long Distance Flashlight (powerful, very focussed and my preferred choice for open areas), Fenix FD41 Focus Flashlight & Nitecore NU20 rechargeable headlight.

## Money in Malaysia & Singapore

We mostly paid with credit card or eWallet in both countries. Only at the local restaurants and stores we needed to pay with cash (more so in Malaysia, but to a certain extend also in Singapore). In Malaysia not every ATM worked with our cards. We found two ATMs (MEPS and RHB Bank) where our card was accepted most of the time. Withdrawal limit was RM1500, but no extra withdrawal fee.

In this report we will mention some prices in Malaysian Ringgit (RM) and Singapore Dollar (SGD). Exchange rates at the time of our visit were roughly 1 EUR = RM5.08 or 1 USD = RM4.69, respectively 1 EUR = SGD1.46 or 1 USD = SGD1.35.

## Use of cell phones in Malaysia & Singapore

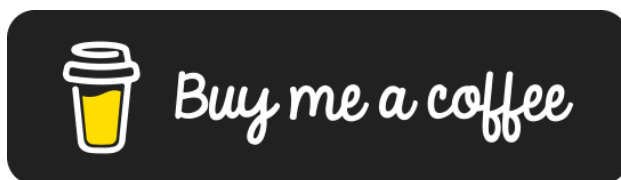
In Malaysia we bought a Hotlink SIM-card at one of their shops at the Airport in Kuala Lumpur for RM 29, including a data package of 40GB for 30 days. The SIM worked really well. Both on Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo we had reception about 90% of the time. For Singapore we activated a roaming package for Singapore in the Hotlink app.

## Water-to-Go

To reduce plastic usage on our travels we bought Water-to-Go water bottles. Read about our experience with Water-to-Go on our website: [www.robjansenphotography.com/water-to-go](http://www.robjansenphotography.com/water-to-go). The bottle and filters are not too expensive, and you will have your investment back within one holiday. If you order with the voucher **RJANSEN15** you will get **15% discount** as well! Check the website here: [www.watertogousa.com](http://www.watertogousa.com) (United States of America, Canada), [www.watertogo.eu](http://www.watertogo.eu) (United Kingdom) or [www.watertogo.net](http://www.watertogo.net) (most countries in the EU).

## Acknowledgements

A big thanks to all the people who took the effort and time to write trip reports for both [www.mammalwatching.com](http://www.mammalwatching.com) and [www.cloudbirders.com](http://www.cloudbirders.com). I would also like to express gratitude to many naturalists who I contacted via iNaturalist and other channels for specific information about species and who shared their knowledge and experiences. I am grateful that Dutch birder Tim van der Meer was willing to help edit this trip report!



If my trip report makes your trip more fun, time and cost efficient; think about supporting my creative journey by [buying me a coffee](#). Your generosity brings me closer to capturing impressive wildlife photos and untold stories.

# Visited sites in Malaysia

## Fraser's Hill/Bukit Fraser

[3.71189, 101.73645](#)

**Dates visited:** 29 June – 4 July 2024

**Logistics:** There used to be a time schedule to go up and down the road to Fraser's Hill from the Gap (Road 55). Now there is one way for going up (3.69292, 101.74848) and one way for going down (one way starts at 3.71939, 101.74454).

**Accommodation:** We heard great stories about Stephen's Place from other naturalists. Stephen now only accepts bookings at MCM Nature Discovery Villa (3.71733, 101.75214). It seems to us that the new place doesn't live up to the old one. Rooms are spacious and the showers good, but service was non-existent. Even though we were quite cold in the room, we weren't allowed to light the fireplace nor have an extra thick blanket (we only got a very thin fleece). Internet was quite bad, and the garden is nothing natural –unless you like tame wildfowl and pheasants in cages–. Breakfast was good and more than enough though. Thinking we would profit from the owner's knowledge, he only greeted us in the morning and didn't even care to make small talk, as he just seemed interested in talking to regulars. The only thing worth booking a room at MCM are the moth sheets that (weather allowing) attract hundreds of moths in all colours and shapes! Admittedly, even regulars and other guests said that Stephen's Place used to be way better. A real pity, as a place like this can make or break a stay. As MCM is quite far up the hill, a car is essential to reach the birding spots.



View of a hotel seen from the Telecom Loop



Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*)

**Bird-/mammalwatching:** Bird- and mammalwatching at Fraser's Hill involves quite some different locations if one wants to see all the targets. Having a car or at least staying in a central place will reduce driving/walking times to those locations. Good birding can be done anywhere, but I will describe the places we had good success.



Rufous-browed Flycatcher



Silver-eared Mesia

Many of the main targets can be seen at one of the publicly accessible feeding spots, which usually consist of small branches or a log rather than proper hides or large setups. Mealworms, dried and live ones, can be bought in most pet shops (for example in Kuala Kubu Baru). These are worth buying in advance when you are planning to visit feeding locations in Fraser's Hill or other locations mentioned in this report. Other guests told us they were able to buy some meal worms from Stephan at MCM.

Nr.	Feeder location	Best species observed
1	3.712304, 101.733832	Malayan Laughingthrush, Silver-eared Mesia, Long-tailed Sibia
2	3.716783, 101.740564	Pygmy Cupwing, Lesser Shortwing, Max's Short-tailed Gymnure ( <i>Hylomys maxi</i> )
3	3.716258, 101.738567	Malayan Whistling-thrush, Three-Striped Ground Squirrel ( <i>Lariscus insignis</i> )
4	3.711736, 101.741444	Malayan Partridge (Fire-tufted Barbet was commonly calling here)
5	3.714018, 101.740919	Hide with screen, but unsure which species normally come. Apparently, <i>Rusty-naped Pitta</i> is sometimes photographed here.

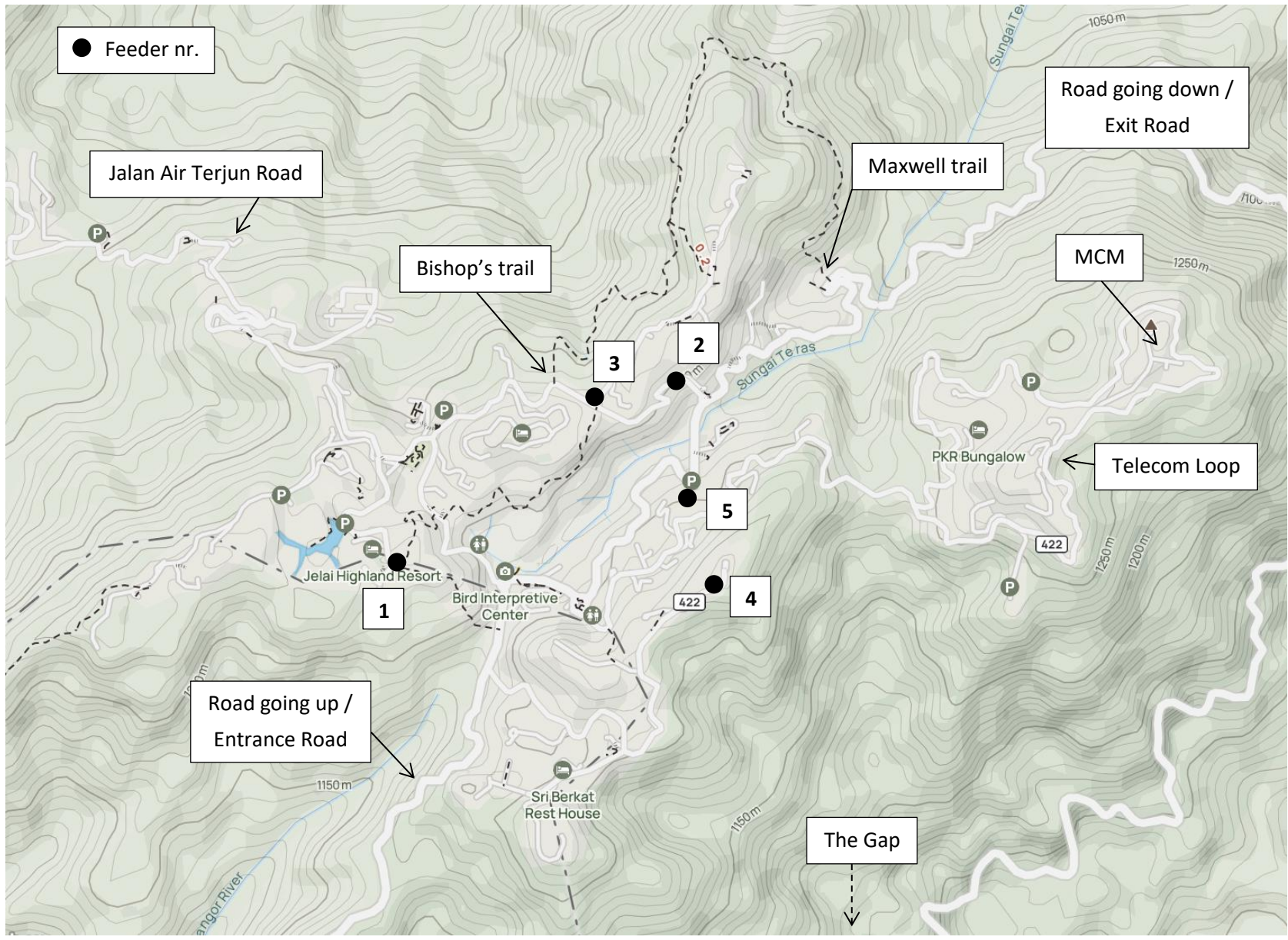


Max's Short-tailed Gymnure



Buff-breasted Babbler





**The Gap** (3.693805, 101.748426)

Many species of lower elevations used to be good at the gap. However, in the last 10 years many species have climbed up Fraser's Hill and can be found just as well higher up. These include **Rufous-bellied Swallow** and **Black Laughingthrush**. We found a group of **White-thighed Surilis** (*Presbytis siamensis*) feeding on the rubbish behind the toilet building one late afternoon. The bamboo patches should be good for **Bamboo Woodpecker** and –when in bloom– **Pin-tailed Parrotfinch**.

**Entrance Road** (main road at 3.69292, 101.74848 until 3.709547, 101.735864)

One day we walked up parts of the entrance road (one of us getting the car and driving it ahead a couple 100m every time). Even though we did encounter flowering bamboo, there were no **Pin-tailed Parrotfinches** to be found. **Cinereous Bulbul** was a new species for us and a stunning **Blyth's Hawk-eagle** soared in the sky. After about 1km from the bottom we finally encountered our last target left: **Black Laughingthrush**! A group of three shortly came into playback but stayed within the tangles and soon disappeared again. The last 1km (before 3.709547, 101.735864) should be good for this species, but we hadn't seen them there despite walking it three times.



**Fire-tufted Barbet**



**Malayan Partridge**

Higher up the road we encountered more flocks. One of these flocks held another main target and beauty of a bird: **Blue Nuthatch**. Other good species in these flocks included **Pygmy Blue Flycatcher**, **Chestnut-capped Warbler**, **Speckled Piculet**, **Blue-winged Minla**, **Black-eared Shrike-babbler**, and **Black-and-crimson Oriole**. One time we heard **Crested Jayshrike** shortly, but it wouldn't come into view. While watching one of these flocks, Romy suddenly spotted a big dark black primate. Not one of the more common **Dusky Langur** (*Trachypitecus obscurus*) that we had seen along the road, but our first **Siamang** (*Symphalangus syndactylus*)! And our 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> as it was a family group with a subadult and a baby. Amazing to see these tree-gorillas in the wild! The last 1km of this road should be good for this species too.

**Main Road and Bishop's Trail** (3.716706, 101.737584)

The road between the feeders of the Pygmy Cupwing and the Bishop's Trail is quite good in general. We had some nice flocks that included **Grey-throated Minivet**, **Sultan Tits** and **Black-and-crimson**

**Oriole.** Opposite of the Whistling-thrush feeder is a good spot for **Malayan Streaked Wren-babbler**, of which a pair came in nicely. The road between the feeder and the entrance of the Bishop's Trail is home to a pair of **Red-headed Trogons**. The Bishop's Trail itself is quite nice, although quiet when we walked it. However, we did get one of our best species about 150m into the trail: **Marbled Wren-babbler**! Beware of leeches in de rainy season.



**Three-Striped Ground Squirrel**



**Marbled Wren-babbler**

Some spotlighting at night here yielded **Small-toothed Palm-civet** (*Arctogalidia trivirgata*) and our only **Spotted Giant Flying Squirrel** (*Petaurista elegans*).

**Maxwell Trail** (3.719229, 101.744239, until 3.724507, 101.743047)

We walked this lesser-known trail together with a regular birder at Fraser's Hill, as it was supposed to be good for **Crested Jayshrike**, **Collared Babbler**, **Black Laughingthrush** all of which we missed here- and a lot more. After a short climb up the trail levels out a bit more, but it's still not easy walking most of the time. There we heard **Silver-breasted Broadbill** and got views of **Sunda Scimitar-babbler**. From where it flattens out until the power lines is good for **Rusty-naped Pitta**, but getting views of one turned out to be impossible. Besides some more common birds, this was the only place we observed **Hill Blue-flycatcher**.



**Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush**



**Malayan Laughingthrush**

**Jalan Air Terjun Road** (3.7201, 101.72662 until Jeriau Waterfall)

We only birded this road down one morning, as it's supposed to be good for **Blue Nuthatch**, **Black Laughingthrush** and **Marbled Wren-babbler** (there are quite some sightings of the latter within 200m of 3.722244, 101.723957). When we walked the road it was very quiet, but we got excellent views of a lone **White-thighed Surili** (*Presbytis siamensis*) as well as **Orange-bellied Leafbird** and **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** in a fruiting tree. A big flock gave some excitement and hope to see our targets, but besides many **Long-tailed Broadbills** and **Chestnut-capped Laughingthrushes** the flock didn't contain much else.

**The Village** (Clock Tower at 3.71185, 101.73644 until parking at 3.714403, 101.740985)

We had **Rufous-bellied Swallow** flying above the Shahzan Inn and sometimes perched on the abandoned hotel (3.71205, 101.73775) between the golf course and the Inn. **Large Niltava** and **Malayan Lesser Yellowname** were both seen well further along this road (3.7129, 101.73915).

**Dusky Langur****White-thighed Surili****Telecom Loop** (starting/ending at 3.713747, 101.746389, with a shortcut at 3.716121, 101.750561)

The telecom loop is a bit higher than most locations in Fraser's Hill. The road is generally quiet as well, which makes for nice spotlighting and/or herping away from the village. We mostly walked down from MCM, walked the highest part of the loop and then took the shortcut back to MCM. **Black-browed Barbet** is commonly heard and sometimes seen, but **Red-throated Barbet** is more common nowadays as well (expanding up the mountain it seems). **Helmeted Hornbills** were often heard, and another birder had glimpsed one flying by one morning. Check any dead trees with bare branches for **Black-thighed Falconet**. Other good birds seen on this part were **Red-bearded Bee-eater** and **Red-headed Trogon**. Besides **Southern Grey-bellied Squirrel** (*Callosciurus concolor*), we also observed **Pallas's Squirrel** (*Callosciurus erythraeus*) here and **Southeast Asian Striped Squirrel** (*Tamiops barbei*) seemed particularly common along this part<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Grey-bellied Squirrel and Himalaya Striped Squirrel have recently been split: Hinckley A, Maldonado JE, Tamura N, Leonard JA, Hawkins MTR (2024). Lost in synonymy: Integrative species delimitation reveals two unrecognized species of Southern Asian tree squirrels (Rodentia: Sciuridae: Callosciurinae). *Vertebrate Zoology* 74:683–707.

Walking down the eastern side of the road we heard **Rusty-naped Pitta** one afternoon and observed **Orange-backed Woodpeckers**. Others had seen **Blue Nuthatch** in flocks, but **Sultan Tit** was the best we could find. Mammal-wise this turned out to be quite good as well, with both **Dusky Langur** (*Trachypithecus obscurus*) and **White-thighed Surili** (*Presbytis siamensis*) quite often seen (although probably the same groups every time). One afternoon we found a lone **Siamang** (*Symphalangus syndactylus*), which then went to sit perfectly in the last sunlight. This individual was found again at night with the Lahoux Spotter NL 625 thermal camera. Besides **Brown Wood-owl** (HO) and **Mountain Scops-owl** (HO), we encountered **Sunda Slow Loris**, **Small-toothed Palm Civet** and **Masked Palm Civet** at night.



**Siamang**

**Siamang**

**Exit Road** (3.71939, 101.74454 until main road)

We drove the exit road twice, of which one time in the rain. **Green Broadbill** was seen well thanks to the birding group of Tropical Birding, but this species is way more common in Taman Negara. Further down, one tree (3.69914, 101.75131) gave good views of **Grey-rumped Treeswifts** both times.



**Blue Nuthatch**

**Green Broadbill**

## Taman Negara NP

4.38472, 102.40053

**Dates visited:** 4-10 July 2024

Logistics: One can easily drive with any rental car to the town of Kuala Tahan. To get to the NP itself, one must cross the river. The floating restaurants and activity centres on the town side of the river operate roughly between 07.00-19.00 and 20.00-22.00. There might be just one boat early morning. Cost of crossing is 1RM per person one way.

Inside the park one must go to the office (08:00-16:00) and buy a ticket (1RM per person, valid for 30 days) and pay a fee for any camera, including smartphones (5RM per camera). Here one can also book hides, although this is nowadays not plural anymore as 5 out of the 6 hides have not been maintained and/or collapsed. I later received an update from Tim van der Meer: "As of January 2025 the Tahan hide has been renovated and should be open soon. Kumbang hide is still not open and could take another year according to a ranger (not sure if they have any concrete plans), even the canopy walkway was also temporarily closed in the winter of 2024-2025 because a tree fell on it."

Accommodation: There is one lodge inside the park (Mutiara Taman Negara), which is conveniently located, but more expensive. Cheaper accommodation is available in Kuala Tahan. We stayed at Taman Negara River View Lodge, but the rooms were very noisy, and you get woken up already at 06.00 by the nearby mosque. A good laundry service (and you'll need one!) is from Acah Laundry Service (4.382844, 102.402082).

Bird-/mammalwatching:

### Kuala Tahan

Most of the wildlife watching takes place within the park. The town itself is probably the best chance to see **Blue-rumped Parrots**, which occasionally feed on the palm flowers at Teresek View Motel (4.38276, 102.40219) or along the street east from there.



**Blue-rumped Parrot**

**Blue-crowned Hanging-parrot**

### Hornbill Valley

Most bird groups spend one afternoon in the hornbill valley. eBird indicates another location as the hotspot than google.maps does, and we went to the last one (4.37108, 102.4173) late afternoon. It didn't take long before we had a couple of **Wreathed Hornbill** fly over. A nearby fruiting tree had **Grey-bellied Bulbuls** in them. The best bird came in the form of **Black-and-white Bulbuls** that flew by twice.

### National Park – General information

Inside the NP the rules have become stricter. Nowadays, you can only walk the boardwalk without a guide. The boardwalk includes all trails around the lodge (Swamp Loop, Tahan Hide), to Lubuk Simpon beach, the Jenut Muda Trail, up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> viewpoint at Bukit Teresek and the canopy walkway. The best trail, going north along the river from Lubuk Simpon, is officially off limits to birders without a local guide. Unfortunately, there are no good bird or mammal guides. We even had a guide shouting at us as we pointed out a Southern Pig-tailed Macaque to his guests, that according to him was a “Banded Monkey” (whichever of the two species of Banded Langur that may be).

### National Park – Mutiara Lodge, Tahan Hide and Swamp Loop

The grounds of the Mutiara Lodge are mostly planted with non-native trees. However, we still found some flowering trees where we found our first **Grey-breasted Spiderhunter**. A solitary tree between some cabins had **Black-bellied Malkoha** nesting in it. Multiple fruiting trees opposite of the entrance of the trail to the Tahan hide produced multiple Flowerpecker, Bulbul, Barbet and Pigeon species, including **Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker**, **Grey-bellied Bulbul** and **Little Green-pigeon**. Others had seen **Jambu Fruit-dove** less than two weeks before us. **Long-tailed Macaques** (*Macaca fascicularis*) were found every day in and around the Mutiara Lodge grounds.

The Tahan hide was nothing special mammal-wise. We didn't check it at night as many groups doing the night walk there. A fruiting tree in the middle of the grass produced more Bulbul species, including **Streaked Bulbul** and **Puff-backed Bulbul**. Until 2023 **Malayan Peacock-pheasants** were being fed underneath the hide, but this stopped after park interference. They still hang out in the area and can be heard, and sometimes seen, from the hide.



**Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler**



**Royal Assyrian (*Terinos terpander*), Tahan hide**

The swamp loop was quite productive for Babblers, and although we had seen most of them on Borneo, there are quite a few different subspecies and potential splits. Better yet was the whistling sound we heard here the first afternoon (which could be either one of two main targets). Nothing came into view, so we figured apps like BirdNet and Merlin could help. They both ID-ed the sound as Rail-babbler, even though later we heard from other guides and regulars that a Garnet Pitta always used to hang out here the year before. We went back another day, dove into the shrubs and after 2 long hours we managed to indeed see **Garnet Pitta** (ne)! It went behind a huge tree, and just when I decided I waited long enough and wanted to go around for a record shot, **Malayan Peacock-pheasants** (e) started to call close by. As this was a new species the Pitta was abandoned, but unfortunately, we didn't manage to see the Pheasants. Back on the boardwalk another amazing bird started calling; **Malayan Banded-pitta** (ne)! It was already getting dark, so we left it for what it was. Walking back, we heard a whirring sound, and just around the next bend a male **Malayan Crested Fireback** (ne) was seen, once more whirring its wing and showing its dark namesake rump.

The swamp loop was also the only place where we saw (multiple) **Sunda Black-banded Squirrels** (*Callosciurus nigrovittatus*). **Common Treeshrew** (*Tupaia glis*) was seen along the boardwalk here more often than at other places as well.



**Malayan Crested Fireback**

**Sunda Black-banded Squirrel**

#### **National Park – Lubuk Simpon beach**

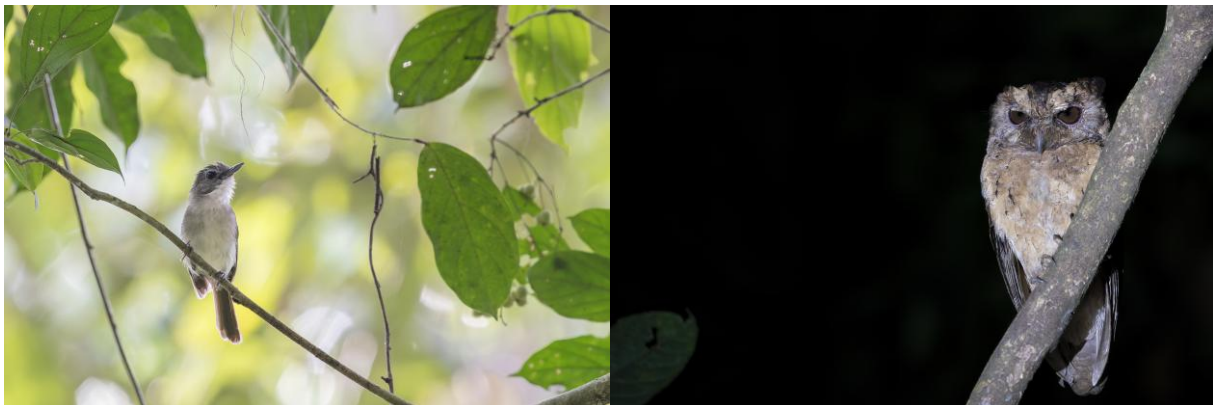
The trail running along the river towards Lubuk Simpson beach is again quite good for Babblers. **Plantain Squirrel** (*Callosciurus notatus*) and **Southern Grey-bellied Squirrel** (*Callosciurus concolor*) were especially common on this stretch as well. As we were often here early morning and late afternoon before and after other tourists were present, this stretch turned out to be good for **Malayan Crested Fireback**. The boardwalk parallel to the beach -and the first part of the Jenut Muda trail- are good for **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**. Seeing it turned out to be quite a challenge, but after hearing it call for a long time it came in silently.



The Lubuk Simpon beach is a great place for birdwatching. Especially when the water is low one can walk on the beach (which was absent after some heavy rains). **Malayan Blue-banded Kingfisher** is supposedly a regular here, but we only managed to see it after many tries. With the Lahoux Spotter NL 625 thermal camera the scanning was quite easy, and **Stork-billed Kingfisher** was found in similar fashion. The area around the beach used to be great for **Straw-headed Bulbul**, but as this has become public knowledge the birds seem to have been poached. They are supposedly still in Taman Negara NP, but we didn't manage to find them. The vegetation lining the beach is the only place where we managed to see **Horsfield's Babbler**, which was commonly heard here most days. Most late afternoons we observed multiple **Black-thighed Falconets** on the tall bare tree (at 2 o'clock when facing straight to the river).

**Scaly-crowned Babbler****Rufous-collared Kingfisher**

Early morning and late afternoon this turned out to be a good place to scan for Hornbills, and **Rhinoceros Hornbill** was seen multiple times and even once **Wrinkled Hornbills**. **Bat Hawk** was seen flying over the forest around 19.30, when it was quite dark already. Another bird that started calling one late afternoon was **Moustached Hawk-cuckoo** (thanks to another birder!). The start of the good forest just after the campsite seems to be a good spot for it.

**Malayan Moustached Babbler****Collared Scops-owl**

Spotlighting this part one night we heard **Gould's Frogmouth**, **Oriental Bay Owl** and with the Lahoux Spotter NL 625 thermal camera Romy found **Collared Scops-owl** (which used to be split as Sunda Scops-owl, but the peninsular birds seem to get lumped again).

#### **National Park – Tahan River trail** (officially off limits)

Officially one can't continue without hiring an expensive guide without any bird knowledge. If one does hire a guide, one can't use playback. We did walk it alone anyways on one of our last days and didn't have any problems. Supposedly this rule was made up to secure local jobs and get other professional guides from outside off the good trails... However, we did encounter Elephant dung, and some people have no sense of direction and might get lost... At your own risk☺

The forest just seemed to get better and better the further we got. A little concrete bridge turned up **White-chested Babbler** and **Malayan Blue Flycatcher** (thanks to a tip from another birder!). Another stream further up the trail brought **Chestnut-naped Forktail**, including a begging juvenile.

The Tabin hide (4.40892, 102.40393) looks out over a salt lick. Once we sat down we observed some warm shapes in the thermal camera, clearly of larger birds.. Unfortunately, we couldn't get them into view as they were just walking away from the salt lick (probably because they had seen us coming into the hide, so enter carefully and check the area in the back at one o'clock right away). Both **White-handed Gibbon** (*Hylobates lar*) and **Siamang** were heard from the hide. Nice birds around the hide were **Rufous-collared Kingfisher** (HO), **Crested Jayshrike** (HO), **Fiery Minivet** and **Dark-throated Oriole**. We returned to the hide in the afternoon again, and I then observed an animal I am pretty sure was a **Shrew-faced Squirrel** (*Rhinosciurus laticaudatus*) going over a log on the ground away from us. The face was relatively pointy, the back warm dark brown, with a short and thick bushy tail. Apparently, this species is not very uncommon in the NP. We had many encounters with small mammals which we only noticed once they were running away from us, and if one would only focus on mammals, I think walking slowly with a thermal camera might increase your odds for this species big time.

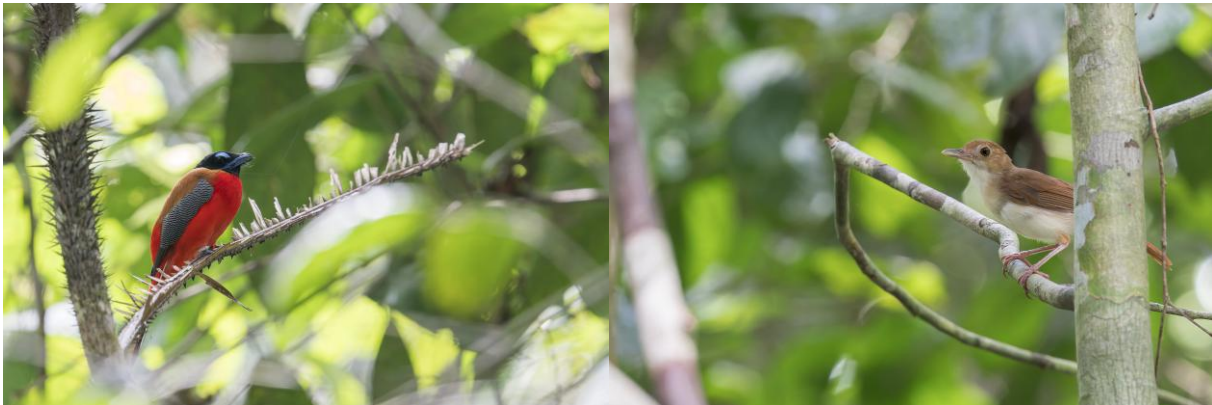


Snake spec. (*Dendrelaphis sp.*)



Rufous-chested Flycatcher

We then continued further north along the trail (going left instead of right at the intersection at 4.40854, 102.40211 when coming from the main trail). At the wooden bridge (4.410324, 102.40055) we lured in the **Rufous-chested Flycatcher** that another birder had just seen before us, a species that had eluded us for a long time until now. The 500m stretch of trail/forest after this was especially good to us. Walking slowly, I suddenly noticed a brown leaf 5m in front of me that seemed to move slightly. Just when I wanted to lift my binoculars the brown leaf decided to fly away and turn into a **Gould's Frogmouth**. Armed with the thermal -which worked surprisingly well during the day despite the hot surrounding temperatures- I tried to relocate it, but before I did it flew off again and disappeared. Hoping for another one, I continued with the thermal camera, and we heard some rustling. I observed the shape of a bigger bird walking, but we couldn't find it with our bino's. A smaller white dot turned out to be one of a group of three **Crested Jayshrikes**, black ones instead of brown as on Borneo. Walking further we suddenly heard the unmistakable calls of **Malayan Peacock-pheasants**. Using playback and the Lahoux Spotter NL 625 thermal camera I finally managed to get a clear view of the head and upper back of a male! As I pointed continuously with the laser pointer to where it was, I saw the whole thing with my bare eyes as it walked in the open patch, Romy only catching onto it after just the butt and tail were still in sight. No photos, but what a bird!



**Scarlet-rumped Trogon**

**Ferruginous Babbler**

Not much further on the trail we reached the spot where the other birder had seen **Malayan Banded-pitta** almost every day for the last month. It responded quickly but still took about 30 minutes (especially the short, descending "pr-r-r-r"-call seemed to work) before it came walking up within 5m of us next to a big fern. Again, still out of sight for Romy, I didn't dare to lift my camera as it came closer. Then it noticed us, quickly hopping further, allowing views for Romy and only a record shot for me.

Walking back, we noticed a plumped brown bird flying across the path, just before we reached the wooden bridge. Then it started singing and in the bino's this turned out to be **Large Wren-babbler**, a species we hadn't heard yet during 5 days in the park!

### National Park – Jenut Muda trail

Back to the trails that can be walked independently, the Jenut Muda trail runs between Lubuk Simpon beach and the Bukit Tereseke trail. From Lubuk Simpon it goes up and down twice, levels out a bit, and then again climbs up quite steeply until once reached Bukit Tereseke. We had gotten a tip from another birder about a **Garnet Pitta**, of which we played the tape at one spot (4.38995, 102.40176). We quickly got a response, but not much later **Malaysian Rail-babbler** walked into view! As that birder had really seen the Pitta here, we tried again the next day and again we got good sightings of the Rail-babbler. While sitting in the forest a **Malaysian Hawk-cuckoo** came flying in and perched in a tree not far from us. The Jenut Muda bridge (4.39039, 102.40272) was another good spot for the **Malaysian Hawk-cuckoo**. It also seemed a good spot for multiple Babbler species, including **Horsfield's Babbler** (HO).



Malaysian Hawk-cuckoo



Malaysian Rail-babbler

### National Park – Bukit Tereseke trail

The Bukit Tereseke trail is one of the main tourist trails and gets terribly busy later in the morning. We once walked the part from the Jenut Muda trail down to the lodge, and one time up and down to the second viewpoint at Bukit Tereseke (4.3999, 102.40792). Most interesting birds were two **Banded Broadbill**, halfway the first set of stairs going up. **Southern Pig-tailed Macaques** (*Macaca nemestrina*), while **White-handed Gibbon** and **Siamang** were both heard from there. At the second viewpoint we tried for **Maroon-breasted Philentoma**, which has been seen here more often. A bird of the right size and shape flew over our heads, but we couldn't find it back. The view is quite nice and besides **Silver-rumped Spinetail** and **Grey-rumped Treeswifts**, this must be a great place to watch raptors and Hornbills fly by late afternoon or very early morning (if you can bare the climb that early).



Finch's Bulbul



Banded Broadbill



## Bukit Tinggi/Japanese Garden

[3.40861, 101.83964](#)

**Dates visited:** 10-12 July 2024

Logistics: there are some gates and guards going from the main road up to the Japanese Garden (at least three to be precise). Just mention the hotel where you are staying to the guards and you should be given access. The accommodation should be able to arrange early access by car going up to the Japanese Garden, and we only had to fill in a small form for this.

Accommodation: We stayed at the Colmar Tropical as they had an offer on their website for 1 night + 1 night free, including breakfast. A very interesting place, and I won't spoil anything more than that (but a decent place to stay). Breakfast is officially from 07.00-10.30, but bread and pastries are already there at 06.30.

Bird-/mammalwatching: We drove up the first afternoon to the parking (3.41786, 101.84344) and walked up. It's easiest to turn right at the T-intersection at the top of the road and walk the paved road until the end. There is a small trail at the end of the paved road (3.41753, 101.84221, feeder at 3.41724, 101.84208). **Ferruginous Partridge** was already there when we arrived. Unfortunately, only one, as the other one died in a bird net recently. As a tree had fallen the day before, we cleared some of the feeding area for better views and more light the next day, and then returned to our car. On the way back we got decent views of **Scaly-breasted Bulbul** and **Orange-breasted Trogon**.



**Ferruginous Partridge**



**Mountain Peacock-pheasant**

The next morning, we drove up after breakfast -around 07.30- and the guard let us pass. Apparently, bird tours just manoeuvre through the barrier after the first parking and drive until the end of the paved road, which saves some walking and time. The day before the **Mountain Peacock-pheasant** (e) had arrived at 07.40 in pouring rain, but this day it slept in until 09.20. It stayed for 20 minutes and came back again at 09.55. Then **Ferruginous Partridge** responded to playback of the bird group that was there as well. A female Peacock-pheasant showed up at 10.15 and the male started to flash its tail to the Partridge to chase it away from the female –although I'm pretty sure the Partridge was only

interested in the feeding area the female occupied. During the wait we had **Plantain Squirrel**, **Western Striped Squirrel** and even **Max's Short-tailed Gymnure** (*Hylomys maxi*) coming to feed on the crushed corn.

Walking back to the car we heard **Siamang**, but as it was very windy the whole morning already, they only sang shortly and couldn't be found.



**Dusky Langur**



**Sunda Slow Loris**

## Kuala Selangor Nature Park

[3.339, 101.2448](tel:33391012448)

**Dates visited:** 12-13 July 2024

**Accommodation:** We stayed at VI Boutique Hotel (3.35501, 101.25338), which was quite good. Soft beds, decent WiFi, Aircos and drinking water to refill your water bottle. We booked via Agoda.

It's also possible to stay at the Kuala Selangor Nature Park. One can reserve a dorm with 6 beds (220RM per dorm, including AC, but cold shower) or chalets for 3 persons (RM60 per chalet, fan only, cold shower). The receptionist Laila gave her number so foreigners can reserve via WhatsApp (+60 11 – 39 504 682).



**Selangor Silvered Langur**



**Selangor Silvered Langur**

Bird-/mammalwatching: For mammalwatchers the **Selangor Silvered Langur** (*Trachypithecus selangorensis*) will probably be the main target. At least a 100 of them are waiting for you whilst you drive towards the park, together with even more **Long-tailed Macaques**. As soon as we parked, they climbed our car, even as we were driving. They are fed constantly by locals, even though the park has put up signs not too (in all fairness: these were only placed the day before). On foot they were not that aggressive, but I can't say it was very pleasant. Luckily one can drive into the gates of the park and from there on the primates behave more natural. To clarify, both species can be seen outside the park, so the opening hours of the park are irrelevant.

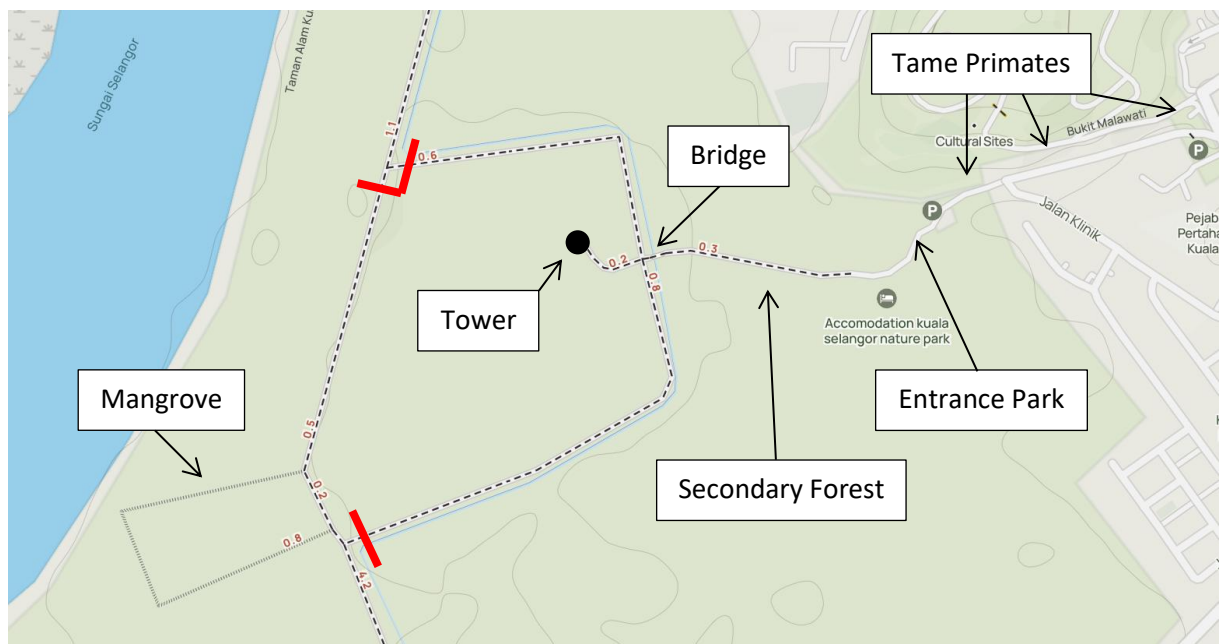


Long-tailed Macaques



Long-tailed Macaque

Entrance to the Kuala Selangor Nature Park is only 4RM per person. Opening hours 09.00-18.00 (last exit at 19.00). As birdwatchers we were allowed to open the gate (3.33903, 101.24495) ourselves at 07.00 the next morning and pay on our way out.





Already around the buildings we observed **Buffy Fish-owl**, still hunting despite it getting light again. Continuing the path we entered the secondary forest. Just before the bridge is where we found our first **Mangrove Blue-flycatcher**. A stunning male of this species was found just northwest of the bridge, and this species actually seems to be outside the mangrove (at least here). Walking the loop twice we paid special attention to **Little Bronze-cuckoo**, which was heard a couple of times, but didn't come into playback. The mangrove section held both **Cinereous Tit** (*ssp. ambiguous*) and **Mangrove Whistler**. Back on the loop we paid special attention to the areas indicated on the map (red lines) as otter crossings. Arriving at one of them a **Smooth-coated Otter** (*Lutrogale perspicillata*) was lying on patch (be careful, there are 3 species of Otter confirmed for the park), enjoying the first sunrays. It went into the water as soon as it noticed us. The next round it was back, making sprint on the path. We had two more sightings of individual Otters (unsure which species) swimming in the canals, one close to the bridge. From the tower we observed common, but beautiful, species like **Brahminy Kite** and **Blue-throated Bee-eater**, but this viewing point has a lot of potential for more. Other nice birds along the loop were **Laced Woodpecker**, **Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker** and many **Pink-necked Pigeons**. The only other mammal observed beside the primates and Otter was a **Plantain Squirrel**.



Common Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*



Smooth-coated Otter

## Perlis State Park

[6.69777, 100.19091](https://www.perlis.gov.my)

**Dates visited:** 14-15 July 2024

**Logistics:** Perlis State Park lies in the northwest of the country. The drive there is easy and can be done with any vehicle. One must pass a check point just before the park, but nothing serious. The park is open from 08.00 – 17.00, entrance fee RM10 per person per day, plus 20 RM for a camera.

**Accommodation:** We stayed in budget hotel 365 View Point Resort (6.63938, 100.21589) in Kaki Bukit, about 20 minutes from the park. Only when we arrived at the park, we found out one can rent chalets as well, which would allow for early access and spotlighting inside the park.

*Bird/Mammalwatching:* The bird- and mammalwatching in the park was a bit disappointing. The first afternoon it rained cats and dogs, so we decided to turn around and get an evening rest. The next morning weather was good again, so we arrived at the park at 08.00. We couldn't find anybody, so we decided to walk the main road between the gate and the accommodation. This road is just over 1km and paved all the way. There is an observation tower halfway, but I'm not sure to which purpose it was placed there. **Long-tailed Macaques** and **Dusky Leaf Monkeys** were quite common, but the latter was surprisingly shy. As **Robinson's Banded Langur** -our main target and reason for visiting Perlis- should occur here, we wanted to check every group of primates but had a hard time ID-ing some of them as they fled quickly.

Once at the accommodation and restaurant, we continued on a smaller trail towards a small water pool. Here we heard many **Lar Gibbons** and even managed to see one, again while it was fleeing from us. Other than that, we only encountered **Short-tailed Babbler** and **Scarlet-rumped Trogon** (HO). There are two trails leading to 2 caves, but the footing was quite uneven and as the clouds looked threatening, we decided to stick to the main road. Reviews on Google show bats in the caves, so this might be worth exploring for mammal watchers. Tim van der Meer wrote to me: with dry weather, the walk is relatively easy. Officially the caves should be accessed with a guide, but they feature a well-maintained boardwalk inside, making it safe as long as you stick to the path. Not much could go wrong if you follow the boardwalk. The bats inside are a species of Roundleaf Bat (likely Diademed Roundleaf Bats).

On the way back we enjoyed the company of **Chestnut-naped Forktails** foraging in front of us on the road. At one moment I heard **Giant Pitta** calling, but this turned out to be playback from other birders that had registered one on a camera trap earlier this year.



**Lesser Short-nosed Fruit Bats**



**Chestnut-naped Forktail**

A fruiting tree around the parking lot at the entrance was good for Barbets (**Black-eared Barbet**, **Sooty Barbet**, **Red-throated Barbet**) and Bulbuls. **Dusky Crag Martins** were seen soaring high above the limestone cliff opposite of the entrance. The other birders we met said that behind the buildings at the entrance should be a good place for **Malaysian Banded Pitta**, but we couldn't find one. We did flush **Lesser Short-nosed Fruit Bats** *Cynopterus brachyotis* from their roost underneath the cabins.

On the way back we had **Rufous-bellied Swallows** soaring over our head (6.67505, 100.19579). We then walked a public road going into the park, leading down into a valley -ending at a palm oil plantation-. The mammals were shy here as well, and **Black Giant Squirrel**, **Dusky Leaf Monkeys** as well as **Lar Gibbons** fled at first sight. Other birders had mentioned this place to us as reliable for **Stump-tailed Macaque**, which we failed to find. Bird-wise we observed **White-crowned Hornbills**, after we heard their characteristic calls already for a while. Other than some more common birds we didn't observe anything of note. At night this should be a good place for both **Blyth's Frogmouth** and **Dusky Eagle-owl** (which sometimes roosts at the viewing point during the day).

## Lake Muda / Lake Pedu

[6.12131, 100.86007](#)

**Date visited:** 16 July 2024

*Logistics:* Both places we visited are publicly accessible without any entrance fee or restriction in opening hours. We didn't sleep nearby, so we can't comment on any accommodation.

### Bird-/Mammalwatching:

#### Lake Muda

We started our day early, and drove from Kaki Bukit to Lake Muda, arriving at 07.00. There we made our way to jetty (6.12111, 100.85998), set up the telescope and started scanning. We could hear lots of Hornbills, besides the **Agile Gibbons**, **Malayan Peacock-pheasant**, **Great Argus** and other great sounds coming from the jungle surrounding the lake. Just after 07.30 the first groups of **Plain-pouched Hornbills** took off. This is a wintering species, gathering in big groups from somewhere end of June until October. This turned out to be a good year, with lots of palm trees fruiting around the lake. As all the Hornbills flew southwest, we headed off to a better vantage point (6.11562, 100.85403) and there we got 100's of them fly straight over our head.



**Plain-pouched Hornbills in palm trees**

**Plain-pouched Hornbills**

### Lake Pedu

After enjoying the Hornbills for an hour, we went to the road east of Lake Pedu (6.17207, 100.84019). Besides Bukit Wang Recreational Forest (see boxed text), this seems to be one of the few places **Chestnut-necklaced Partridge** can be found. We had little information, except that other birders had tape trawled extensively and by doing so heard 1 or 2 inside the forest aligning the road. This is what we did as well, but despite walking the total 8km of the road, we couldn't connect with the species. We thought we heard a similar call at one point, but there was only a couple 100 meters between the road and the lake (where it seemed to call from twice). But we can't be sure as it stopped calling and, in our experience, Partridges respond loudly and aggressive, instead of softly and shortly... (but we heard different experiences from others with this Partridge species, and it might heavily depend on the season). As we couldn't walk towards the sound and we didn't hear it afterwards, we will never know. Other birds we were able to enjoy were **Whiskered Treeswift**, **Chestnut-rumped Babbler**, **Red Junglefowl** (HO), **Malayan Peacock-pheasant** (HO), **Cream-eyed Bulbul** and fly-bys of **Large Green-pigeon**. The primates here were even shyer than at Perlis State Park, and most of them literally dropped out of the tree when they notice us, hoping for another tree to break their fall. We heard Gibbons and the Langur groups we were able to ID were all **Dusky Leaf Monkeys**, although **Robinson's Banded Langur** should occur here too (and is observed for example along the river at the Earth Lodge inside the Ula Muda Forest Reserve).

Driving south along the main road we had two **Yellow-throated Martens** cross the road! :)

#### Bukit Wang Recreational Forest

Inside the Bukit Wang Recreational Forest is a hide where both **Malayan Banded Pitta** and **Chestnut-necklaced Partridge** show up. The person to contact is [Zam Tokai via Facebook](#) or Whatsapp: +60 19-493 5644. Zam only speaks Malayan, and his replies were limited to a few words, but he also uses Google Translate or birding friends to translate. The costs are 200 RM per person. The hide is spacious enough and Zam brings some small stools, snacks and drinks. The best time for the pitta seems to be January – March, and the best time for the partridge is February (March). The forest is closed during the rainy season and opens again during January. One cannot enter the forest without getting a permit at the park office in Jitra first.



**Eastern Spotted Dove**

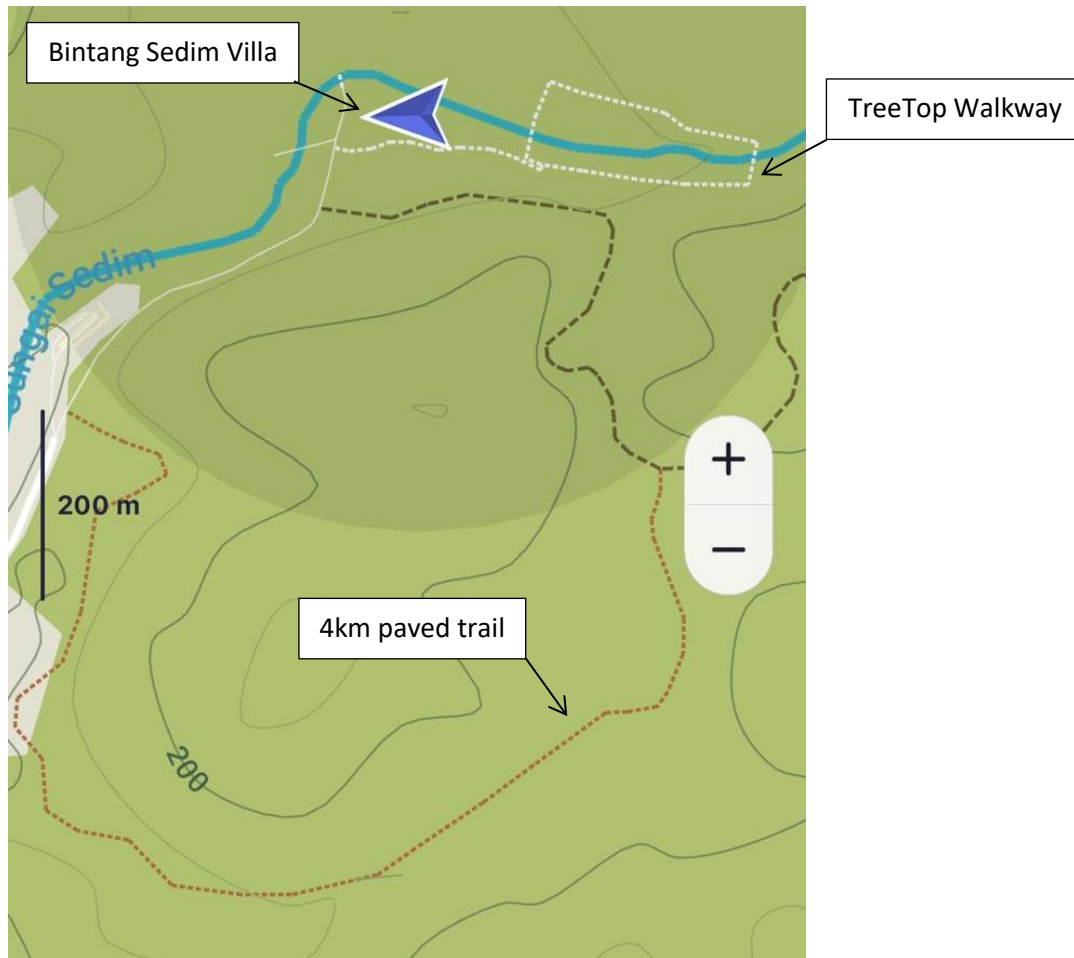


**Yellow Pansy (*Junonia hierta*)**

## Mt. Bintang - Sungai Sedim

[5.41372, 100.78123](#)

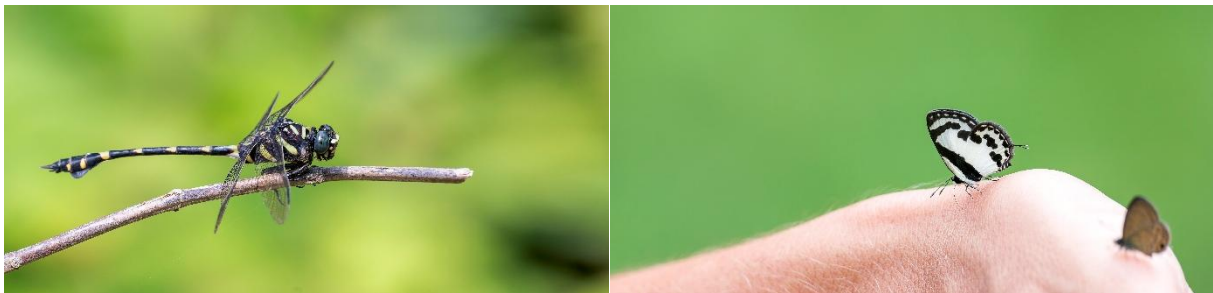
Date visited: 16 July 2024



**Logistics:** Sungai Sedim is a popular weekend destination, so best to avoid weekends. The drive there is easy and can be done with any vehicle. Although there was a barrier at the beginning of the good forest, we suspect this one is open day and night. Someone charged RM2 when we arrived with our car at the upper parking lot (5.41311, 100.781).

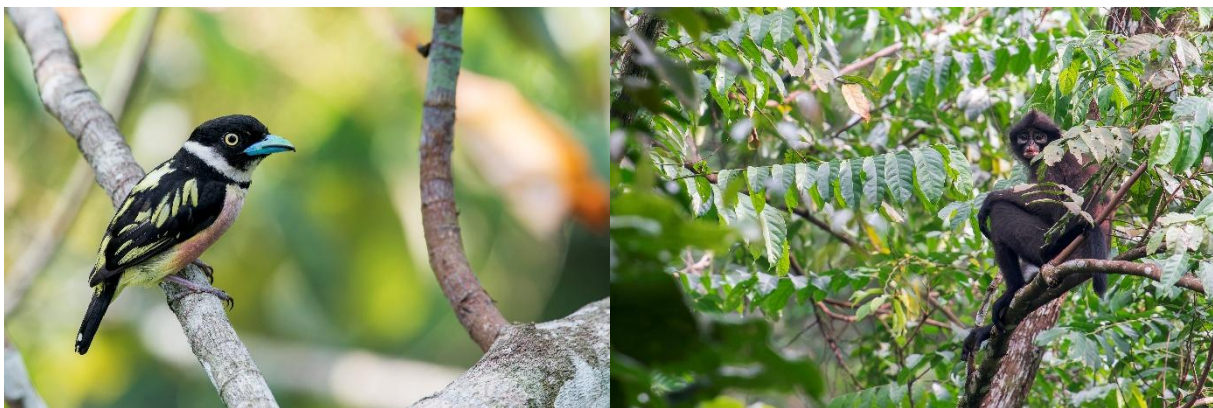
**Accommodation:** There are plenty of accommodations lower down in the village and there are two up at Sungai Sedim. One of them is [Bintang Sedim Villa](#), and a room is RM180 (+10RM p.n. tourist tax). This accommodation also runs the TreeTop Walkway but wouldn't allow early access before 09.00. According to Tim van der Meer, the rooms are decent: they have comfortable beds, a fan and AC. The shower and other facilities were quite basic, as was breakfast. Unfortunately for us, they were fully booked when we arrived, so we tried the accommodation on the other side of the parking lot. They had bungalows available with a special offer being RM130 including tourist tax. Although the rooms looked ok-ish, we were able to count the springs when we felt the mattress and weren't feeling like sleeping here.

*Bird-/mammalwatching:* Other people have reported this as a good place to see both Agile Gibbon and Robinson’s Banded Langur and reckoned about 2-3 mornings here should be enough to see both. There aren’t many trails to walk, and one is basically limited to the 1km of entrance road going through the forest, the parking lot, the areas around the accommodations, including a couple of 100m towards the TreeTop Walkway. According to Alex Schouten, who went here after us, there is a 4km paved trail through the forest which is mostly flat. The walkway only opens from 09.00-17.30 and costs RM20 p.p. for foreigners. There seems to be a trail going underneath the walkway, used by scooters to get to their fishing spots. However, multiple people wrote to me that they had the Banded Langur already at the parking lot (mixed in a group with *Dusky Leaf Langurs*, so be alert!).



**Common Flangetail (*Ictinogomphus decoratus*)**    **Straight Pierrot (*Caleta roxus*)**

As we arrived in the afternoon, we walked the canopy walkway with a total length of almost 1km from 15.30-17.30. Except for a **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** and **Common Gliding Lizards (*Draco sumatranus*)** we didn’t see much the two times we did the loop. Only when we almost wanted to get off the walkway did we suddenly heard **Agile Gibbons** calling. We went to one point overlooking the river, and from there we could see at least 4 of them going rapidly through the trees. We then walked from the canopy walkway back to the parking lot. Romy suddenly said she could still see the Gibbons in a tree, but these quickly turned out to be **Robinson’s Banded Langurs**. A group of more than 10 went through the trees and gave good views. Having both targets in the pocket and no good accommodation available up the hill, we decided to move on to the next location. On the way to Taiping we surprisingly observed another group of **Robinson’s Banded Langurs** on the power lines next to the road/palm oil plantation.



**Black-and-yellow Broadbill**

**Robinson’s Banded Langur**

# Taiping – Maxwell Hill

[4.86048, 100.76004](#)

**Dates visited:** 17-18 July 2024

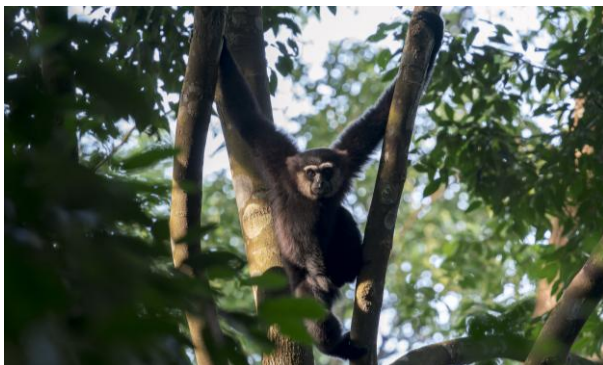
*Logistics:* The entrance to Maxwell Hill is free (although we did see a ticket booth, which was closed). Entrance is from 07.00-20.00, but when we arrived at 07.00 there were already people walking downhill again. Other mammalwatchers later wrote me they went in a bit earlier and only had to write down their name. At night we did see the gate closed, so it's definitely not open 24/7.

*Accommodation:* Currently one can only camp up the hill, as the accommodation was closed during Covid. There are plenty of options in Taiping though, and it's recommended to stay on the east side of the city. We stayed at Knight Hotel (4.84758, 100.74229), which was simple but very decent.

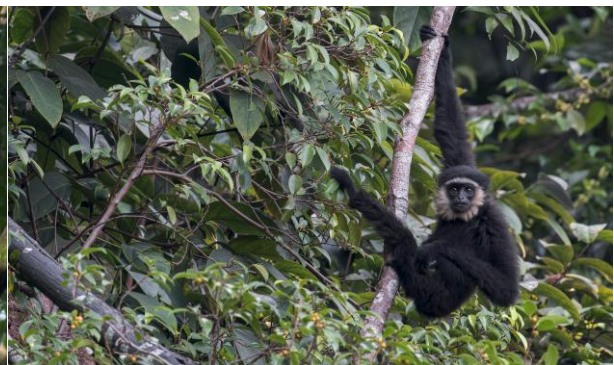
*Bird-/mammalwatching:*

## Maxwell Hill

Despite we had already seen both primate species, we wanted to try for Agile Gibbon and Robinson's Banded Langur here as well. We had seen some good photos of Agile Gibbons here, as they are quite used to people, especially lower down the hill. Many locals (there is a huge Chinese community in Taiping) use this hill as an early morning workout. It is therefore best to avoid weekends here. We advise to start walking around 07.00, or even earlier if the gate is indeed open. There is a constant and decent incline, and even though we heard the Gibbons lower down as well, it seems that between KM1 and KM3 give the best chances as the forest is a bit more open here at points. We went two mornings and managed to see **Agile Gibbons** on both mornings, although quite far away on the first. The second morning we heard many groups, but due to the many bends in the road and the incline it wasn't as easy to get to a group once their call is located. Even then they might be inside the forest. After a while I decided to work my way inside the forest and by doing so got great views of a group. This group eventually made their way down the slope and foraged on fruits high above the road. But without knowing they were there they could have easily been missed. Not to be missed are the many groups of **Dusky Leaf Monkeys**, which are common on the hill. We didn't observe **Robinson's Banded Langur**, which reportedly occurs higher up the hill.



**Agile Gibbon**



**Agile Gibbon**

Bird-wise we observed some nice species, including **Banded Kingfisher** and **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**, the latter doesn't seem uncommon. We met a local birder with mealworms at a feeder for **Rufous-collared Kingfisher** (4.86017, 100.76210). This time of the year only **Yellow-bellied Bulbul** and **Short-tailed Babbler** showed up according to him, but wintertime **Orange-headed Thrush**, **Siberian Blue Robin**, **Green-backed Flycatcher**, **Chestnut-crowned/Western Hooded Pitta** and sometimes **Blue-winged Pitta** can be found.

There are two more feeders close to each other (4.86334, 100.76171 and 4.86348, 100.76142) where **Green-backed flycatcher** regularly shows up in winter. Many locals seem to love bird photography and spend time at these hides.

Other birds seen and heard are many Barbets: **Yellow-crowned Barbet**, **Sooty Barbet**, **Red-throated Barbet** and **Gold-whiskered Barbet** (HO). Bulbuls included **Grey-bellied Bulbul**, **Hairy-backed Bulbul** and **Cream-vented Bulbul**. Other goodies include **Black-thighed Falconet** and **Whiskered Treeswifts** on bare trees and **Wreathed Hornbills** flying overhead.

The road going north just outside the park (4.8609, 100.75953) was our choice for spotlighting at night. We didn't see any mammals and the forest isn't too good, but we did manage to find two **Blyth's Frogmouths** (4.86424, 100.76159).

### Taiping

Late afternoon we went to a very unassuming location, called 'Kamunting Mining Pools' on eBird. We parked the car (4.86458, 100.7073) and walked into the park (4.86517, 100.70654). Besides common species it took only half an hour before we found our main target **White-headed Munia** foraging in low grass around the lake (4.86257, 100.70569).



**Blyth's Frogmouth**



**White-headed Munia**



## Pulau Indah Island

[2.91391, 101.33096](#)

**Date visited:** 18-19 July 2024

*Logistics:* The place is reachable by any car, no entrance fees or opening hours.

*Accommodation:* We spend the night at Bloommaze Boutique Hotel in Klang (3.02013, 101.43182). A decent budget hotel, but nothing special.

*Bird-/Mammalwatching:* We came here as we came across quite some observations of Mangrove Pitta online. We didn't have any precise information. When we parked the car (2.91403, 101.33109) I already quickly found a small trail into the mangroves. It took about 10 minutes before a **Mangrove Pitta** came in, and it was clearly used to being fed mealworms. Being in the mangroves there were 1000's of mosquitos, so shower in mosquito repellent before entering!

Later in the afternoon we found another path into the mangroves, and it was obviously a real feeding spot (2.91393, 101.33211). We returned here the next morning, and it took an hour before the **Mangrove Pitta** came in. While waiting we tried our luck with **Slaty-breasted Rail** as there had been some records, and to our surprise an adult with chick came in and gave incredible views! Be sure to buy meal worms (alive or dried) if you're coming to this feeder. If birds like this get taped in and don't find food, you will ruin it for other birders.

We heard **Ruddy Kingfisher** and **Mangrove Whistler** from this spot. Walking around the mangroves we finally observed **Copper-throated Sunbird**, a species that had eluded us in several places before during our journey.



**Mangrove Pitta**



**Slaty-breasted Rail**

## Gunung Arong Reserve

[2.54613, 103.76264](#)

**Dates visited:** 19 & 20 July 2024

**Logistics:** The place is reachable by any car, no entrance fees or opening hours.

**Accommodation:** We spend the night at Hotel Meiwah in Endau (2.66365, 103.61923). A budget price for a budget hotel...

**Bird-/Mammalwatching:** It's quite a drive to the southeast of the country, and therefore not included in many birders' itinerary. We only included it as we had some time left and hoped for some species that had eluded us in other places during our half year birding- and mammalwatching in Southeast-Asia.



**Slender Squirrel**



**Treehugger (*Tyriobapta torrida*)**

On the way southeast we decided to check a seemingly random road at Kuala Rompin (2.88076, 103.43554), as **Cinnamon-headed Green-pigeons** had been reported there. Already on our way to this place we had multiple small flocks in bare trees along Road 63. The Green-pigeons were surprisingly common as they all came to roost on the bare trees in the late afternoon. Every Green-pigeon we checked with the telescope seemed to be this species, although **Little Green-pigeon** and **Pink-necked Green-pigeon** have been reported here too. Check eBird for other places around if you dip this species here.

The next morning, we slept in a little bit and arrived at Gunung Arong Reserve (2.56088, 103.77702). We first birded the area around the bridge, hoping –in vain- for something crazy like **Straw-headed Bulbul**. We then went into some trails that we had seen while driving in. Entering a trail on the south side of the road (around 2.560823, 103.775993) we immediately noticed Asian Elephant dung. A trail ran parallel to the road, and we followed it in one direction, finding more dung, broken branches and footprints. Clear prints showed they had gone the other direction, so we turned around as well. It was clearly a bigger group, including young individuals judging by the tracks. We went back to the car and

only then noticed there was even fresh dung on the edge of the forest on an open area along the road. We had probably missed them by going to the bridge first thing... We then went into the forest about 500m further west and hoped to safely observe them crossing the open lane of a 'trail'. A few 100 meters in we suddenly heard cracking of trees not too far off but seemingly coming towards us. We went back and waited a long while, but unfortunately it seemed they slowly veered off into the forest instead of crossing the trail. We decided to leave the trail, as it seemed too dangerous to continue the trail, which got a little bit denser.



**Cinnamon-headed Green-pigeon**



**Slender Skimmer (*Orthetrum sabina*)**

The habitat of Gunung Arong Reserve seems quite good, and we saw signs of Elephants everywhere (unlike at Panti Bird Sanctuary...). However, clearly some trails were not Elephant trails, but most likely made by poachers. With time, the road running through the reserve got busier with traffic as well. Still, it seems like a nice spot to explore if one has more time. Besides *Blyth's Frogmouth* and *Malaysian Eared-nightjar* –both are seen here-, we can only imagine what we could have seen if it hadn't rained the night before.

While searching for the Elephants, we still tried for some of our remaining targets; the main ones being *Grey-breasted Babbler* and *Cinnamon-rumped Trogon*. We failed to find either. There's a whole list of good birds that has been observed here, but without proper trails these might be hard to find. The only mammals seen were *Long-tailed Macaque* and *Southern Pig-tailed Macaques*. These were clearly being fed by passers-by, as they danced on their back feet in front of our windows... We went back to the bridge but only found two raptors: *Blyth's Hawk-eagle* and a dark morph *Changeable Hawk-eagle*, that from a distance was first mistakenly IDed as an Eastern Imperial-eagle.

## Panti Bird Sanctuary

[1.8777, 103.91899](#)

**Dates visited:** 20-22 July 2024

Logistics: One would need a car (or taxi) to get to the Panti Bird Sanctuary gate (1.87707, 103.91825). From there you can choose to either walk or drive. Officially a permit is needed to enter the Sanctuary, which can be obtained at the office about 15 minutes' drive from the park ([which should be here according to official bird guides](#)). Due to an official holiday the guard at the entrance of the park said the office was closed and we had to wait until mid-morning the next day to get a permit. He suggested that we could pay for some of his food, and that we could then enter. We birded that afternoon and supplemented his salary with RM20. During that afternoon we noticed quite some traffic –trucks, cars and motorbikes- on the main road through the park. Only on the way out did we see that the entrance of that road was not guarded, and the gate was wide open (1.87532, 103.924473). Birding groups with official guides did have the permit but arranged it before the offices closed for the holiday. I did hear some stories about foreigners (not being Singaporeans), having trouble arranging the permit, so we didn't want to wake a sleeping dog. The permit should cost about RM20 per person plus RM60 for a car (per day!). So we used this entrance during the next two mornings and one afternoon and weren't bothered by anyone.



**Blue-winged Leafbird**



**Hairy-backed Bulbul**

Accommodation: There is no accommodation for tourists inside the park, and the town Kota Tinggi is about 20 minutes' drive from the park entrance. We stayed at the Kota Heritage Hotel, which had small but decent rooms, good AC, WiFi, soft beds, hot water etc.

Bird-/Mammalwatching: We hoped to see **Raffles' Banded Langur** (*Presbytis femoralis*), the only primate we were still missing in Peninsular Malaysia. It should occur inside the park but compared to other parks we found relatively low presence of primates in Panti. Both **Long-tailed Macaque** and **Southern Pig-tailed Macaques** were commonly encountered on the road and were sometimes fed by passing cars. An occasional individual or group of **Dusky Leaf Monkeys** was encountered, but the group was quite shy and went away. **Lar Gibbons** were commonly heard but seemed to shut up immediately

as we stepped out of the car once we got close. If we did find them, they did not seem to flee though. Surprisingly we didn't see any signs that indicated the presence of Elephants in this reserve.



**Long-tailed Macaque**



**Lar Gibbon**

We had heard about Pantii being a great place for some special birds, including **Malaysian Rail-babbler**, which we only heard once during our 2 days here. **Malayan Peacock-pheasant** was heard once the first morning calling close by the road but went quiet as we tried to get views of it. Bird-wise it was relatively quiet, even for the more common birds. **Banded Kingfisher** (HO), **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** (HO) and **Banded Broadbill** were relatively common. We played the tape of **Grey-breasted Babbler** at swampy areas but couldn't elicit any response. We played tape for **Cinnamon-rumped Trogon** and tried to find it with the thermal camera but only encountered **Red-naped Trogon** twice. We even didn't succeed in finding **Chestnut-bellied Malkoha**, a species which we were still missing, and which is regularly reported here.



**Three-striped Ground Squirrel**



**Common Parasol - *Neurothemis fluctuans***

But honestly, many of our remaining targets are rarely seen, even at Pantii. Species like **Giant Pitta**, **Malayan Crestless Fireback**, **Malaysian Honeyguide**, **Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike**, **Maroon-breasted *Philentoma*** are all reported, but are only seen every now and then. You can imagine how happy we were the second morning when I suddenly noticed a blue Pheasant standing on the side of the road with a red wattle on the face: **Malayan Crestless Fireback!!** But unfortunately, right when we saw it, three cars came up from behind, and the best I could do were some crappy record shots before it raced off into the forest, not to be found again. The amount of traffic going to the palm oil plantations was

quite annoying, and in hindsight we might have rather visited Hutan Lipur Lenggor further north (see boxed text). Another nice surprise on the road was the **Three-striped Ground Squirrel** feeding on the road on some palm fruits that had fallen off the trucks.



**Long-tailed Macaque**



**Brown Boobook**

#### **Hutan Lipur Lenggor (2.30033, 103.65494)**

Hutan Lipur Lenggor is a reserve north of Panty Bird Sanctuary. The encroachment of agricultural activities (mostly palm oil) seems to be less than around (and in!) Panty Bird Sanctuary. Species-wise the eBird lists seem quite interesting and for a big part overlapping with the latter. According to a bird guide we spoke to there is less traffic going through Hutan Lipur Lenggor. Being in the Johor State, one also needs a permit for this park. The information we got is that one needs to go to an office to get one, which is located quite far away: [Hutan Lipur Gunung Belumut](#). It should be possible to apply online, but an international bank transfer should be made in advance. If needed, [we advise to use Wise for this](#) (thank you for supporting my work by using the referral link ☺), which works way better than going through your normal bank procedure. Most international transfers we do arrive within 4 hours with Wise.

We spotlit one night by car and went from the entrance of the main road going through the reserve until a bridge (1.86928, 103.86785), just before the plantations begin. We hoped to get views of **Malaysian Eared-nightjar** but only encountered one **Large-tailed Nightjar** in 2 hours of spotlighting. Bird-wise we only encountered one **Brown Boobook** and (at the bridge/turn-around point) a **Buffy Fish-owl**. Mammal-wise it was even quieter, and we only saw one mammal –not being a mouse or bat-. However, this was a new species for us, and we were very happy to see one! Some bright eyeshine in the stream at a part parallel to the road turned out to be an **Asian Small-clawed Otter** (*Aonyx cinereus*)! After some photos it went upstream, and in that moment, we were startled by three men coming out of the forest with a bag full of poached frogs. Quite disappointing to see that birders have to pay quite a fee (for Malaysian standards) to bird the reserve, but that locals seem to be free to go wherever they

like without anyone actually keeping watch on what they're doing. Honestly, we probably wouldn't visit again and would rather spend more time in Taman Negara, which shares most of the same species.



**Asian Small-clawed Otter**



**Buffy Fish-owl**

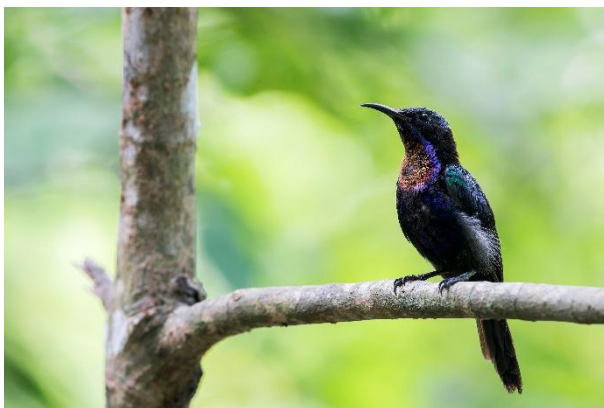
## Kukup Island NP

[1.32758, 103.43619](https://www.google.com/maps/place/103.43619,1.32758)

**Date visited:** 23 July 2024

**Logistics:** Kukup Island National Park is open every day from 09-00-17.00 (last entry at 16.00), except for Thursdays! Tickets can be bought at the office (1.32614, 103.44388) and cost RM20 per person. One has to get a local taxi boat to the island for RM5 one way. Ask around at the international jetty (1.32508, 103.44147), where the security guard or someone else can call for you.

**Accommodation:** We stayed a 20 minutes' drive north of Kukup at the Southern Tip Hotel in Pontian (1.47802, 103.39269). Nothing fancy, but decent enough.



**Copper-throated Sunbird**



**Crab spec.**

**Bird-/mammalwatching:** We arrived at 08.00, as the website states that the office and park open at that time. We had to wait at the office until 09.00 before anybody showed up. After an even longer wait while the local Chinese boatman finally prepared his boat we arrived at the island around 09.30.

We observed **Lesser Adjutants**, **Great Egrets** and (reintroduced) **Milky Storks** foraging on the exposed mud flats. **Little Tern** foraged above the water in between the floating fishing village.

There is an elevated boardwalk through the mangrove and an observation tower that reaches just above the mangrove forest. Even though we had only 1.5h left before we needed to head to the border, we observed some nice species and the mangrove forest itself is quite nice to see as well! We heard at least four different **Mangrove Pittas**, none of which we were able to see. **Slaty-breasted Rail** was heard once. We did get good views of **Copper-throated Sunbird**, **Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker**, **Mangrove Whistler** and **Sunda Black-naped Oriole**.



# Visited sites in Singapore

**Dates visited:** 23-28 July 2024

Logistics: Public transport works very well in Singapore and can be accessed by tapping in with credit card, mobile phone or smart watch. However, as our hotel wasn't centrally located, it still took quite a while to get to the birding and mammal watching locations. Therefore, we took a (more expensive) Grab early morning to be at the sites at first light and took the public transport back at the end of the day.

Most nature parks and reserves are open from 07.00-19.00, which don't allow any spotlighting at night. We didn't do any spotlighting but heard that both Mandai Track 7 and Mandai Track 15 are legally accessible at night and can be walked in search of Sunda Slow Loris, Sunda Pangolin or (more likely) Sunda Colugo.

Accommodation: Singapore is expensive, and even the cheaper budget hotels are 3-4x as expensive as the average budget accommodation we had in Malaysia. We ended up in Hotel 81 Premier Star, which was decent with good WiFi, AC and a little fridge. The neighbourhood is not the best (discrete red-light district), but not unsafe. If money is less of an issue than it might be wise to get accommodation more centrally located, for easier access and connections in the public transport.



Long-tailed Macaque



Raffles' Banded Langur

## Lower Peirce Reservoir

[1.37096, 103.82556](#)

Our first main target in Singapore was the Raffles' Banded Langur, after we had been unable to find it in Malaysia. From the information I could gather there are currently  $\pm 75$  individuals in Singapore, all in the central water catchment area. It seems that the highest chances to see a group would be to walk in the Lower Peirce Reservoir, the Old Upper Thomson Road (Park Connector) and the Thomson Nature

Park. They have been seen in Chestnut Nature Park as well, but apparently the group there is more difficult to see, as they are shy and come to the trails less regularly.

Even though there aren't too many trails at the Lower Peirce Reservoir, most sightings we know off actually come from this park. As the primates only start to wake up from 07.00, we were a little early to arrive before sunrise. We walked the trails in the park until around 08.00 without encountering any primates. It seems they removed some of the bigger trees, which might be the reason we couldn't find any *Sunda Colugos* on these trails. One moment I thought I observed one, but this turned out to be a **Clouded Monitor** (*Varanus nebulosus*) hugging the tree.



**Clouded Monitor**



**Black-naped Oriole**

We then walked the main road towards the Old Upper Thomson Road and turned into the Thomson Nature Park. Near a stream along the beginning of the trail is where we encountered **Red-legged Crane**. In the park we split up to cover the whole of the park while it was still not too hot. The population of **Plantain Squirrels** in Singapore seems to equal the number of Singaporeans, and they were especially abundant in this park. **Common Treeshrews** and **Slender Squirrels** were also quite frequently encountered. Only in the end we encountered our first group of **Long-tailed Macaques**. We then walked until the end of the Old Upper Thomson Road and only encountered more Macaques. We then walked all the way back to the Reservoir, without seeing any Banded Langurs. We then waited the whole day at the lake, hoping for **Smooth-coated Otters**, but saw only **Grey-headed Fish-eagle** and **White-bellied Sea-eagle**.

We went about the same routine at 15.30 in the afternoon. We split up in the Reservoir and found only Macaques. Continuing we didn't find anything either along the Thomson Road. Splitting up again in the Thomson Nature Park, Romy gave me a call that she had found the **Raffles' Banded Langur** (at the beginning of...yes, the Langur trail)! A group foraged in the shrubs quite low to the ground. After half an hour they made their way up in a big tree and crossed the Old Upper Thomson Road to the other side and disappeared into the forest. What a great primate to end our 100% success-streak within Southeast-Asia (of the 42 species targeted, only 1 was heard-only)!



Long-tailed Macaque

Raffles' Banded Langur

## Kranji Marshes

[1.41964, 103.72051](#)

With a Grab we arrived sharply 07.00, only to find that it was unmanned and unfenced anyways and could have gone in earlier as well. We walked the kilometre from the car park to the observation tower and already encountered our main target along the way. A **Blue-winged Pitta** foraged on the grass between some trees along the road. We heard another one a bit later along the same road. Others had seen up to 4, mainly around the Moorhen hide, so chances seem reasonable in this park. The Observation Tower is a nice place to see the sunrise and would probably be beautiful with sunset as well. One thing about Singapore is that many bird species observed here are unfortunately introduced. I don't think I ever had bird lists with relatively so many introduced species, including species of Parakeet, multiple Weaver species, Lineated Barbet, House Crow, Javan Myna etc. The hides didn't bring too many species but are probably better during the northern winter when more migrants visit Singapore. Unfortunately, most of the reserve was closed off, and an official guide was needed to legally visit the rest of the reserve (inquiries email [nparks\\_sbwr@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:nparks_sbwr@nparks.gov.sg)). The large fence at the north side of the reserve was not easy to climb either, so be warned.

## Sungei Buloh Wetland

[1.43993, 103.73492](#)

From the Kranji Marshes we hitchhiked to the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve. There is free drinking water available to refill your water bottle at the Visitor Centre. We walked the coastal trail, hoping for Smooth-coated Otters or another bird target we still had; Great-billed Heron. We should've paid attention to the tides, as we came to the viewpoint only when the tide was rising. Already 2.5h before high tide most of the mudflat was covered with water and all the birds had gone, except for some **Little Terns** and two early migrants; **Tibetan Sandplovers**. Some huge **Asian Water Monitors** (*Varanus salvator*) were observed along the trail. At the Wetland Centre (1.44613, 103.72891-) we were once again able to get good looks at some **Lesser Short-nosed Fruit Bats** hanging under the roofs. From the bridge and main Bird Hide (1.44629, 103.72763) we observed (introduced) **Milky Storks** and **Painted**

**Storks**, besides all the (native) **Grey Herons**, **Little Egrets** and some **Purple Herons**. We observed a **Saltwater Crocodile** (*Crocodylus porosus*) swimming, and once the water receded a big one came onto the shore. A **Common Redshank** was the only other migrant wader seen at the Wetland Reserves, and I can only imagine the fun one can have with a telescope in the right season.

Only after 17.00 the water receded far enough that herons and egrets went out to forage on the first exposed mud banks again. At least 3 **White-bellied Sea-eagles** started hunting again as well. It took a while before I found our first **Great-billed Heron**, from 2.8km distance away (measured with Google Maps). For convenience it was standing next to a **Grey Heron**. Luckily, we got better views of another Great-billed Heron closer by just before sunset.



Collared Kingfisher



Saltwater Crocodile

## Chestnut Nature Park

[1.37184, 103.77984](#)

As we still hadn't found Sunda Colugo, we decided to head to Chestnut Nature Park the third morning. This is supposedly a good place for the Colugos, according to somebody we met that had found no less than 15 in an hour there. We arrived at 07.30, and it took us about 20 minutes on the Northern Trail before Romy found the first **Sunda Colugo** with the aid of the Lahoux Spotter NL 625 thermal camera. It was very well camouflaged, and I am pretty sure we wouldn't have found that one without the thermal camera! Not much later Romy found another one, this time with a youngster under the flying membranes.

We then made our way towards the Dairy Farm Nature Park. There had been some eBird lists with sightings of **Chestnut-bellied Malkoha**, a species that had eluded us and continued to do so. The Bukit Timah Summit felt higher than it really was (163m, but it felt like more!), and Romy found another **Sunda Colugo** with the thermal camera on the way. **Common Treeshrews** seemed particularly abundant here, and we saw one following some (domestic type) **Red Junglefowl** and eating the insects that tried to scurry away. According to iNaturalist Sunda Colugos should be particularly common at the

Hindhede Nature Park as well, but with the sun heating up the trees searching with the thermal camera was pointless.

We then searched at the fly-over bridge (1.34161, 103.77986) for the *Lesser Dawn Bats* (*Eonycteris spelaea*) that should roost here. Even though they evidently hang out here often, we couldn't find them. We did find multiple small groups of *Lesser Short-nosed Fruit Bats* around this spot.



Sunda Colugo

Sunda Colugo

## Singapore Botanic Gardens

[1.32201, 103.8153](#)

Quote-unquote Singaporeans:

- "You'll probably even see Otters when you go shopping"
- "Hahahaha, they're everywhere"
- "They are very common"

Even though locals spoke about them like they were as common as rats, much to our surprise we hadn't seen any *Smooth-coated Otters* in Singapore yet. We had been in the right habitat and definitely looked for them. Therefore, on our last afternoon we decided to head to the Singapore Botanic Gardens. There is (currently) an Otter family of about 9 there, and they previously even had a den near the entrance of the school inside the park. As this particular family can be quite aggressive, park staff keeps a keen eye on their whereabouts. There are multiple Visitor Information points, where they should have an idea of where they could be at that moment. Apparently, they start each morning in Eco Lake in the north and make their way south via Symphony Lake to the lakes in the south. That particular morning, they spend most of it in the Swan Lake, up until 13.00 o'clock! Their afternoon routine is less clear, but if they are sighted the park staff will radio each other.

We found fresh spraints along the south side of the Swan Lake. Despite searching along all the paths, we couldn't find any sleeping Otters underneath the bushes. Meanwhile we tried to find some Bats, including *Greater Bamboo Bats* (see report Jon Hall). The staff sent us to the Bambusetum in the southwest corner, but there we only found two bigger stalks with cracks in them that could host the

Bats (around 1.31058, 103.81273). Only later we heard that the place to search for them is probably in the north of the park (in the Ethnobotany Garden). We waited and searched for the Otters until 17.00, but we couldn't find them and the park staff hadn't seen them either. We then decided to try our luck at the Marina Bay.

## Marina Bay

[1.28333, 103.86787](#)

Arriving by metro we walked to the Marina Bay, on the side of the Gardens by the Bay. Stupidly we hadn't thought of the fact that a sunny Saturday afternoon would draw half the population of Singapore plus all the tourists to this park. We figured we wouldn't see them but were pleasantly surprised by the information signs about Otter crossings and what to do when encountering a group. Not long after I noticed a group of  $\pm 10$  **Smooth-coated Otters** swimming in the Bay (near the Cloud Forest dome). Despite the vast number of people, the Otters still made their way up the slope and onto the sandy part along the main walkway. It seemed one of them had offended the group, as they all charged that one individual, biting it and scratching it. A huge group of spectators still seemed to enjoy this, standing a mere 2-4m away from the Otters. After the one individual made its retreat into the water, the rest of the group went back to the water's edge as well and continued southeast. Just before reaching the Kingfisher Lake, they crossed the path and later disappeared inside the vegetation along the edge of the lake. Not as common as we thought, but at least we didn't leave Singapore without seeing a Smooth-coated Otter!

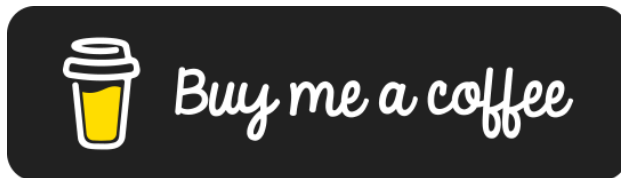


Smooth-coated Otter


Smooth-coated Otter

## You made it! Thank you for reading 😊

This was the last instalment of our nearly 3-year world travel with the theme 'It's A Wild Life!' I hope you enjoyed all the photos and trip reports, and that they are of great use to you. For all photos of our trip, comments, compliments, any specific questions, visit and/or contact us via our website. We would love to hear from you!



If my trip report makes your trip more fun, time and cost efficient; think about supporting my creative journey by [buying me a coffee](#). Your generosity brings me closer to capturing impressive wildlife photos and untold stories.

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We observed a total of about 296 bird species and 34 mammal species in peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Click here for the: [bird list](#), [mammal list](#) or the [total species list](#).

Our Top 5	Birds	Mammals
1	Malayan Peacock-pheasant	Siamang
2	Malayan Banded-pitta	Agile Gibbon
3	Marbled Wren-babbler	Max's Short-tailed Gymnure
4	Plain-pouched Hornbill	Raffles' Banded Langur
5	Dusky Eagle-owl	Asian Small-clawed Otter

## Purchasing Photos

If you like my pictures, you are in luck: they are for sale! For publication, presswork or just as artwork in your office or at home. A great memory of those great species you've seen during that trip! We donate 10% of our profits to WWF. My photos can be used for free for conservation or educational purposes after consultation. Have a look on my website and contact us via the website for the possibilities if you are interested: [www.robjansenphotography.com/shop](https://www.robjansenphotography.com/shop)



Selangor Silvered Langur



Selangor Silvered Langur



Malayan Laughingthrush



Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush



Slaty-breasted Rail



Mangrove Pitta