

Myanmar (Burma)

25 January – 5 February



Shwedagon Paya in Yangon

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General

This trip was a combined family and birding vacation. Myanmar may not be on everyone's lips as a family holiday, but in fact it can be thoroughly recommended if you want to get away from the usual tourist resorts. Some of the most impressive cultural sites in Southeast Asia combined with a host of special eastern Himalayan birds. The country has a handful of endemics and a much longer list of near-endemic species and very distinctive subspecies. Our kids are seven years old and had no problem in doing the trip, although I must admit that after Bagan the rest of the family went back home to China, while I stayed behind for another four days at Mt Victoria. This part of the trip may not be over-enjoyed by a non-birding family, as it involves a six hours drive one-way on bumpy, dusty and winding roads and then staying close to the forest with little else to do than birding. All in all I recorded almost 300 species, which is a fairly high number considering I was not birding continuously.

We visited five different sites:

- Yangon, only sightseeing for one afternoon and one morning, which is enough.
- Lake Inle, combined sightseeing with Jerdon's Bushchat
- Kalaw, combined trekking and one full day birding with Burmese Yuhina
- Bagan & Ayeyarwady River, combined sightseeing and easy birding
- Mt Victoria, hardcore birding only

Highlights



Panorama over Bagan

Top three cultural sites were Shwedagon Paya in Yangon, the floating gardens at Lake Inle and best of all the 2800 temples and pagodas at the ancient city of Bagan situated along the shores of one of the large Asian rivers, the Ayeyarwady River.

From a birding perspective Myanmar holds the following endemics of which I saw all: White-browed Nuthatch, Hooded Treepie, Jerdon's Minivet, White-throated Babbler and Burmese Bushlark. I also recorded a good number of near-endemics or specialties such as Burmese Yuhina, Striped, Brown-capped and Assam Laughers, Chin Hills Wren-Babbler, Mount Victoria Babax, Streak-throated Barwing, Jerdon's Bushchat and Hodgson's Frogmouth and last but not least a smashing Leopard Cat.

Most of my target birds were recorded and major misses were only Mrs Hume's Pheasant and Blyth's Tragopan at Mt Victoria, White-rumped Falcon in the dry forest and Great Thickknee (noner found this year) and Indian Skimmer (very rare and irregular nowadays).

Itinerary

25/1

This travelling day starting with an early morning flight from Beijing via Kunming to Yangon, where we arrived at 14.30. We were welcomed by Ohmar, Tony's wife, and she took us for High Tea at the renovated colonial Strand Hotel (like Raffle's in Singapore, but smaller). We also visited the highlight of Yangon, the huge pagoda Shwedagon Paya, which was a most impressive sight. We stayed here rather long and watched the sunset and the glowing lit up pagodas got even more wonderful as dark fell.

The night was spent at Myanmar Life Hotel near the airport.

26/1

The day started with a quick breakfast and at 7.45 we left the hotel for half a day sightseeing in Yangon. First we stopped at Lake Inlay for about an hour, then to the zoo in order to please the kids and last we rounded off the morning with a visit to the downtown market. After lunch and having packed up at the hotel, we took the 15.00 flight to Heho. 1hr15min flight and we arrived at the small airport of Heho at 1145 meters altitude. Slightly more pleasant temperature than Yangon. We boarded the minibus and drove for about an hour across some hills and through farmlands until we reached the northern end of Lake Inle (850 masl) shortly before sunset.

Night at Hu Pin Hotel.

27/1

After breakfast we walked to a small canal nearby and boarded a long-boat that would take us through canals out to Lake Inle. A narrow well-vegetated side-canal provided the much-desired Jerdon's Bushchat, which turned out to be really common. Out on the lake we stopped at a birdwatching house on stilts at the edge of the lake and saw lots of ducks and jacanas. In the late morning we drove south across the lake to the floating gardens and villages. Rather amazing to see this way of growing veggies and basically living on the water. It reminded me of Tonle Sap in Cambodia, but in a different way. What also springs to mind were yet another way of catching fish, to be added to the 100s of other solutions invented by people living close to water. The fishermen had a large cone of net and were handling it while standing on one leg on the small ranky canoes. The other leg was used to control the paddle, quite a balancing act I must say.

By 13.30 we were back in town and started the journey to Kalaw, which is in the other direction from Heho airport. It took us about 1.5 hours to go there and the last bit was up in more hilly country, Kalaw itself being at 1380 masl. The late afternoon was spent walking around in Kalaw and also a small trek just east of town.

Night at Dream Villa Motel, a nice hotel with a family air.



28/1

A 6.30 departure for a short drive to a small temple immediately west of Kalaw, where we started the walk to Yayayekan reservoir. We walked through hills and ricefields for 2-3 km until we reached evergreen forest in a valley. Birded a jeeptrack through the forest for 2 km to the reservoir back and forth until at 14.00 when I eventually found the target Burmese Yuhina. Returned to the temple by 16.00 and drove back to the hotel. Rest of the evening was spent in Kalaw.

29/1

We left Kalaw at 7.20 for the 45 minutes drive to Heho airport. The flight was only slightly delayed and we were in the air by 9.00 for the one hour flight to Bagan. The drive to our luxurious hotel was only some 20 minutes. The kids were quick to enjoy the pool, while I stationed myself overlooking the river. After lunch we went on the “must do” sightseeing trip to the temples at Old Bagan. Even though one temple was the other like, it was surely one of the most impressive scenes (top five!) of Southeast Asia. Eventually we staked out one of the temples where one is allowed to climb, and watched a brilliant sunset. The area holds some 2800 temples spread out across the savanna and in spite of it being a tourist spot, there were actually very few tourists around at all.

Night at Bagan Thande Hotel with a splendid view over the river.

30/1

We left slightly before dawn and we drove to a site south of New Bagan where Jerdon’s Minivet is regularly seen and Hooded Treepie is sometimes seen. It took until 9.00 until I was fortunate to locate a Treepie, which gave good looks as it flew from tree to tree. The Minivet search continued for at least another hour when one of the guides ran to get me, as Tony had then located a pair of this electric Minivet. We watched them for some time as they fed on the ground and flew between the bushes. When they had disappeared we walked over to some bean fields to look for Rain Quails, which we eventually found and had good “on-the-deck” looks of. We also found a confiding pair of Barred Buttonquails and the Minivet pair again showed up.

Before lunch I was back at the hotel and joined the family by the pool.

At 13.30 we took a boat trip down the river to look for some target birds. Sand Larks were easily found, but no close up views was obtained. After going downstream for quite a long time we eventually came to an area of grassy riverbanks, which held White-tailed Stonechats. The hoped for Great Thick-knee was not to be found as people have recently colonized the entire area. No doubt the future looks miserable to some of the river birds of south Asia, with the ever-increasing population. More encouraging was it to see a huge gathering of Little Pratincoles just out from the hotel in the late afternoon.

In the evening I went to Old Bagan to look for Indian Nightjars.

31/1

Between 7.00-10.00 I went birding in the early morning in savanna forest along the river at Old Bagan and had some nice birds, although nothing special. In the late morning I was back to the refreshing pool. In the afternoon we spent time doing some more sightseeing amongst the temples and a much enjoyed horse ride for the kids as compensation to the temples. Late afternoon I made a quick photo-dash to the flock of Small Pratincoles, before it was time to go to another temple for yet another sunset.



1/2

Left the hotel at 8.00 and went to the airport for the rest of the family's flight to Yangon. Tony and I set off at 8.30 for the long journey to Mt Victoria. One of the jeeps had to be fixed so in one town east of the river we swapped jeeps and soon crossed one of only six bridges that are built across the Ayeyarwady. At 11.30 we had reached some good forest along hills at about 500 masl. In spite of the timing, we birded for 3.5 hours along the very dusty dirt road until it was time to continue to Mt Victoria. From the forest it took us 3 hours of straight driving and by 18.00 we had reached Tony's lodge at 1700 masl. It is situated in the pine forest with a nice view over the village of Kanpetlet.

2/2

The day started with a quick breakfast and then we left at 5.45 for the 15 km drive up to the summit of Mt Victoria. It took us 50 minutes to reach the ridge where the trail starts to the summit. We did not take that trail, but instead I continued walking the road alone for 1.5 hours in the hope of attracting a Blyth's Tragopan. No luck with that, so we continued birding along this road until 15.00 at altitudes of 2600 down to 2450 masl. Not much of song activity and very poor response to playback, but nevertheless I managed to see virtually all my target birds for the high elevation. Best were of course the fabulous views of White-browed Nuthatches (at least 4 pairs), but high on the list was also the Streak-throated Barwing that perched until we had to leave it. Brown-capped and Assam Laughers, Chin Hills and Scaly-breasted Wren-Babblers and Whistler's Warbler also made the day memorable.

In the mid afternoon it was only the Mount Victoria Babax that remained on the target list and it took us at least an hour to find it, but on the other hand it really showed itself then. By then it was 16.30, so we decided to quickly drive down to the old Kanpetlet area for Striped Laughers. It took us a good 45 minutes to drive, but when I played the tape we soon got a very distant answer. As it was not much left of daylight I dashed through the vegetation only to discover that the recording I had been provided with was of an Assam Laugher :-(. Now the daylight was running out and I did not even have a recording! Fortunately Tony had meanwhile got a response of a real Striped Laugher higher up and after another quick dash I eventually got really good views of this skulker, as well as a rock solid recording. The evening was ended with a walk from the old Kanpetlet down to Pinewood Villa with the aim of seeing Hodgson's Frogmouth. Three birds responded only vaguely, but the effort was rewarded with crippling views of a Leopard Cat.

3/2

This day we left slightly later at 6.00 and the entire day was basically devoted for Hume's Pheasant. Most of the day was spent in evergreen and pine forests between 2200-2400 masl, except for a mid afternoon dash to old Kanpetlet at 2100 masl for Grey-hooded Warbler. The day ended at 18.00 as it started, i.e. in a resultless search of Hume's Pheasant (well tomorrow is another day...). In the evening I again went out to look for frogmouths, but no nightbirds at all were calling and only one distant frogmouth responded briefly.

4/2

This was the last morning on the mountain and I decided to give the pheasants another go. We started by slowly driving past all the good sites for Hume's (with negative result) and got to the summit at 7.00. I then spent the next hour at the two known gullies for Blyth's Tragopan. No response at all so I gave up and returned to Hume's hunting again, but alas with the same result. I guess that the pheasants along the road are so shy because of the hunting pressure. Until 11.00 I slowly walked the Hume's sites, until it was time to drive down to the lodge. After loading the cars, we went off for the long dusty drive back to Bagan. The plan was to drive during the hottest part of the day and reach the hill forest halfway in the mid afternoon. Actually we made a stop even before then with the purpose of looking for White-browed Piculet. In spite of it being midday, one was easily hauled in after only 200 meters walking from the car. With no real target birds in this hill forest we kept driving until we came to the dry forest around 16.00. We walked along the road in search of White-rumped Falcon, but the many leaves on the trees made it difficult. A month later the leaves will have come off, so might be a simpler task then. At about 17.30 we continued the journey back to Bagan.

5/2

A travelling day starting early with a flight via Heho to Yangon. After some rest at Tony's office and a lunch, it was time to board the Air China flight back to Beijing via Kunming.

Weather etc

The weather was beautiful all the time, brilliant sunshine every day. In Yangon, Lake Inle and Bagan it was hot in the daytime, but at least at Lake Inle and Bagan it was a bit chilly in the early mornings requiring a fleece jacket. Presumably it gets much hotter only one month later. Mt Victoria was very pleasant during daytime, but the mornings were rather cool and at high elevations it was even frost in the grass sometimes. Recommended gear to bring is sunhat, gloves and fleece-jacket. No problems with mossies and we did not take any anti-malaria.

Logistics

The local tour company Wildbird Adventure arranged the trip as a package tour. The owner is Tony Htin Hla who is not only a very nice person, but also a good and knowledgeable birder. His services was absolutely outstanding and he also knew where and how to find the key species. His crew was well-trained and he has his own lodge at Mt Victoria, which guarantees no hassle.

Tony can be contacted at wildbirdtt@mptmail.net.mm .

The timing of our visit was perhaps a bit too early and the best birding time would be end of February or March. The birds have then gone into the breeding season and would be more responsive. However, in the lowlands such as Bagan it could be distinctly HOT and for us it was no choice as it would probably be rather difficult to convince 1.3 Bpeople in China to change the New Lunar Year holiday.

Site descriptions

Lake Inle

Lake Inle is a shallow lake situated in a north-south going valley surrounded on two sides by smaller mountain ranges. It is a famous tourist site due to the floating gardens and villages and is a very photogenic place. The key bird here is Jerdon's Bushchat which is locally common in high grass along the canals. Another local specialty is Collared Myna that might be seen among any flowering trees between the airport and the lake; I saw two in bushes near the lake. Indian Skimmer has been seen occasionally and has even bred, but seems to be very scarce at best nowadays.

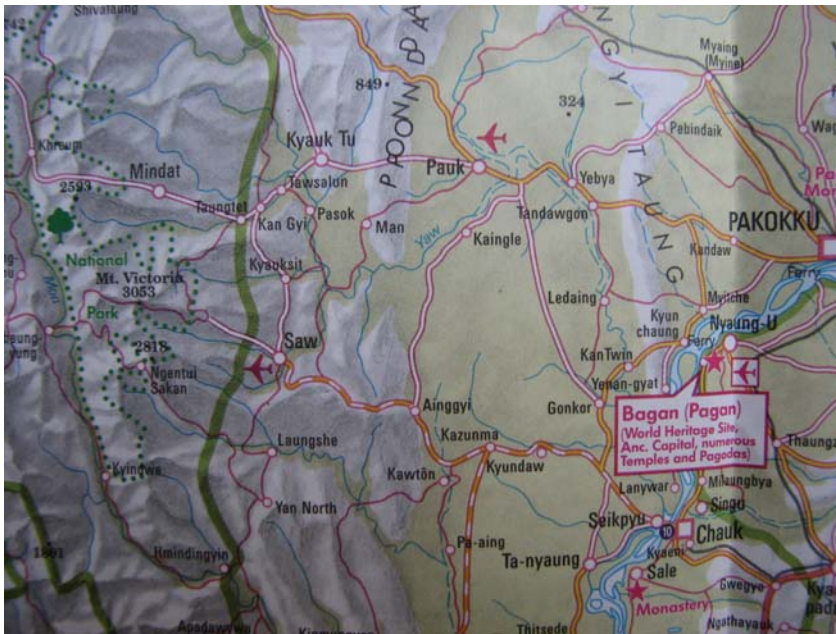


Kalaw

Kalaw is a small town located west of Heho airport in the mountains. These mountains are no longer clad in beautiful forests as they might have been a long time ago, but instead there is scrub and secondary pine forests as far as you can see. The exception is a tiny pocket of evergreen forest near Yayayekan reservoir (west of Kalaw) that for some reasons has been spared. This patch of forest is probably one of few accessible sites to see Burmese Yuhina. Other good birds that have been recorded are Giant Nuthatch, Spectacled Barwing and White-gorgeted and Sapphire Flycatcher. The area has much in common with northwest Thailand.

Bagan

Bagan (Pagan) is an ancient (almost 1000 year old) city spread out across the savanna along the banks of the slow-floating Ayeyarwady River. All living houses made by wood have since long disappeared, but most of the temples and pagodas are still towering the skyline. To watch the sunrise or sunset from the top of one of these temples is surely a sight never to be forgotten. What makes the place even better is that it is in the midst of an endemic bird area, the dry savanna of central Myanmar. Burmese Bushlark and White-throated Babblers are common and easily seen. Jerdon's Minivet and Hooded Treepie require some luck and local knowledge, but are fully possible with some preparation and time. A trip along the river to a grassy sand-island yields breeding White-tailed Stonechats and river birds like Small Pratincoles, River Lapwings and maybe Black-bellied Tern. Indian Skimmer seems to already be gone due to human pressure and Great Thick-knee is destined to go the same way. Laggar Falcon can be seen hunting among the temples.



Mount Victoria

Mount Victoria is famous among birders as the only site in the world for White-browed Nuthatch. This attractive little nuthatch is fairly easy to see in the high altitude oak & rhododendron forest. However, this is not the only attraction as the forests hold many near-endemics as well. Brown-capped, Striped and Assam Laughingthrushes, Mount Victoria Babax, Chin Hills Wren-Babbler and Streak-throated Barwing to name a few. Other specialties are local forms of Yellow-breasted Greenfinch, Bar-tailed and Brown-throated Treecreepers, Black-bibbed Tit, White-browed Fulvetta, Green Shrike-Babbler, Aberrant Bush-Warbler as well as Hodgson's Frogmouth, Black-headed Shrike-Babbler, Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Grey-sided Thrush, Whistler's and Grey-hooded Warbler.

Most birders spend five days working the different altitudes from the oak & rhododendron zone, through the bamboo scrub, pine forest and evergreen forest all the way down to the grassy scrub and secondary forest around old Kanpetlet. I only had two full days and a morning, but anyway saw all my target birds except for two pheasants that occur: Blyth's Tragopan and Mrs Hume's Pheasant. Both these are extremely shy along the road due to severe hunting pressure. Most villagers that I met carried either a sling-shot or a rifle.

Between Bagan and Mt Victoria, there are two key areas to bird. One is the dry lowland forest, which has Hooded Treepie, Jerdon's Minivet and White-rumped Falcon. The other is the hill forests further west towards Mt Victoria. These forests are in general quite rich in birds and are situated between 400-600 masl and stretches along the road for many kilometers.

Birds

Note: The allocation to subspecies level is mostly based on literature and not actual field characters.

Little Grebe, *Tachybaptus ruficollis* ssp

Two at Lake Inle.

Great Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*

Two at Bagan.

Little Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax niger*

30-40 at Lake Inlay, Yangon and common at Lake Inle.

Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea* ssp

Ten at Bagan.

Purple Heron, *Ardea purpurea manilensis*

Three at Lake Inle.

Great Egret, *Ardea alba modestus*

One at Bagan.

Intermediate Egret, *Egretta intermedia intermedia*

Common at Lake Inle and a few at Bagan.

Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta garzetta*

Small numbers at Lake Inle and at Bagan.

[Indian Pond-Heron, *Ardeola greyii*]

About ten at Lake Inle, a few at Bagan and one between Mt Victoria and Bagan. None could be identified to species, although the most numerous Pond-Heron is said to be Indian.

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis coromanda*

Two near Heho, common around Lake Inle and a few at Bagan.

Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*

12 at Lake Inle.

Lesser Whistling-Duck, *Dendrocygna javanica*

1000+ at Lake Inle.

Ruddy Shelduck, *Tadorna ferruginea*

About 400 at Bagan.

Spot-billed Duck, *Anas poecilorhyncha haringtoni*

200-400 at Lake Inle and about 50 at Bagan.

Northern Pintail, *Anas acuta*

500+ at Lake Inle.

Garganey, *Anas querquedula*

30+ at Lake Inle.

Ferruginous Pochard, *Aythya nyroca*

30+ at Lake Inle.

Oriental Honey-buzzard, *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

5-8 at Bagan, two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria and one in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria. The resident subspecies is *ruficollis*, but migrant *orientalis* make it difficult to assign any subspecies.

Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus caeruleus vociferus*

Three at Lake Inle and two at Bagan.

Black Kite, *Milvus migrans* ssp

Six at Lake Inlay, Yangon. Difficult to assign to subspecies as wintering birds may be involved.

Crested Serpent-Eagle, *Spilornis cheela burmanicus*

One heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and three in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Western Marsh-Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus*

Five at Lake Inle.

Pied Harrier, *Circus melanoleucos*

One male over the river at Bagan.

Crested Goshawk, *Accipiter trivirgatus indicus*

One male at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one at Bagan and one in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

White-eyed Buzzard, *Butastur teesa*

One, probably subadult, was nicely scoped on top of a bush during our temple trip at Old Bagan. Another was seen in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Himalayan Buzzard, *Buteo burmanicus*

One near Lake Inle, one near Kalaw, three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one at Bagan and three at Mt Victoria. This species is split by Rasmussen.

Black Eagle, *Ictinaetus malayensis malayensis*

Two sightings in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Bonelli's Eagle, *Aquila fasciatus fasciatus*

One soaring over the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Eurasian Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus interstinctus*

One near Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and four at Bagan.

Laggar Falcon, *Falco jugger*

One adult seen twice at the Minivet site at Bagan.

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus ssp*

One adult chasing the Laggar Falcon at Bagan. Pale-bellied form.

Chinese Francolin, *Francolinus pintadeanus phayrei*

One at the Minivet site at Bagan.

Rain Quail, *Coturnix coromandelica*

Six together in a bean-field at the Minivet site at Bagan. Flushed, but also scoped nicely on the deck. Two plus two more flushed at Bagan.



Rain Quail

Common Hill-Partridge, *Arborophila torqueola torqueola*

One pair heard at 2600 masl at Mt Victoria.

Red Junglefowl, *Gallus gallus spadiceus*

One male seen on the road during mid afternoon in the hill forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Barred Buttonquail, *Turnix suscitator plumbipes*

A pair was scoped and photographed in a bean-field at the Minivet site at Bagan. One unidentified Buttonquail was also flushed at the same site and two together were flushed at Old Bagan.

[Crake sp

One unidentified fairly small crake seen at Lake Inle.]

Purple Swamphen, *Porphyrio porphyrio poliocephalus*

One at Lake Inle.

Common Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus chloropus*

Three between Kalaw and Heho.

Eurasian Coot, *Fulica atra atra*

2000+ at Lake Inle.

Pheasant-tailed Jacana, *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

300+ at Lake Inle.

Small Pratincole, *Glareola lactea*

At Bagan, a loose flock of at least 500 was seen at the river just below our hotel in the late afternoons.



Small Pratincole

River Lapwing, *Vanellus duvaucelii*

A total of ten at Bagan. Seen both from the hotel and on the river trip.

Grey-headed Lapwing, *Vanellus cinereus*

11 together near Heho airport.

Pacific Golden-Plover, *Pluvialis fulva*

Two at the river at Bagan.

Little Ringed Plover, *Charadrius dubius jerdoni*

20-30 at Bagan.

Kentish Plover, *Charadrius alexandrinus alexandrinus*

200+ at the river at Bagan. Many unidentified small plovers were also seen along the river.

Common Greenshank, *Tringa nebularia*

20 at Bagan.

Green Sandpiper, *Tringa ochropus*

One at Bagan.

Wood Sandpiper, *Tringa glareola*

Two at Lake Inle.

Temminck's Stint, *Calidris temminckii*

Three at Bagan.

Brown-headed Gull, *Larus brunnicephalus*

70-80 at Lake Inle.

Black-bellied Tern, *Sterna acuticauda*

One plus two at the river at Bagan.



Black-bellied Terns

Ashy Wood-Pigeon, *Columba pulchricollis*

Two in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

Oriental Turtle-Dove, *Streptopelia orientalis agricola*

Several around Kalaw, five at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

“Burmese” Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia [decaocto?] xanthocyclus*

At least two at Old Bagan, two just west of the Ayeyarwady River crossing on the way to Mt Victoria and four in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan. This isolated subspecies has a broad and conspicuous yellow eyering. In some literature like Gibbs et al (2001) the clearly different shape and colour is not even mentioned, in others (HBW Vol 4) it is mentioned and almost correctly illustrated, but in my opinion erroneously described that *xanthocyclus* is occurring in the east of China. Eurasian Collared-Doves in Beijing are not having this type of eye-ring, but look like *decaocto*. Some literature shows the range of the species to have a large gap between eastern and western China and then allocate the two populations to *decaocto* and *xanthocyclus* respectively. I have however recorded it in Ningxia, which is about halfway between Beijing and Xinjiang, and to my recollection they do look like normal *decaocto*. Gibbs et al actually shows the range to be continuous through northern China, which could very well be correct, although the taxon in the east should probably be changed to *decaocto*. The situation in Myanmar is also interesting. Rasmussen (2005) is the only literature that I found that shows the range in the dry zone in central Myanmar to be disjunct from the populations in India. This is likely very correct, due to the more or less continuous relatively high mountain range that is separating central Myanmar from the lowlands in Assam. Rasmussen correctly mentions that this population has a “broad bare yellow eye-ring; darker overall, with more vinous foreparts”. Given that a) the range Myanmar according to Rasmussen, b) the range in northern China by Gibbs and personal observations are correct, it may not be far-fetched to believe that Myanmar might have yet another dry zone (near?-)endemic taxon around the corner. Supportive to this actually being of species level, is the high level of speciation within the Collared-Dove complex. More research is clearly needed before it is possible to make such a claim and vocalizations and genetic data should be studied. If anyone can obtain feathers or recordings from this population, please let me know.



Eurasian (?) Collared-Dove

Red Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia tranquebarica humilis*

About 20 at Old Bagan.

Spotted Dove, *Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*

Several in Yangon, between Heho and Lake Inle and common at Bagan.

Mountain Imperial-Pigeon, *Ducula badia griseicapilla*

One heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Rose-ringed Parakeet, *Psittacula krameri borealis*

Five in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Grey-headed Parakeet, *Psittacula finschii*

One near Heho airport, about 20 at the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria and several seen in the same area on the return journey.

Asian Koel, *Eudynamys scolopacea malayana*

About five heard in Yangon.

Greater Coucal, *Centropus sinensis intermedius*

Five at Lake Inle, two between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Mountain Scops-Owl, *Otus spilocephalus*

Three heard at 1750 masl around Pinewood Villa at Mt Victoria.

Collared Scops-Owl, *Otus lettia lettia*

One just captured bird by a farmer near Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw. Two heard at 1700 masl below and one heard at 1800 masl above Pinewood Villa at Mt Victoria.

Oriental Scops-Owl, *Otus sunia modestus*

One heard at 1600 masl below Pinewood Villa at Mt Victoria.

Collared Owlet, *Glaucidium brodiei brodiei*

One heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one heard in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and two heard in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

Spotted Owlet, *Athene brama pulchra*

At least ten at Bagan, one heard at the forest halfway between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Hodgson's Frogmouth, *Batrachostomus hodgsoni*

Two heard around 20.00 at 1700 masl below Pinewood Villa at Mt Victoria the first evening. The second evening three were heard at 1800 masl above Pinewood Villa, but again they were not game. The third night was even worse as only one bird responded briefly. None called uninitiated and when a recording was played they answered immediately, but shut up after only 2-5 calls.

Grey Nightjar, *Caprimulgus indicus hazarae*

One seen on all three mornings on the road at 2200 masl towards the summit at Mt Victoria.

- Indian Nightjar, *Caprimulgus asiaticus asiaticus*
Two or three heard and one glimpsed in the evening at Bagan.
- Himalayan Swiftlet, *Aerodramus brevirostris brevirostris*
One at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Asian Palm-Swift, *Cypsiurus balasiensis infumatus*
Five at Bagan, five at the forest halfway between Bagan and Mt Victoria and many in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- House Swift, *Apus nipalensis nipalensis*
At least ten around Shwedagon Payan in Yangon, 20-30 at Bagan and many between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Crested Treeswift, *Hemiprocne coronata*
Two in the hill forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Common Kingfisher, *Alcedo atthis bengalensis*
One at Lake Inlay in Yangon, five at Lake Inle, one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one at Bagan.
- White-throated Kingfisher, *Halcyon smyrnensis perpulchra*
One at Lake Inlay in Yangon and 20 at Lake Inle.
- Pied Kingfisher, *Ceryle rudis leucomelanura*
Three at the river at Bagan.
- Green Bee-eater, *Merops orientalis ferrugineiceps*
Common at Bagan and in the dry forest towards Mt Victoria.
- Indian Roller, *Coracias benghalensis affinis*
Three around Heho, one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, five at Bagan and ten between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Eurasian Hoopoe, *Upupa epops longirostris*
Ten at Bagan.
- Great Barbet, *Megalaima virens (virens?)*
Two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and 5-10 in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.
- Lineated Barbet, *Megalaima lineate hodgsoni*
Two at the forest halfway between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Golden-throated Barbet, *Megalaima franklinii ramsayi*
Four in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and five in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.
- Coppersmith Barbet, *Megalaima haemacephala indica*
Two at Lake Inlay and seven at the zoo in Yangon and two at the forest halfway between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Eurasian Wryneck, *Jynx torquilla torquilla*
One in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Speckled Piculet, *Picumnus innominatus malayorum*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- White-browed Piculet, *Sasia ochracea reichenowi*
One in the hill forest at 465 masl between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Grey-capped Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos canicapillus canicapillus*
Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria and one in the same area on the return journey.
- Stripe-breasted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos atratus*
One in pine/oak forest at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria.

Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos hyperythrus hyperythrus*

Two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl), two in pine/oak forest at 2400 masl and one in pine/oak forest at 2250 masl at Mt Victoria. This is a most remarkable evolutionary solution, where this and one other taxon are basically resident in the Himalayas, while another taxon is strongly migratory, breeding in Manchuria and Russia and wintering in S China and Indochina. A fourth isolated taxon is resident in S Vietnam.

Darjeeling Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

One seen and photographed in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos cathpharius tenebrosus*

One in pine/oak forest at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria.

Great Spotted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos major cabanisi*

One near Kalaw.

[White-bellied Woodpecker, *Dryocopus javensis*

Two probables heard in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.]

Grey-faced Woodpecker, *Picus canus hessei*

One heard in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Bay Woodpecker, *Blythipicus pyrrhotis pyrrhotis*

One heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Burmese Bushlark, *Mirafra microptera*

Common at Bagan where seen in most temple areas.



Burmese Bushlark

Sand Lark, *Calandrella raytal raytal*

About 30 on the sand banks along the river at Bagan.

Plain Martin, *Riparia paludicola chinensis*

Common along the river at Bagan.

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica* ssp

Many in Yangon and between Heho and Lake Inle, common at Lake Inle, Kalaw and Bagan and a few at Mt Victoria. All white-bellied forms.

Red-rumped Swallow, *Cecropis daurica* (nivalensis?)

Two in Yangon and a spectacular sand-bar roost of 3-5000 on a bare sandy island in the river at Bagan.

Asian Martin, *Delichon dasypus cashmiriensis*

At least one in a loose hirundine flock at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.

Nepal Martin, *Delichon nipalensis bartletti*

At least one in a loose hirundine flock at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.

White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba leucopsis* & *alboides*

Three at the Zoo in Yangon, a few at Lake Inle and common at Bagan. One male of the taxon *alboides* was seen along the river at Bagan, the rest all being *leucopsis*.

Citrine Wagtail, *Motacilla citreola citreola*

50+ at Lake Inle and five at Bagan.

Western/Eastern Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava/tschutschensis* ssp

Three at Lake Inle (one “flava” type, one “thunbergi” type) and 40 at Bagan (“flava” and “thunbergi” types). No birds could be identified to subspecies (or species). “flava” here means “flava”/“tschutschensis” and “thunbergi” means “thunbergi”/“macronyx”.

Grey Wagtail, *Motacilla cinerea cinerea*

One at the zoo, Yangon and one at 1900 masl at Mt Victoria.

Richard's Pipit, *Anthus richardi*

One photographed at the Minivet site at Bagan.

Blyth's Pipit, *Anthus godlewskii*

One seen and heard well at Old Bagan.

Olive-backed Pipit, *Anthus hodgsoni* ssp

Five near Kalaw, ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, common at Bagan, a few between Bagan and Mt Victoria and fairly common in the pine/oak forest at Mt Victoria.

Red-throated Pipit, *Anthus cervinus*

Four along the river at Bagan.

Large Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina macei siamensis*

Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Indochinese Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina polioptera indochinensis*

One male and one female at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw

Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina melaschistos melaschistos*

One pair in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Small Minivet, *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus thai*

Five in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Jerdon's Minivet, *Pericrocotus albifrons*

One pair eventually showed very well at the Minivet site at Bagan. The birds were frequently seen hopping on the ground, almost like a shrike. This species is split from White-bellied Minivet.



Jerdon's Minivet

Short-billed Minivet, *Pericrocotus brevirostris affinis*

Four at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria.

Scarlet Minivet, *Pericrocotus flammeus semiruber*

About ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and ten in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

- Grey-chinned Minivet, *Pericrocotus solaris* ssp
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, *Hemipus picatus* ssp
Five in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Crested Finchbill, *Spizixos canifrons canifrons*
Two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and 50-70 at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Striated Bulbul, *Pycnonotus striatus paulus*
Four in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Black-crested Bulbul, *Pycnonotus melanicterus* ssp
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Red-whiskered Bulbul, *Pycnonotus jocosus emeria*
One at Lake Inle.
- Red-vented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus cafer melanchimus*
Several in Yangon and between Heho and Lake Inle, fairly common between Lake Inle and Kalaw, ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, common at Bagan and common between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Flavescent Bulbul, *Pycnonotus flavescens flavescens*
One at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Streak-eared Bulbul, *Pycnonotus blanfordi blanfordi*
Common at Bagan.
- Mountain Bulbul, *Ixos mccllellandii tickelli*
Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Black Bulbul, *Hypsipetes leucocephalus concolor*
Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Blue-winged Leafbird, *Chloropsis cochinchinensis chlorocephala*
Three in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Orange-bellied Leafbird, *Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*
Three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one at 2200 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Common Iora, *Aegithina tiphia deignani*
A total of about 20 at Bagan and one in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush, *Monticola rufiventris*
Four in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Blue Rock-Thrush, *Monticola solitarius* ssp
One near Lake Inle.
- Blue Whistling-Thrush, *Myophonus caeruleus temminckii*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and five in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.
- Long-tailed Thrush, *Zoothera dixonii*
One at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria. The bird was barely missed by a slingshot from a kid.
- Grey-sided Thrush, *Turdus feae*
About 15 together under a fruiting tree in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and various small flocks totaling about 40 in the evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria. Nice to see this rare species on the wintering ground, as it is a breeding endemic where we live in Beijing.
- Zitting Cisticola, *Cisticola juncidis cursitans*
Three at Bagan. Song more like European type, not Chinese type.
- Brown Prinia, *Prinia polychroa cooki*
Two at the Minivet site at Bagan and five at Old Bagan.
- Black-throated Prinia, *Prinia atrogularis khasiana*
One seen at 2300 masl and one seen and recorded at 2485 masl at Mt Victoria. This species is split from Hill Prinia by Rasmussen based on the black throatpatch also in winter plumage.

Hill Prinia, *Prinia superciliaris erythropleura*
One seen near Kalaw.

Grey-breasted Prinia, *Prinia hodgsonii hodgsonii*
Common at Bagan.

Plain Prinia, *Prinia inornata blanfordi*
One at Lake Inle and common along the river at Bagan.

Chestnut-headed Tesia, *Tesia castaneocoronata castaneocoronata*
Four in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and two in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

“Manipur” Aberrant Bush-Warbler, *Cettia flavolivacea weberi*
One seen well at the clearing at 2450 masl and also another heard singing at the same site at Mt Victoria. Song very similar to Chinese birds and responded to that tape, although the plumage is very different.

Black-browed Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps bistrigiceps*
One at Lake Inle.

Oriental/Clamorous Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus orientalis/stentoreus*
Three at Lake Inle.

Thick-billed Warbler, *Acrocephalus aedon aedon*
About five at Old Bagan.

Common Tailorbird, *Orthotomus sutorius ssp*
Several in Yangon and at Bagan.

Dusky Warbler, *Phylloscopus fuscatus fuscatus*
10+ at Lake Inle, one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and 20+ at Bagan.

Tickell's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus affinis*
Ten at Old Bagan.

Buff-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus subaffinis*
Two at Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one at 2600 masl at Mt Victoria.

Yellow-streaked Warbler, *Phylloscopus armandii ssp*
Ten at Old Bagan and one at the Minivet site at Bagan.

Buff-barred Warbler, *Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*
Very common at all elevations at Mt Victoria. Approximately 50 % of the birds seen in these forests were this species...

Ashy-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus maculipennis maculipennis*
5-10 in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Yellow-browed Warbler, *Phylloscopus inornatus*
Two heard in Yangon, one at Lake Inle, ten at Kalaw, common at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, ten at Bagan, a few between Bagan and Mt Victoria and three at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.

Arctic Warbler, *Phylloscopus borealis ssp*
One at the forest halfway between Bagan and Mt Victoria. This really looked like an Arctic, not a Large-billed, but no supportive calls could be heard.

Greenish Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochiloides trochiloides*
One in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Two-barred Greenish Warbler, *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*
5-10 at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Blyth's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus reguloides assamensis*
A few at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw. Nuthatch-like way of feeding, but no single-wing flicking.

White-tailed Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus davisoni davisoni*
10-15 at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

- Grey-hooded Warbler, *Phylloscopus xanthoschistos tephrodiras*
One seen at 2245 masl and one seen at 2100 masl in the scrub at old Kanpetlet at Mt Victoria. Here considered a *Phylloscopus* (previously *Seicercus*), due to recent genetic studies.
- Grey-crowned Warbler, *Seicercus tephrocephalus*
15-20 at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw. Called with single “chup”.
- Whistler’s Warbler, *Seicercus whistleri nemoralis*
Three seen well in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and one seen in evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria. Identified on range and altitude, as its call was very similar to Bianchi’s. Call was a down-ward inflected “piu“, very different from Grey-crowned. Prominent yellow complete eyering, no obvious grey below the bilateral blackish crown-stripes, which were more diffuse towards the forehead. Not as clear grey on the crown as Grey-crowned.
- Broad-billed Warbler, *Tickellia hodgsoni hodgsoni*
One heard singing in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Striated Grassbird, *Megalurus palustris tokiao*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Slaty-backed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hodgsonii*
One pair in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and one pair at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher, *Ficedula strophinata strophinata*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Red-throated Flycatcher, *Ficedula albicilla*
One near Lake Inle, three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, ten at Bagan and five in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Little Pied Flycatcher, *Ficedula westermanni australorientis*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Sapphire Flycatcher, *Ficedula sapphire sapphira*
Four at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Verditer Flycatcher, *Eumyias thalassina thalassina*
One in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Large Niltava, *Niltava grandis grandis*
One heard at 2400 masl and one seen at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Hill Blue-Flycatcher, *Cyornis banyumas whitei*
Four at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher, *Culicicapa ceylonensis calochrysea*
20+ at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one heard in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.
- Siberian Rubythroat, *Luscinia calliope*
One at the Minivet site at Bagan and one at Old Bagan.
- Bluethroat, *Luscinia svecica ssp*
One at the river at Bagan and one in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Orange-flanked Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger rufilatus*
Common in all sorts of forests at Mt Victoria.
- Oriental Magpie-Robin, *Copsychus saularis erimelas*
Three in Yangon, one near Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and two between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Daurian Redstart, *Phoenicurus aureus leucoperus*
One near Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria and two between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Blue-fronted Redstart, *Phoenicurus frontalis*
10-20 in the pine forest at Mt Victoria.

White-crowned Forktail, *Enicurus leschenaultia indicus*

One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Common Stonechat, *Saxicola rubicola* ssp

Common at and around Lake Inle and one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

White-tailed Stonechat, *Saxicola leucura*

About 20, mostly males, in the tall grass in a concentrated area along the river at Bagan. The white in the tail was only seen in flight and from below.



Male and female White-tailed Stonechats

Pied Bushchat, *Saxicola caprata burmanica*

Three between Heho and Lake Inle, 10-20 between Lake Inle and Kalaw, one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, common at Bagan.

Jerdon's Bushchat, *Saxicola jerdoni harringtoni*

50+ at Lake Inle.



Jerdon's Bushchat

Grey Bushchat, *Saxicola ferrea*

Five near Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, one in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and common in the pine forest at Mt Victoria.

Yellow-bellied Fantail, *Rhipidura hypoxantha*

One in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

White-throated Fantail, *Rhipidura albicollis stanleyi*

One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

White-browed Fantail, *Rhipidura aureola burmanica*

One in the dry forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Black-naped Monarch, *Hypothymis azurea styani*

Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

- Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush, *Garrulax monileger fuscatus*
At least three in a mixed Necklaced Laugher flock in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush, *Garrulax pectoralis melanotis*
Ten near Kalaw and at least two in a mixed Necklaced Laugher flock in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- White-browed Laughingthrush, *Garrulax sannio*
Two between Kalaw and Heho.
- Striped Laughingthrush, *Garrulax virgatus*
One pair at 1800 masl at old Kanpetlet and one seen and heard at 2245 masl at Mt Victoria. This species has a very restricted range.
- Brown-capped Laughingthrush, *Garrulax austeni victoriae*
Ten in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria. This species has also a very restricted range.
- Assam Laughingthrush, *Garrulax chrysopterum*
Two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and one at old Kanpetlet at Mt Victoria. This species is split from Chestnut-crowned by Rasmussen. The third Laugher in the row that has a very restricted range.
- Puff-throated Babbler, *Pellorneum ruficeps shanense*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis mccllellandi*
One heard at old Kanpetlet at Mt Victoria.
- White-browed Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus schisticeps* ssp
Four heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ruficollis bakeri*
10-20 in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler, *Pnoepyga albiventer albiventer*
One heard calling and then attracted by playback of the song in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.
- Chin Hills Wren-Babbler, *Spelaeornis oatesi*
One heard singing and then seen very well in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria. as it responded to playback. This species is split from Long-tailed by Rasmussen. It has a quite different song and is very different in plumage.
- Rufous-fronted Babbler, *Stachyris rufifrons* ssp
Three heard at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one heard in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Golden Babbler, *Stachyris chrysaea assimilis*
One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Striped Tit-Babbler, *Macronous gularis ticehursti*
Five in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Chestnut-capped Babbler, *Timalia pileata intermedia*
Five at Lake Inle.
- Yellow-eyed Babbler, *Chrysomma sinense sinense*
Three at the Minivet site at Bagan and two at Old Bagan.

White-throated Babbler, *Turdoides gularis*

Ten at the hotel in Bagan, common at Old Bagan, 10-15 at the Minivet site at Bagan and several between Mt Victoria and Bagan.



White-throated Babbler

Mount Victoria Babax, *Babax woodi*

Two heard and one of them seen very well in a patch of dwarf bamboo, just short of the ridge in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and another heard and one seen at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria. This species is split from Chinese Babax by Rasmussen.



Mount Victoria Babax

Silver-eared Mesia, *Leiothrix argentauris galbana*

40+ at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Cutia, *Cutia nipalensis nipalensis*

One pair in the evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

White-browed Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius flaviscapis aeralatus* & *validirostris*

Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw (*aeralatus*) and one at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria (*validirostris*).

Green Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius xanthochlorus hybridus*

Two together in a mixed species flock in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and one at 2450 masl at Mt Victoria. The conspicuous eyering is only along the rear part of the eye, very unlike the taxon in Sichuan (which looks almost like a Grey-cheeked Fulvetta).

Rusty-fronted Barwing, *Actinodura egertoni ripponi*

Three in the oak forest (above 2400 masl), three at 2450 masl and five at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

Streak-throated Barwing, *Actinodura waldeni poliotis*

One seen extremely well in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria, as it responded to playback. Another pair was seen at 2450 masl.



Streak-throated Barwing

Blue-winged Minla, *Minla cyanouroptera sordida & aglae*

Five at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw (*sordida*), one at old Kanpetlet and three at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria (*aglae*).

Chestnut-tailed Minla, *Minla strigula yunnanensis*

Ten in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Red-tailed Minla, *Minla ignotincta ignotincta*

One in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and one at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria.

Rufous-winged Fulvetta, *Alcippe castaneiceps castaneiceps*

One flock of about 15 in evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

White-browed Fulvetta, *Alcippe vinipectus ripponi*

About 15 seen, mostly in mixed sub-canopy flocks, in the oak and evergreen forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria. Very different from the taxon in Yunnan.

Rusty-capped Fulvetta, *Alcippe dubia*

Three in the evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

Brown-cheeked Fulvetta, *Alcippe poioicephala phayrei*

Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Grey-cheeked Fulvetta, *Alcippe morrisonia fraterculus*

Three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Nepal Fulvetta, *Alcippe nipalensis stanfordi*

One in a mixed species flock in evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

Grey Sibia, *Heterophasia gracilis*

Common in all forest types at Mt Victoria.

Black-backed Sibia, *Heterophasia melanoleuca melanoleuca*

Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Whiskered Yuhina, *Yuhina flavicollis rouxi*

Three in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Burmese Yuhina, *Yuhina humilis*

One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Stripe-throated Yuhina, *Yuhina gularis*

Three in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

White-bellied Yuhina, *Erpornis zantholeuca gularis*

5-8 at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Spot-breasted Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis guttaticollis*

One pair was seen and photographed in the clearing at 2480 masl at Mt Victoria.



Spot-breasted Parrotbill

Black-throated Tit, *Aegithalos concinnus talifuensis* & *manipurensis*

Six at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw (*talifuensis*) and two at 2100 masl at Mt Victoria (*manipurensis*).

Black-browed Tit, *Aegithalos iouschistos sharpei*

10-15 in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Black-bibbed Tit, *Poecile hypermelaena*

One in the pine forest at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria. This population is hugely allopatric to the rest of the populations in SW China.

Great Tit, *Parus major nubicolus*

Four at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Green-backed Tit, *Parus monticolus yunnanensis*

One at 2200 masl at Mt Victoria.

Yellow-cheeked Tit, *Parus spilonotus subviridis*

Four at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Yellow-browed Tit, *Sylviparus modestus modestus*

Two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and 5-10 at 2200 masl at Mt Victoria.

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, *Sitta nagaensis grisiventris*

Five in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and common in the pine forest at Mt Victoria.

White-browed Nuthatch, *Sitta victoriae*

At least four pairs of this Burmese crown jewel in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria. Also one pair seen at the clearing at 2450 masl.



White-browed Nuthatch

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, *Sitta frontalis frontalis*

Four at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Bar-tailed Treecreeper, *Certhia himalayana ripponi*

One pair in the pine forest at 2450 masl at Mt Victoria. A very isolated taxon from the rest of the populations.



Bar-tailed Treecreeper

Brown-throated Treecreeper, *Certhia discolor manipurensis*

About ten in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) and common in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, *Chalcoparia singalensis assamensis*

Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Purple Sunbird, *Cinnyris asiaticus intermedius*

One male in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Green-tailed Sunbird, *Aethopyga nipalensis victoriae*

Common in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Black-throated Sunbird, *Aethopyga saturate petersi*

Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Fire-tailed Sunbird, *Aethopyga ignicauda flavescens*

Common at Mt Victoria.

Streaked Spiderhunter, *Arachnothera magna aurata*

One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, *Dicaeum chrysorrheum chrysochlore*

One in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Plain Flowerpecker, *Dicaeum concolor olivaceum*

Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, *Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus*

One at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and one in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Oriental White-eye, *Zosterops palpebrosus palpebrosus*

Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Black-naped Oriole, *Oriolus chinensis diffusus*

One in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Black-hooded Oriole, *Oriolus xanthornus xanthornus*

Ten in the forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.

- Maroon Oriole, *Oriolus traillii traillii*
Three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, two at 2450 masl and one at 2200 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Brown Shrike, *Lanius cristatus ssp*
One between Heho and Lake Inle, three between Lake Inle and Kalaw and three at Bagan.
- Burmese Shrike, *Lanius collurioides collurioides*
Three between Kalaw and Heho, common at Bagan and common in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Long-tailed Shrike, *Lanius schach tricolor*
Ten at Lake Inle, ten between Lake Inle and Kalaw and three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Grey-backed Shrike, *Lanius tephronotus tephronotus*
One at Bagan, one in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria and one between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Large Woodshrike, *Tephrodornis gularis pelvicus*
Two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Common Woodshrike, *Tephrodornis pondicerianus pondicerianus*
One in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Black Drongo, *Dicrurus macrocercus cathoecus*
Common in Yangon, especially at Shwedagon Paya, where 100s seen at dusk. Common at Lake Inle, Bagan and between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Ashy Drongo, *Dicrurus leucophaeus hopwoodi*
Three at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw, three in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria and 20+ at Mt Victoria.
- Bronzed Drongo, *Dicrurus aeneus aeneus*
Ten at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and ten in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, *Dicrurus paradiseus rangoonensis*
Two in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria. One unidentified Racket-tailed Drongo was seen at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.
- Ashy Woodswallow, *Artamus fuscus*
Ten at Old Bagan.
- Eurasian Jay, *Garrulus glandarius leucotis*
Two near Kalaw and one at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.
- Gold-billed Magpie, *Urocissa flavirostris schaferi*
Two in the evergreen forest at Mt Victoria.
- Blue Magpie, *Urocissa erythrorhyncha magnirostris*
One near Kalaw, two at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw and four in the hill forest between Bagan and Mt Victoria.
- Rufous Treepie, *Dendrocitta vagabunda ssp*
One heard in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.
- Hooded Treepie, *Crypsirina cucullata*
One seen well at the Minivet site at Bagan. Another stunning endemic.
- House Crow, *Corvus splendens insolens*
Very common in Yangon and Bagan.
- Large-billed Crow, *Corvus macrorhynchos tibetosinensis*
Two near Kalaw.
- White-vented Myna, *Acridotheres grandis*
Ten near Lake Inle.
- Jungle Myna, *Acridotheres fuscus torquatus*
Two at Myanmar Life Hotel near Yangon airport and 20 at the hotel in Bagan.

Collared Myna, *Acridotheres albocinctus*

Two at the main canal at Lake Inle and one between Kalaw and Heho.

Common Myna, *Acridotheres tristis tristis*

Common in Yangon, at Lake Inle and Bagan.

Vinous-breasted Starling, *Acridotheres burmannicus burmannicus*

A few near Lake Inle and 15 between Heho and Kalaw, five between Kalaw and Heho, flocks of a few up to 200 were frequently seen in Bagan and four in the dry forest between Mt Victoria and Bagan.

Black-collared Starling, *Gracupica nigricollis*

Two at Lake Inle.

Chestnut-tailed Starling, *Sturnia malabarica*

At least 300 in red flowering trees in the evening near Lake Inle.

House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus indicus*

A few in Yangon and common at Bagan.

Plain-backed Sparrow, *Passer flaveolus*

Ten at the Minivet site at Bagan and ten at Old Bagan.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow, *Passer montanus obscuratus*

Common in Yangon, Kalaw, Bagan and in most villages.

Baya Weaver, *Ploceus philippinus myanmarnicus*

Two females at the river at Bagan and 20 + 30 at Old Bagan.

Red Avadavat, *Amandava amandava flaviventris*

Two at the river at Bagan.

White-rumped Munia, *Lonchura striata acuticauda*

20 at Yayayekan Reservoir at Kalaw.

Nutmeg Mannikin, *Lonchura punctulata subundulata*

Common at Bagan.

Common Rosefinch, *Carpodacus erythrinus ssp*

20 near Kalaw and two in the oak forest (above 2400 masl) at Mt Victoria.

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch, *Carduelis spinoides heinrichi*

Two flew past us in the pine forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria. This localized taxon is quite different morphologically from *spinoides* in Himalaya, almost of the same magnitude as Vietnamese differs from Black-headed.

Little Bunting, *Emberiza pusilla*

Three at 2400 masl at Mt Victoria.

Black-faced Bunting, *Emberiza spodocephala sordida*

One pair in the evergreen forest at 2300 masl at Mt Victoria.

Mammals

Leopard Cat

One seen in the spotlight during an evening excursion at 1800 masl above Pinewood Villa at Mt Victoria. It was observed at only some 20 meters and first showed only the head, but then slowly came into full view for at least half a minute before slipping into the vegetation.

Several squirrels and bats were seen, but not identified to species.

