

# Vietnam, April 4-23 – 2003

Måns Grundsten & Johan Stållberg, Stockholm, Sweden



## General info

Relatively new as a birding destination, Vietnam holds a truly spectacular variety of birding potential. Vast areas of the country have been just recently explored by birders, resulting in the amazing discovery of species previously unknown to science. When it comes to accessibility for a backpacker, Vietnam is probably not the easiest country to travel within. And considering the distance between sites in the northern parts and the southern parts, one soon realize that the time needed to cover such a large country is more than you have... Our plan was to go across the country from south to north. We arrived in Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City) and left Vietnam at the Lao Cai border to Yunnan, China from where we continued our journey to Sichuan Province. Besides birding we also took some days off at the beach at Nha-Trang. Even though we didn't had the time to explore all of the prime birding sites the country offers we did get a rough picture of what birding in Vietnam is about. We concentrated our birding around famous sites as magnificent Cat Tien, endemic-rich Da Lat and classic Cuc Phuong, including a short visit at productive Tam Dao and notoriously foggy Sapa. Vietnam offers two different ways of travelling. The first one is the easy one. You simply locate the nearest Travelling Café (which are quite numerous in any of the larger cities we went to (especially 'touristy' places)). Here you can always find someone who talks fairly good English and sort out where you want to go and when. Then you buy your ticket and conveniently sit back and enjoy the ride with the reasonably comfortable Tourist Coaches. From Saigon there are regular buses to Da Lat which also passes by Cat Tien. The other travelling alternative, which we actually didn't try so much, at least not for the longer transportations, is to fix everything yourself, getting around with public transportation that is. This alternative should be cheaper, at least. Bargaining is necessary at most occasions and can be rather tough.

## Literature

A Field Guide to the Birds of South-East Asia, Craig Robson (2000)

Lonely Planet Guide – Vietnam (2002)

Several trip-reports from internet:

Aidan G Kelly (1998)

Susan Myers (1999)

Jonathan Williams (2001)

Moira and Graeme Wallace (2002)

---also check [www.worldtwitch.com](http://www.worldtwitch.com) for the latest news, and [www.eurobirding.com](http://www.eurobirding.com) for the best search engine for travel reports.

## **Itinerary at a glance**

5-8.4 Cat Tien NP  
8.4 Datlana Waterfalls  
9.4 Ho Tuyen Lam  
10.4 Mt Lang Bian  
11.4 Ho Tuyen Lam  
12.4 Ta Nung Valley  
16-19.4 Cuc Phoung NP  
20.4 Tam Dao NP  
21-23.4 Sapa

## **Site info including accomodation and transport (in chronological order)**

Remember that *all the prices are for two people*. We're hoping that the following information could be at use for other backpacker birders. We have tried to provide the costs for most of the transportations. It's easier to bargain with MC-drivers or boatmen when you have at least a glimpse of information about what others have paid...

### **Cat Tien**

Located on the lowlands of southern Vietnam, Cat Tien is one of the main birding destinations in South-east Asia. Especially the Crocodile Lake was a place we certainly would gladly return to. Terrific wild scenery approached when we borrowed a small boat and rowed across the lake. The far side of Crocodile Lake seemed so undisturbed and lush. This is something we truly recommend. From the boat the reedbeds became approachable which turned out to be a big jackpot, at least six Yellow Bitterns, five Cinnamon Bitterns and five stunning Black Bitterns were flushed. We arranged so that we could spend the night in the watching tower by the lake. This meant going to sleep with the characteristic calling of a Green Peafowl echoing over the lake. A driver left us at the beginning of the trail to Crocodile Lake and picked us up at the same place the day after. We had to convince the staff at park HQ that we could find our way to Crocodile Lake without a guide. The jeep return drive costed 160 kD. The trail provided good habitat although birding was slow, and it was first on the returning walk we finally laid our eyes on a precious Bar-bellied Pitta, a couple of Germain's Peacock-Pheasants were calling but none showed off. Besides birding in the proximity to the Crocodile Lake we found the birding to be part-time surprisingly slow. The trails around the HQ which are supposedly good for Pittas were not that good. On the last morning we hired the excellent guide Thuong who knows the area like the backside of his own hand. We went with him to the Botanical Gardens where we had a brief view of a Pale-headed Woodpecker and great views of a pair Black-and-Buff Woodpeckers.

**Transportation:** Bus: Saigon-Cat Tien 154 kD. MC-Taxi: Bus drop-off point to Park HQ 80 kD, Park Entrance (including boatride over the river): 40 kD. Entrance to Crocodile Lake: 80 kD. .

**Accommodation:** Bungalow close to the park HQ with high standards 80 kD.

**Good birds:** Lesser Whistling-Duck, Lesser Adjutant, Germain's Peacock-Pheasant, Green Peafowl, Oriental Pratincole, Vinous-breasted Starling, Black-and-Red Broadbill, Banded Broadbill, Dusky Broadbill, Golden-crested Myna, Asian Golden Weaver, Bar-bellied Pitta, Grey-faced Tit-babbler, Oriental Reed-Warbler, Black-browed Reed-Warbler, Pale-legged Leaf-Warbler, Pale-headed Woodpecker, Black-and-Buff Woodpecker, Rufous Woodpecker, Rufous-bellied Eagle, Grey-headed Fish-Eagle,

**Others have seen:** Siamese Fireback, Orange-necked Partridge, Blue-winged Pitta, Blue-rumped Pitta, Rusty-naped Pitta, Black Baza, Germain's Swiftlet, Banded Kingfisher, Indochinese Cuckoo-Shrike, Javan Frogmouth, White-hooded Babbler,

### **Ho Tuyen Lam**

This site is famous for being the formerly only place to see the Grey-crowned Crocias. As years have passed, this site has been less and less productive for the Crocias (We actually met an Israeli birder in southern India two months before our Vietnam trip who did see the Crocias at this site, so there might still be a slim chance of getting a glimpse of this elusive endemic). Ho Tuyen Lam still holds many very good birds, and is a must if you visit the Da Lat plateau. As others have mentioned it can be extremely hard to find the right way. The boatmen seem to be used to birders, so getting them to drop you off at the right place at the far end of the Quang Trong reservoir isn't a problem. Finding the "Crocias"-trail is. As we've understood there is supposed to be one hand-drawn map covering the area by Alfred Chia, and then an additional better one in a OBC trip report. So our map might just be confusing, but some future visitors might find it useful so we include it in this report. We found the best forest to be between the drop-off point to the small shelter. Also the valley at the end of the track we followed seemed to be very interesting, although we had very little time exploring this area. We didn't even find this area on our first attempt. Close to the shelter is where we found both the Yellow-billed Nuthatches and the Cutia. In the valley we found Maroon Oriole and Rufous-browed Flycatcher. On our second attempt we heard something that might have been Indochinese Green Magpie and saw a short glimpse of something that

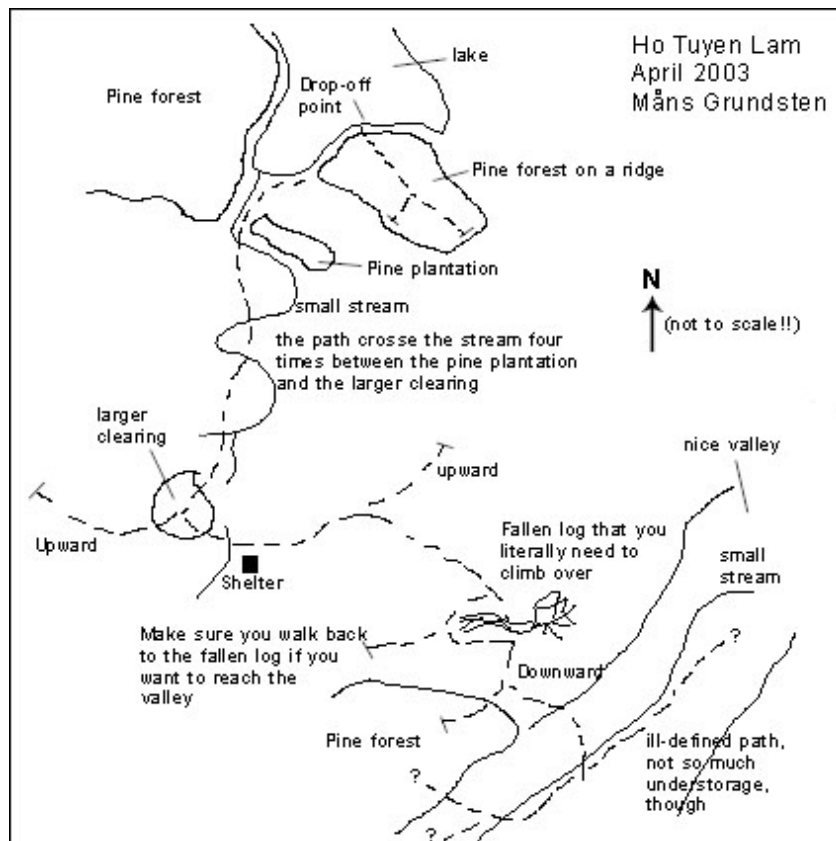
might have been a Pitta (Rusty-naped then...). The pine forest around the drop-off point was a good place to see the Vietnamese Greenfinch, as well as Red Crossbill (ssp. *meridionalis*), Indochinese Cuckoo-Shrike and Slender-billed Oriole.

**Transportation:** Boat across the reservoir: 150 kD. MC or minibus Da Lat to the reservoir: 20-30 kD

**Accommodation:** Hotel Phuong Hanh, Da Lat 90 kD.

**Good birds:** Cutia, Yellow-billed Nuthatch, Maroon Oriole, Rufous-browed Flycatcher, Streaked Wren-babbler, Grey-headed Parrotbill, Brown-throated Treecreeper, Pallas' Grasshopper Warbler, Burmese Shrike, Vietnamese Greenfinch, Slender-billed Oriole, Chinese Francolin, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Indochinese Cuckoo-Shrike, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Common Goldenback, Scaly Thrush

**Others have seen:** Black-hooded Laughingthrush, Grey-bellied Tesia, Grey-crowned Crocias, Black-headed Woodpecker, Rusty-naped Pitta, Eye-browed Wren-babbler.





Black-browed Reed Warbler, Crocodile Lake, Cat Tien N.P.

Photo: Johan Ställberg

### **Mt Lang Bian**

The last part of the track that reaches the summit of Mt Lang Bian goes right through some very nice montane forest. We did the big mistake of walking all the way from the entrance gate. Hence, we didn't reach the good forest until later (just before lunch-time). Off course we had some good birds along the way, but the potential in the montane forest was much higher. Try to reach as high altitude as you can early in the morning. When we were descending we met a big party of Vietnamese students who yelled and screamed and carried a huge stereo with loud music... Otherwise the birding is great and easy, just walk along the main path. Someone told us you had to have a ticket to enter the "park". We didn't see anything like that though.

**Transportation:** MC-taxi Da Lat-Entrance at Mt Lang Bian: 30-35 kD.

**Good birds:** Collared Laughingthrush, Black-headed Sibia, Red-billed Scimitar-babbler, Siberian Blue Robin, White-tailed Robin, Grey-cheeked Warbler, Ashy-throated Warbler, Little Pied Flycatcher, Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher (ssp fuscogularis)

**Others have seen:** White-throated Rock Thrush, Indochinese Cuckoo-Shrike, Bay Woodpecker, Silver Pheasant, Grey-bellied Tesia.

### **Ta Nung Valley**

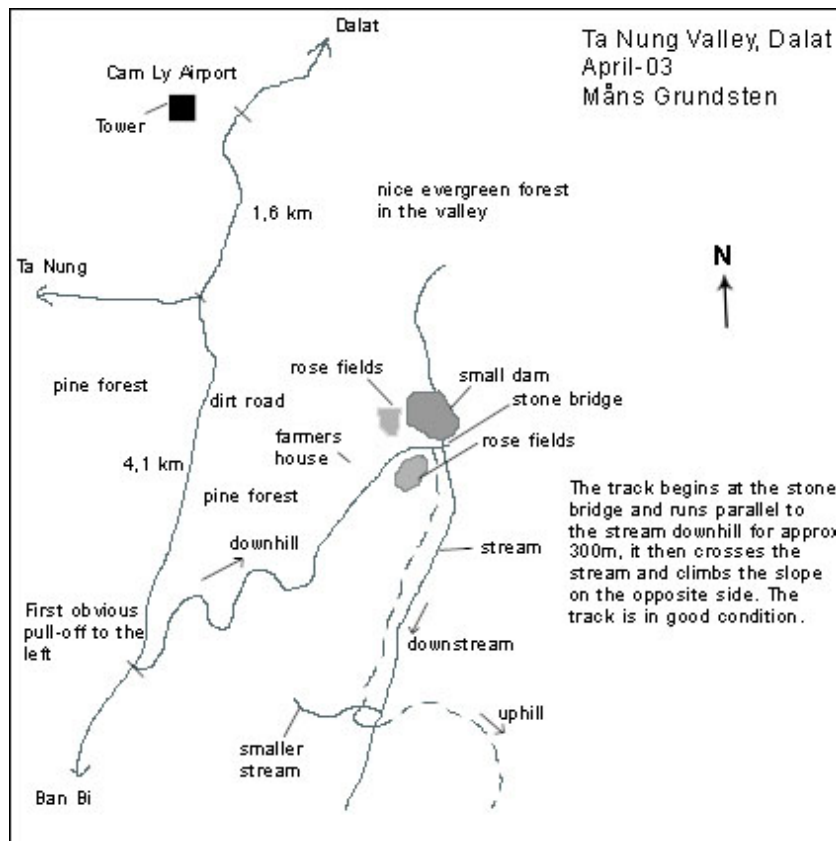
This is the new site for the Grey-Crowned Crocias. We didn't really had much of a map, so locating this site took us the morning hours, unfortunately. We rented a MC in Da Lat a drove ourselves to the Ta Nung Valley. We first missed the pull-off after Cam Ly Airport, when we finally arrived at the site we found quite reasonable amount of birds including at least two big enough partys. No Crocias in sight, though, but that was just bad luck we thought. On the other hand we did find another Da Lat endemic that we'd missed previously: the Black-hooded Laughingthrush. We did locate the rose fields mentioned, and in fact there were a lot of birds in this area. But it was hard to get into the forest. We didn't find any path going north, up the valley, but indeed, one going south, down the valley across the stream. If this downward going track is the right one, we don't know. All in all we only spent a few hours here, if we had reached this place early in the morning we, for sure, would have found the Crocias.

**Transportation:** MC rent: 40 kD, petrol: 13 kD

**Good birds:** Black-hooded Laughingthrush, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Rufous-backed Sibia, Red-vented Barbet, White-browed Shrike-Babbler, Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler, White-tailed Robin, Black-capped Kingfisher

**Others have seen:** Grey-crowned Crocias!, Red-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Rusty-naped Pitta, Grey-bellied Tesia, Spot-throated Babbler.





### **Cuc Phoung**

Considering what has been seen in Cuc Phoung over the years, we weren't that lucky. We did not see one Pitta although we heard a few Bar-bellied. Rather disappointing since Cuc Phoung have been called "Pitta Paradise". And among the wintering species most of them seemed to have left the area. Cuc Phoung is nevertheless a great site. And we enjoyed the staying at Bong Substation from where we could do our birding on foot. It's always nice to stay inside the park, then you wake up among the birds. Loop trail was rather productive but also slow from time to time, it takes at least half a day to walk around. The valley-trail is probably not as good as the Loop but we did it twice anyway. A few Siberian migrants turned up during our visit, such as: Radde's Warbler, Arctic Warbler, Eastern Crowned Warbler, Pied Harrier and Amur Falcon. We spent three whole days inside the park and the last morning we birded the Botanical Gardens near the park HQ, this was a bit different and we had some great views of Black Eagles in displaying flight as well as a few migrating Amur Falcons. The Botanical Gardens are closed for public so you have to ask someone in the staff to let you in. It's probably worth a short visit here, since there is a bit different kind of birdwatching from the Bong area. We also did some birding along the paved road from the HQ to Bong. This road goes through great forest all the way, so good birds can probably turn up anywhere along.

**Transportation:** Taxi: Ninh Bing-Cuc Phoung Park HQ 200 kD.

**Accommodation:** At Bong Substation 90 kD, we arranged it from the park HQ, here we met English birder John Furse who kindly gave us a ride to the substation, we then birded together during our stay in Cuc Phoung and later on followed him to Tam Dao before we went to Sapa for the final part of our Vietnam trip. Thank you John!

**Good birds:** Red-collared Woodpecker, Ratched-tailed Treepie, Bar-bellied Pitta, Grey Peacock-Pheasant, Silver Pheasant, Black-backed Kingfisher, Siberian Thrush, Limestone Wren-Babbler, Eye-browed Wren-Babbler, Bay Woodpecker, Silver-breasted Broadbill, White-browed Piculet, White-winged Magpie, White-tailed Flycatcher, Hainan Blue Flycatcher, Drongo Cuckoo, Fork-tailed Sunbird, Black Eagle, Amur Falcon, Pied Harrier, Large Scimitar-Babbler, Siberian Blue Robin, Light-vented Bulbul (Bot. gardens), Blue-breasted Quail (Bot. Gardens), Mountain Scops-Owl.

**Others have seen:** Pied Falconet, Brown Hornbill (we did see two unidentified Hornbills, probably Brown), Japanese Robin (wint.), Japanese Paradise-Flycatcher (wint.), Japanese Thrush (wint.), Black-breasted Thrush, Purple Cochoa, Blue-rumped Pitta, Rufous-tailed Robin, Malayan Night Heron, Spot-necked Babbler, Orange-headed Thrush, Sultan Tit.

### Tam Dao

We arrived at Tam Dao early in the morning. It was partly foggy at some times and completely foggy at others. So birding was not easy. We started off with the "Radio transmitter steps", until lunch-time. And then birded the first hundred meters of the "Water tank" trail between 1 and 3:30 p.m. During the day a lot of migrating raptors were observed, we had an amazing flock of 30 something Black Bazas and another flock of something that could have been Jerdon's Bazas, before they disappeared up in the clouds. We would have needed a lot more time to bird this area properly. We did see some of the specialities and missed a few.

**Good birds:** Short-tailed Parrotbill, Grey Laughingthrush, Chestnut Bulbul, Black Baza, Eastern Marsh Harrier, Chinese Sparrowhawk, Golden-throated Barbet, Green Cochoa (one bird close to the Radio Transmitter steps, halfway up), Mugimaki Flycatcher, Siberian Thrush, Black-chinned Yuhina, Striated Yuhina.

**Others have seen:** Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Blue-naped Pitta, Purple Cochoa, White-bellied Redstart, Streaked Wren-babbler, Wood Snipe, Slaty-legged Crake, Dark-sided Thrush, White-hooded Babbler, White-gorgeted Flycatcher, Tristrams Bunting, Snowy-browed Flycatcher, Dusky Thrush,



The infamous fog of Sapa...

Photo: Johan Ställberg

### Sapa

We tried mainly two different sites at Sapa: Hamrong Gardens and KM 8: First the approachable Hamrong Gardens (Entrance fee: 30 kD), here birding is straight-forward, just walk around the area, we made two visits here. We also rented a MC and drove to the Tram Ton Pass and back, with stops at Silver Waterfall (Little Forktail, White-capped Water-Redstart, Plumbeous Water-Redstart) and the track at KM 8. The weather in Sapa was extremely bad for birdwatching, there is so much fog that seeing anything is just impossible, the fog cleared for about 30 minutes each day, and during that time we saw great number of birds, making the whole experience very frustrating, you know there's a lot of birds out there, but you just can't see them. We would not recommend anyone going here for birdwatching, at least not during late April. At Tram Ton Pass, the fog was very intense so we headed back immediately. At KM 8, we did see some good stuff (Johan did birding himself on the second day since I had some food-poisoning to take care of...). The forest around KM 8-track didn't look extraordinary but still held high amounts of bird-partys. It seems to be a lot of logging going on, like Vietnam in general, people don't seem to care about nature. Going to Sapa anytime of year when there is not fog would probably be something completely different. Also making the trip to Fan Si Pan (the highest mountain in Vietnam) would be interesting, trips can easily be arranged from agencies in Sapa. It should be a couple of days trekking to get there.

**Transportation:** Train: Hanoi-Lao Cai 274 kD (very comfortable), Minibus: Lao Cai-Sapa 40 kD, MC rental: 40 kD and petrol 60 kD (Sapa-Tram Ton Pass). Minibus: Sapa-Lao Cai 50 kD.

**Accommodation:** Queen Hotel 60 kD

**Good birds:** Little Forktail, Rusty-capped Fulvetta, Whiskered Yuhina, White-collared Yuhina, Chinese Leaf-Warbler, Pallas'/Lemon-rumped Warbler, Red-throated Flycatcher, Small Niltava, Spot-breasted Parrotbill,

White-browed Piculet, Spectacled Barwing, Black-headed Greenfinch, Golden-breasted Fulvetta, Rosy Minivet, Little Bunting, Crested Finchbill, Collared Finchbill, White-tailed Robin.

**Others have seen:** Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Small Pratincole, White-naped Yuhina, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Black-faced Warbler, Mountain Bamboo Partridge, Golden Parrotbill, Red-tailed Minla, Chestnut-tailed Minla, Grey-bellied Tesia, Pygmy Wren-Babbler, Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush, Russet Bush-Warbler, Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, Black-eared Shrike-Babbler.

### List of bird-species observed in Vietnam 4-23.4 2003

Total: 312 species

Little Grebe	Ho Tuyen Lam.
Grey Heron	
Purple Heron	Crocodile Lake, NBCT
Great Egret	
Intermediate Egret	
Little Egret	
Cattle Egret	
Chinese Pond Heron	
Striated Heron	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Yellow Bittern	6 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 7.4.
Cinnamon Bittern	max 5 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6-7.4.
<u>Black Bittern</u>	5 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 7.4.
<u>Lesser Adjutant</u>	1 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 7.4.
Lesser Whistling-Duck	c.80 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6-7.4.
Osprey	2 NBCT 7.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9 & 11.4.
Black Baza	c.30 Tam Dao 20.4.
Black-winged Kite	
White-bellied Fish-Eagle	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 1 Nha Trang 13.4, 1 Nha Trang 14.4.
<u>Grey-headed Fish-Eagle</u>	1 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 7.4.
Crested Serpent-Eagle	
Eastern Marsh-Harrier	3 Tam Dao 20.4.
<u>Pied Harrier</u>	1m Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Besra	1 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	
Chinese Sparrowhawk	2 Cuc Phoung 19.4, 4 Tam Dao 20.4.
Shikra	
Black Eagle	1 Cuc Phoung 17.4, 3 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Rufous-bellied Eagle	1ad NBCT 8.4.
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	1ad Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	1 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
<u>Amur Falcon</u>	3 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Chinese Francolin	3 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
<u>Blue-breasted Quail</u>	1f Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Scaly-breasted Partridge	3 NBCT 6.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Red Junglefowl	
<u>Silver Pheasant</u>	1m Cuc Phoung 18.4.
<u>Germain's Peacock-Pheasant</u>	max 5 heard Cat Tien 6-7.4.
<u>Grey Peacock-Pheasant</u>	1 heard Cuc Phoung 16.4.
<u>Green Peafowl</u>	1m Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6-7.4
White-breasted Waterhen	
Watercock	1f Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6.4.
Common Moorhen	
Purple Swamphen	max 20 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6-7.4.
Bronze-winged Jacana	max 15 Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6-7.4.
<u>Oriental Pratincole</u>	35 Crocodile Lake 6.4, 5 HQ, NBCT 7.4.
Red-wattled Lapwing	
Common Greenshank	
Common Sandpiper	
Rock Pigeon	
Red Collared Dove	

Spotted Dove	
Emerald Dove	
Orange-breasted Green-Pigeon	2 Cat Tien 6.4, 2 Cat Tien 8.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
Thick-billed Green-Pigeon	c.80 Crocodile Lake 6-7.4, 2 Bot. Gardens 8.4.
Green Imperial-Pigeon	2 Crocodile Lake 7.4, 4 Bot. Gardens 8.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Mountain Imperial-Pigeon	max 9 NBCT 5-8.5.
Vernal Hanging-Parrot	3 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Red-breasted Parakeet	e.g. 5 NBCT 5.4.
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	NBCT.
Indian Cuckoo	2 Mount Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
<u>Lesser Cuckoo</u>	
Plaintive Cuckoo	1f Crocodile Lake, NBCT 6.4.
Asian Emerald Cuckoo	e.g. Cuc Phoung.
Asian Drongo Cuckoo	1m Cuc Phoung 17.4.
Common Koel	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4, 1 Sapa 21.4.
Green-billed Malkoha	1 NBCT 6.4.
Greater Coucal	e.g. NBCT
Lesser Coucal	
Mountain Scops-Owl	1 NBCT 6.4.
Collared Owlet	2 heard Cuc Phoung 16-18.4.
Asian Barred Owlet	e.g. Cuc Phoung.
Brown Hawk-Owl	
Great-Eared Nightjar	NBCT: 2 5.4, 5 6.4.
Large-tailed Nightjar	1 NBCT 6.4, 1 NBCT 8.4.
Himalayan Swiftlet	
Silver-backed Needletail	3 NBCT 7.4, 5 NBCT 8.4, max 5 Cuc Phoung 16-18.4, 10 Sapa 23.4.
Brown-backed Needletail	2 NBCT 8.4.
Fork-tailed Swift	
Little Swift	
Orange-breasted Trogon	max 5 NBCT 6-7.4.
Red-headed Trogon	max 3 Cuc Phoung 17-18.4.
Pied Kingfisher	3 Crocodile Lake 6.4.
Common Kingfisher	
Blue-eared Kingfisher	1 Crocodile Lake 7.4.
<u>Black-backed Kingfisher</u>	3 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Stork-billed Kingfisher	2 NBCT 5.4.
White-throated Kingfisher	
Black-capped Kingfisher	1 NBCT 8.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	2 NBCT 5.4.
Indian Roller	
Dollarbird	2 NBCT 5.4.
Wreathed Hornbill	11 Crocodile Lake 6.4, 5 NBCT 7.4.
Oriental Pied Hornbill	5 Crocodile Lake 6.4.
Great Hornbill	3 Crocodile Lake 6.4.
Great Barbet	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
<u>Red-vented Barbet</u>	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4, 2 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Lineated Barbet	1 NBCT 5.4.
Green-eared Barbet	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Golden-throated Barbet	5 Tam Dao 20.4.
<u>Black-browed Barbet</u>	tot 20 Da Lat 8-12.4.
Blue-eared Barbet	1 NBCT 5.4.
<u>White-browed Piculet</u>	1 Cuc Phoung 17.4, 1 Sapa 23.4.
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	
Rufous Woodpecker	1 NBCT 8.4.
Lesser Yellownape	
Greater Yellownape	
Laced Woodpecker	1m NBCT 8.4.
<u>Red-collared Woodpecker</u>	1 Cuc Phoung 16-17.4.
Grey-headed Woodpecker	
Common Flameback	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.



<u>Pale-headed Woodpecker</u>	1 NBCT 8.4.
Bay Woodpecker	1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
<u>Black-and-buff Woodpecker</u>	1 pair NBCT 8.4.
Heart-spotted Woodpecker	1 pair NBCT 8.4.
<u>Dusky Broadbill</u>	2 NBCT 6.4.
<u>Black-and-red Broadbill</u>	2 NBCT 5-8.4.
Banded Broadbill	2 NBCT 6.4, 2 NBCT 7.4.
Silver-breasted Broadbill	2 Cuc Phoung 16-17.4.
<u>Bar-bellied Pitta</u>	1 seen NBCT 7.4, 4 heard Cuc Phoung 16-18.4.
Red-rumped Swallow	
Forest Wagtail	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Grey Wagtail	
Olive-backed Pipit	
Large Cuckoo-Shrike	
<u>Indochinese Cuckoo-Shrike</u>	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
<u>Rosy Minivet</u>	1m km 8, Sapa 22.4.
Ashy Minivet	c.50 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Grey-chinned Minivet	
Long-tailed Minivet	1 Sapa 23.4.
Scarlet Minivet	
Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike	
Large Woodshrike	1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Common Woodshrike	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Crested Finchbill	2 km 8, Sapa 22.4.
<u>Collared Finchbill</u>	3 km 8, Sapa 23.4.
Black-headed Bulbul	
Black-crested Bulbul	
Red-whiskered Bulbul	
Brown-breasted Bulbul	
<u>Light-vented Bulbul</u>	1 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Sooty-headed Bulbul	
Stripe-throated Bulbul	
Flavescent Bulbul	
Streak-eared Bulbul	2 NBCT 6.4.
Puff-throated Bulbul	e.g. NBCT.
Mountain Bulbul	
Ashy Bulbul	
<u>Chestnut Bulbul</u>	1 Tam Dao 20.4.
Black Bulbul	
Common Iora	
Great Iora	
Golden-fronted Leafbird	
Asian Fairy-Bluebird	
Brown Shrike	(ssp. <i>lucionensis</i> )
Burmese Shrike	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Long-tailed Shrike	
<u>Lesser Shortwing</u>	1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 4 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
<u>Siberian Blue Robin</u>	1f NBCT 7.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Oriental Magpie-Robin	
White-rumped Shama	
Plumbeous Water-Redstart	3 Silver Waterfall, Sapa 21.4.
White-capped Water-Redstart	1 Silver Waterfall, Sapa 21.4.
White-tailed Robin	1m Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1m Ta Nung Valley 12.4, 1m Sapa 23.4.
Little Forktail	3 Silver Waterfall, Sapa 21.4.
White-crowned Forktail	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
<u>Green Cochoa</u>	1 Tam Dao 20.4.
Common Stonechat	1f Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 pair Cuc Phoung 17.4.
Grey Bushchat	
<u>White-throated Rock-Thrush</u>	1f NBCT 6.4.
Blue Rock-Thrush	

Blue Whistling-Thrush	
<u>Siberian Thrush</u>	1f Cuc Phoung 18.4, 3m Tam Dao 20.4.
<u>Scaly Thrush</u>	3 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Buff-breasted Babbler	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Puff-throated Babbler	1 NBCT 5.4, 1 NBCT 7.4.
Scaly-crowned Babbler	4 NBCT 5.4, 10 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
Large Scimitar-Babbler	1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
<u>Red-billed Scimitar-Babbler</u>	1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
<u>Limestone Wren-babbler</u>	max 5 Cuc Phoung 16-17.4.
<u>Streaked Wren-babbler</u>	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 Ham Rong Gardens, Sapa 22.4.
<u>Eyebrowed Wren-babbler</u>	3 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Rufous-fronted Babbler	1 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Rufous-capped Babbler	1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Golden Babbler	4 Tam Dao 20.4.
Grey-throated Babbler	6 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Striped Tit-babbler	max 5 NBCT 6-8.4.



Cuc Phoung N.P.

Photo: Måns Grundsten

<u>Grey-faced Tit-babbler</u>	2 NBCT 7.4.
Chestnut-capped Babbler	1 NBCT 6.4.
White-crested Laughingthrush	3 NBCT 5.4.
<u>Black-hooded Laughingthrush</u>	1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
<u>Grey Laughingthrush</u>	4 Tam Dao 20.4.

White-cheeked Laughingthrush	5 Datlana Waterfalls 8.4, 4 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 3 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 3 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
White-browed Laughingthrush	max 4 Sapa 21-22.4.
<u>Collared Laughingthrush</u>	2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Silver-eared Mesia	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 4 Sapa 22.4.
Red-billed Leiothrix	4 Sapa 22.4.
<u>Cutia</u>	(ssp. <i>legalleni</i> ) 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
White-browed Shrike-Babbler	2 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 4 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
<u>Spectacled Barwing</u>	1 km 8, Sapa 23.4.
Blue-winged Minla	10 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
<u>Golden-breasted Fulvetta</u>	1 km 8, Sapa 22.4.
Rufous-winged Fulvetta	(ssp. <i>klossi</i> ) 1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Rufous-throated Fulvetta	max 4 Cuc Phoung 16-19.4.
Rusty-capped Fulvetta	10 Sapa 21-23.4.
<u>Black-browed Fulvetta</u>	2 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Mountain Fulvetta	10 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 4 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 15 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Grey-cheeked Fulvetta	
Rufous-backed Sibia	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 2 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Black-headed Sibia	(ssp. <i>robinsoni</i> ) 2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Striated Yuhina	3 Tam Dao 20.4, 6 Sapa 22.4.
Whiskered Yuhina	2 Sapa 21.4.
White-collared Yuhina	4 Sapa 21.4.
Black-chinned Yuhina	3 Tam Dao 20.4.
White-bellied Yuhina	1 Cat Tien 8.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 10.4 & 12.4.
<u>Spot-breasted Parrotbill</u>	2 km 8, Sapa 23.4.
<u>Short-tailed Parrotbill</u>	3 Tam Dao 20.4.
Grey-headed Parrotbill	(ssp. <i>margaritae</i> ) 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 2 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler	7 Sapa 22-23.4.
<u>Pallas' Grasshopper-Warbler</u>	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Black-browed Reed-Warbler	25 Crocodile Lake 6-7.4.
Oriental Reed-Warbler	2 Crocodile Lake 7.4.
<u>Buff-throated Leaf-Warbler</u>	3 Sapa 23.4.
Radde's Warbler	1 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 17.4, 2 Tam Dao 20.4.
Yellow-browed Warbler	
<u>Hume's Leaf-Warbler</u>	(ssp. <i>mandelli</i> ) 1 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
<u>Chinese Leaf-Warbler</u>	1 Sapa 22.4.
Ashy-throated Warbler	3 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Arctic Warbler	
Pale-legged Leaf-Warbler	2 NBCT 6.4, 1 NBCT 8.4.
Eastern Crowned Warbler	1 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
White-tailed Leaf-Warbler	
Grey-cheeked Warbler	5 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
White-spectacled Warbler	1 Tam Dao 20.4, 2 Sapa 22.4.
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Yellow-bellied Warbler	1 Cuc Phoung 17-18.3.
Plain Prinia	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Rufescent Prinia	1 NBCT 7.4, 1 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Grey-breasted Prinia	
Hill Prinia	10 Sapa 21.4.
Mountain Tailorbird	
Common Tailorbird	
Dark-necked Tailorbird	
Yellow-rumped Flycatcher	1f Cuc Phoung 16.4, 1m Cuc Phoung 17.4, 1m Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Mugimaki Flycatcher	1m Tam Dao 20.4.
Red-throated Flycatcher	
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	(ssp. <i>fuscogularis</i> ) 1 pair nesting Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Rufous-browed Flycatcher	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Little Pied Flycatcher	2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.

Large Niltava	1m Datlana Waterfalls 8.4, 1f Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 3 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4, 3 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Small Niltava	1m Sapa 21-22.4.
White-tailed Flycatcher	1 pair Cuc Phoung 17-18.4.
Hainan Blue-Flycatcher	5 Cuc Phoung 16-19.4.
Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher	2 Cat Tien 8.4.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 Cat Tien 8.4.
Verditer Flycatcher	e.g. 1 Datlana Falls 8.4.
Grey-headed Flycatcher	
Asian Paradise-Flycatcher	e.g. 2 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Black-naped Monarch	1 Cat Tien 6.4.
White-throated Fantail	2 Datlana Falls 8.4.
Black-throated Tit	
Great Tit	
Green-backed Tit	10 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
Yellow-cheeked Tit	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Chestnut-vented Nuthatch	2 Datlana Waterfalls 8.4, 2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 4 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	1 Cuc Phoung 17.4.
<u>Yellow-billed Nuthatch</u>	2 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
<u>Brown-throated Tree-Creeper</u>	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Plain Flowerpecker	1 Cuc Phoung 19.4.
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	1 pair Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	2 NBCT 6.4.
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	2m NBCT 5.4.
<u>Purple-throated Sunbird</u>	1m Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
Olive-backed Sunbird	
Mrs Gould's Sunbird	2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 4 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Green-tailed Sunbird	1m Sapa 22.4.
Fork-tailed Sunbird	1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Black-throated Sunbird	1m Sapa 22.4.
Crimson Sunbird	1m NBCT 7.4.
Little Spiderhunter	2 NBCT 6.4.
Streaked Spiderhunter	2 Datlana Waterfalls 8.4, 3 Ta Nung Valley 12.4, 4 Cuc Phoung 17-18.4.
Oriental White-eye	
Little Bunting	2 Sapa 22.4.
Common Rosefinch	5 Sapa 23.4.
<u>Vietnamese Greenfinch</u>	c.10 Ho Tuyen Lam 9 & 11.4, 7 Mt Lang Bian 10.4, 1 Ta Nung Valley 12.4.
<u>Black-headed Greenfinch</u>	c.20 Sapa 21-23.4.
<u>Red Crossbill</u>	(ssp. <i>meridionalis</i> ) 5 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4, 3 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
White-rumped Munia	
Scaly-breasted Munia	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	
<u>Asian Golden Weaver</u>	4 Crocodile Lake 6.4.
Black-collared Starling	
Vinous-breasted Starling	4 NBCT 5-8.4.
Common Myna	
White-vented Myna	
<u>Golden-crested Myna</u>	3 NBCT 5.4.
Hill Myna	
Black-naped Oriole	1 Cuc Phoung 18.4.
Slender-billed Oriole	1 Ho Tuyen Lam 9.4.
Black-hooded Oriole	1m NBCT 6.4.
<u>Maroon Oriole</u>	(ssp. <i>robinsoni</i> ) 1 Ho Tuyen Lam 11.4.
Black Drongo	
Ashy Drongo	
Crow-billed Drongo	2 Cuc Phoung 16.4.
Bronzed Drongo	

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	
Eurasian Jay	(ssp. <i>leucotis</i> ) 2 Mt Lang Bian 10.4.
<u>White-winged Magpie</u>	5 Cuc Phoung 17.4, 3 18.4.
Racket-tailed Treepie	4 NBCT 5-8.4.
<u>Ratched-tailed Treepie</u>	Cuc Phoung: 1 17.4, 1 18.4, 2 19.4.
Large-billed Crow	

This report was compiled by Måns Grundsten: m.grundsten@spray.se

-----