

# Birding West Sumatra

*July-August 2015*



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Sweden

## West Sumatra, July 26<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

### Sipora (Mentawai Islands) – Gunung Kerinci – Bukit Tapan

#### Front cover

Maroon-rumped male Sumatran Trogon *Apalharpactes mackloti* at Gunung Kerinci.

#### Participants

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#### Highlights

- Few seabirds from the Mentawai Fast Ferry, best being two Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, an adult Brown Booby and an immature Masked Booby close to the ship.
- Nice bush-trekking on Sipora with endemic forms of Chestnut-breasted Malkoha and Sumatran Drongo.
- Great number of pigeons on Sipora.
- Singing Blue-rumped Parrots.
- Four different Mentawai Scops Owl seen.
- Amazing views of a Red-legged Crake on Sipora.
- Endemic ground-dwellers Sumatran and Rusty-breasted Wren-Babblers on Gunung Kerinci.
- A late afternoon Small-toothed Palm Civet in a mossy tree below Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.
- Sense endless rainforest cover the slopes of Kerinci-Seblat National Park from Tapan Road.
- Almost tame whistling Graceful Pittas.
- A small group of Salvadori's Pheasants on the summit trail, Gunung Kerinci.
- Watching a male Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant calling in the Dry Steambed, Gunung Kerinci.
- Rufous-chested Flycatcher in a dense Tapan gulley.
- Classy birding along the lower parts of Tapan Road. Birds everywhere!
- Tapan Road = Bulbuls galore.
- Responding Red-billed Partridges.
- Last morning male Schneider's Pitta on the trail at Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.

#### Planning the trip – Future aspects

This trip itinerary might be a first one. While classic birding sites Gunung Kerinci and Bukit Tapan have been long running as top Sumatran destinations the western islands off Sumatra is up and coming. We find it quite logical to include Mentawai Islands to the "mountain endemics"-route since you can't visit Kerinci-Seblat without passing through Padang and from here you're just a sail away. While planning the trip we had contact with James Eaton from Birdtour Asia who kindly gave general advise about birding on both Siberut and Sipora and most importantly provided useful contact information to the guest house and local guide Mateus on Sipora. Thank you James! Our trip coincided with Belgian birders Peter Collaerts *et al* (doing a Sumatran clean-up tour), and luckily enough while we just arrived at Padang they generously supplied us with last minute updates from Sipora including GPS-points. Initially we had hoped to go to Siberut rather than Sipora but in the end we had to chose Sipora since our flight dates didn't work out with the ferry schedules to Siberut.

#### Literature

- A Field Guide to the Birds of Borneo, Sumatra, Java and Bali, J MacKinnon, K Phillipps (1993)
- Lonely Planet – Indonesia (2013)
- Trip-reports via Cloudbirders including: B Threlfall (2014), J van der Laan (2014), D Gandy (2013), O Campbell (2012), H Hendriks – includes sketchmaps (2007). Reports from Birdtour Asia and Birdquest also helpful.



## Itinerary

- 26.7 **Padang:** Afternoon arrival from KL. Seaside stroll before heavy downpour.
- 27.7 **Padang – Sipora:** Mentawai Fast Ferry from Padang 06.25 (scheduled at 06.00) arrival at Tua Pejat, Sipora 09.55. Afternoon walk from Mateus's house 14.25-19.30.
- 28.7 **Sipora:** Along new road construction 05.30-09.50. Afternoon walk from Mateus's house 14.15-20.15.
- 29.7 **Sipora – Padang:** Along new road construction 05.30-11.00. Mentawai Fast Ferry from Tua Pejat 15.00 arrival at Padang 18.20.
- 30.7 **Padang – Kersik Dua – Gunung Kerinci:** Pick up at 07.00 Padang. Transport to Kersik Dua, arrival at 12.40. Birding summit trail G. Kerinci 14.30-19.30 reaching just above Base Camp.
- 31.7 **Gunung Kerinci:** Birding G. Kerinci 06.10-17.30 reaching above burnt tree. Rain prevented evening birding.
- 1.8 **Bukit Tapan:** Breakfast 03.45. Left Subandi's with Dwi just after 04.00 reached the start of Tapan Road at 06.00. Walked almost until 1<sup>st</sup> bridge. Drove to MWB-gully. Birded until 17.15 before driving back to Subandi's. Back around 20.00.
- 2.8 **Bukit Tapan:** Breakfast 03.45. Left Subandi's with Dwi just after 04.00. Birding around the high pass for 1 hour. Drove until just above 1<sup>st</sup> bridge. Walked all day downhill until just above 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge. Birded until 17.00, heavy downpour. Back around 20.00.
- 3.8 **Gunung Kerinci:** Birding G. Kerinci 06.20-20.00 reaching above First Shelter. Night birding with Subandi and Dwi at Dry Steambed and around the entrance.
- 4.8 **Gunung Kerinci:** Birding G. Kerinci 05.50-20.00 reaching burnt tree. Night birding with Subandi around the entrance.
- 5.8 **Bukit Tapan:** Breakfast 03.45. Left Subandi's after 04.00. Started birding from MWB-gully 06.30, walked until just above 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge. Drove until border sign. Walked further down toward Muara Sako, until the forest edge. Drove back up. Last light back in MWB-gully until 17.50 before returning to Subandi's.
- 6.8 **Gunung Kerinci – Kersik Dua – Padang:** Birding G. Kerinci 05.50-12.00 reaching burnt tree. Spent until 11.15 between Air Minum and burnt tree searching for the Cochoa. Drove to Padang in the afternoon.
- 7.8 **Padang:** Flight 08.30 from Padang to KL.



Mentawai Scops Owl, Sipora. Adult left and juvenile right.

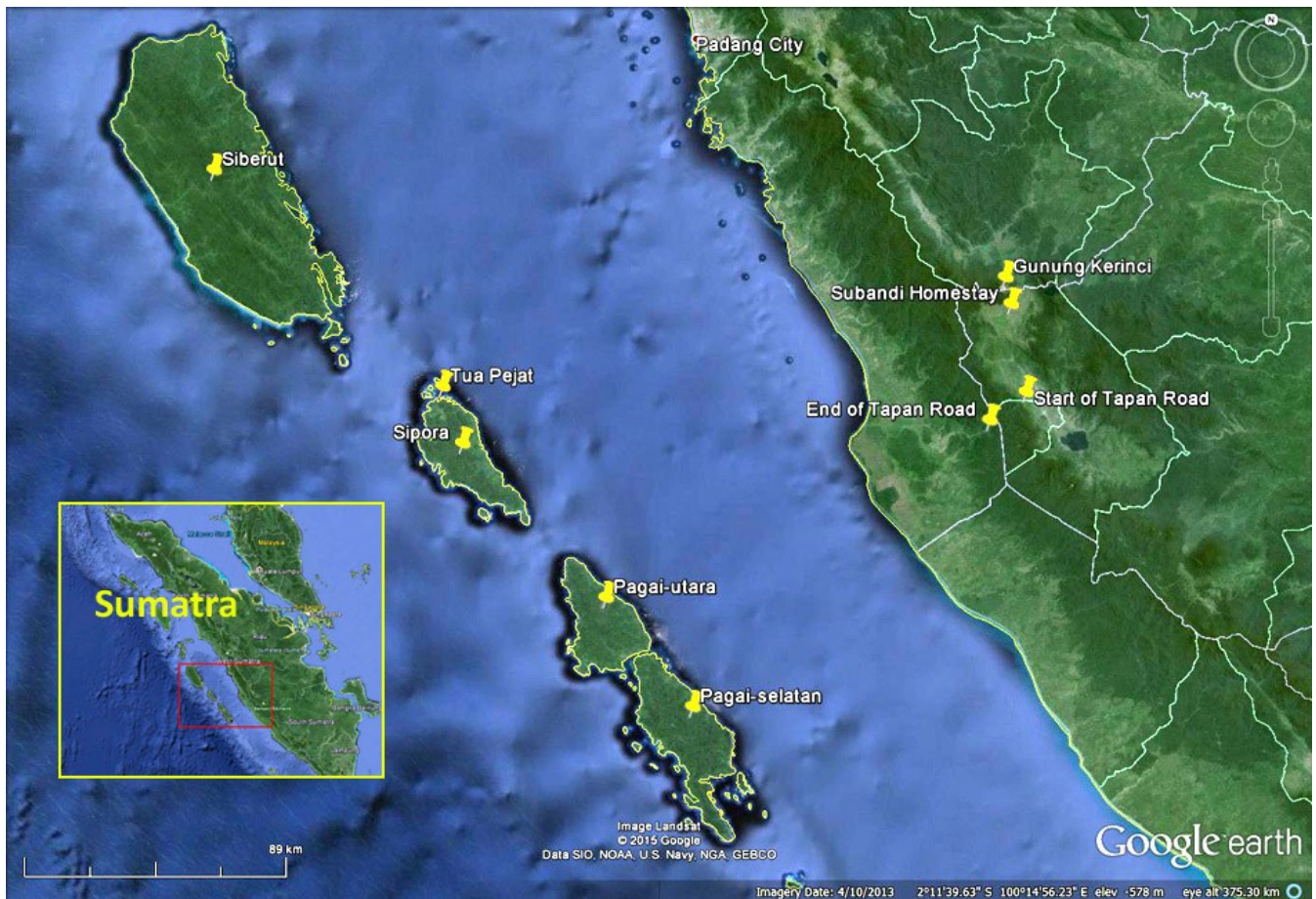


Graceful Pitta, Bukit Tapan.



View southeast from First shelter, Gunung Kerinci c. 2500 masl.

## Map of West Sumatra



West Sumatra with Mentawai Islands. Regular Ferries sail between Padang and the Mentawais.

## Birding Localities - Strategy

### Sipora

With Birdtour Asia and Birdquest doing primary trips in 2014, Sipora (sometimes Sipura) and the Mentawai Islands remain rather novel birding destinations. The band of Islands off western Sumatra stretches from Simeulue in the north via Nias, Mentawai Islands and Enggano in the south and have all been separated from mainland Sumatra for considerable time (at least 0.5m years), enough for endemic species to evolve. The Mentawai Islands is home to around 17 species of endemic mammals ranking it by WWF almost as high as Madagascar in terms of endemism. Most remarking is the presence of four species of endemic primates! Bird-wise it's fair to believe there are still questions unanswered. Today only the Mentawai Scops Owl is commonly recognized as an endemic species. But several other taxons have recently gained attention including endemic forms of primarily Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, and also Crested Serpent Eagle, Sumatran Drongo, Ashy Drongo, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Ruddy Cuckoo-Dove. According to various sources remaining area of rainforest ranges from 15 to 60 percent. The most developed of the Mentawai Islands is Sipora (also the smallest) with the main urban center being Tua Pejat in the north. Tua Pejat is reached with fast ferry from Padang (150 km, 3h) three times a week (currently Monday, Wednesday and Friday). The single ticket prize is 295.000 IR with additional cost for luggage depending on weight. ([www.mentawaifast.com](http://www.mentawaifast.com)). Also slower overnight ferries travel from Padang on weekly basis. Although new for birders, it's been a popular destination for long for (Aussie) surfers, so tourists are present, on a small scale. Given the pristine white sand beaches it would not be unexpected to find Sipora developed and exploited in the near future, with more adventure seeking tourists. We generally found the forests we visited rather degraded. There are lots of small clearings and plantations throughout, and smaller patches of more or less partially logged forest. According to Mateus there are really no protection of these forests whatsoever. The forest is own by local tribes. On the upside is that everything is small scale, even though we heard a lot of cutting and chain-sawing there weren't any signs of machines or large scale clear-cuts.



**Accommodation:** There are several Surf Camps around the Island, most providing private smaller longboats shipping passengers between Tua Pejat and the camp. We stayed at basic guest house Wisma Bintang (150k for a Twin AC room) immediately next to the ferry terminal at the seafront. From here it took 30 minutes to the birding places with a motorbike. Wisma Bintang is far from a luxurious camp and the twin room was less than simple (don't get your hopes high). Let's just leave it there... However on the upside was the food. There was an extremely busy catering business going on meaning frantic cooking from early morning until evening. Apparently they provided food to the local government buildings and the Beef Rendang was delightfully tasty. It was easy to book the room (most probably rooms will be available if one just shows up) via SMS texting to +6281374236956. **Birding:** Basically you need a guide. Siberut-born Mateus is the one to contact (Mobile: +6285264137645). He's a former(?) monkey-hunter and lives along the main road some 30 minutes from Tua Pejat. We texted him at least three times before our arrival and didn't get a response. However, as we disembarked the ferry in Tua Pejat he soon showed up. He had in fact received the messages! We are now sure that the owner of Wisma Bintang knows Mateus and probably could be helpful in tracking Mateus down if necessary. Within an hour or two we had settled in our hotel room and agreed upon his guiding fee, the plan for the following days and sorted out transport. Mateus proposed us hiring a car for 2 days with a driver, but the cost was rather outrageous and we soon opted for an alternative way. That was hiring motorbikes and drivers (if we would have been more used to motorbiking we might have wanted to drive ourselves to reduce the costs). Costs: Mateus guiding fee: 250k per person/per full day. Motorbike: 100k per MC/day (we needed three, one each for us and one for Mateus). Driver: 50k per/day. Two happy local guys drove us back and forth between the hotel and the birding areas. The drivers waited for us the whole time we went birding. The last morning one of the drivers overslept, which probably costed us visual contact with the Sunda Frogmouth! All-in-all 1.800.000 IR for the arrangement.

We birded three different areas. On both mornings we followed a road construction running northward from the main road, apparently a new harbour is planned. It was generally easy birding from this road. Later in the morning machines and workers made it somewhat noisy. Generally good amounts of pigeons flying between roosts. Many Mentawai Scops Owls called along the start of the track predawn. An apparent stake-out for Sunda Frogmouth was a couple of hundred meters east of the start of the road on the far side of some plantations. Along the track the best birds were Red-legged Crake, Pied Imperial Pigeon, Ruddy Cuckoo-Dove, Crested Serpent Eagles, a family of Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Asian Fairy-bluebirds, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Van Hasselt's Sunbird, and Yellow-eared Spiderhunter. Both afternoons we did different loop hikes starting from Mateus's house. We followed smaller trails into deeper forests, through small clearings and small plantations, and reaching the coastline both evenings. The first afternoon we went up a partly cleared hillsides up to a smaller ridge. By a large fruiting tree we had a pair of Oriental Pied Hornbills, many Thick-billed Green Pigeons and among sunbirds a Yellow-vented Flowerpecker while a Serpent Eagle whistled behind a bend. As the sun was setting during our descend from the ridge the tropical scenery was astonishing. On the second evening we walked further north and finally reached some mangroves, where surprisingly a few Oriental Magpie Robins called. Around this place there was really nice intact forest with good numbers of Imperial Pigeons (no Silvery Pigeons although it didn't felt like a total impossibility...), Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher and even a scarce and shy Mentawai Langur. It was well after dark before we were back at the house (after 6 hours of off-track bush-walking!) having seen at least 3 different Mentawai Scops Owls and a fly-by unidentified Flying Squirrel. At the end of the day we could just conclude that it would be impossible to find the way without local assistance. There might be more to be found out there, Sipora and the Mentawais are worth further exploration!



Unbelievable views of a Red-legged Crake along the road construction on northern Sipora.



Pied Imperial Pigeon, a few small flocks on Sipora.

### Gunung Kerinci

Still the premium site for Sumatran montane endemics. Almost all birding is done from a single trail which is the summit trail. From time to time this only trail gets rather crowded since the mountain is increasingly popular with trekkers. We met mostly groups of Indonesian students, many from Java (Bogor), but also from Padang. And as quietly we crept the trail, as noisy these groups were. With this in mind we chose to go for Tapan Road on Saturday and Sunday. Maybe numbers of trekkers were even higher on the weekend, we will never know. The good thing, is that more tourists hopefully increases motivation for the locals to conserve the forest. Luckily we were always alone on the trail in the mornings since trekkers going for the summit start from second shelter (up where birders usually never go) and new trekkers that aim for camping at the second shelter only arrive at the entrance from 10-11 AM. From lunchtime right up to dusk there are both new groups going up and happy climbers descending and everyone is eager to know your country origin and purpose for your visit. As previous reports state we also found birding generally tough. It's basically impossible to leave the track, once you've connected with the regular birds you end up walking slowly up and down in the end looking for just a few remaining birds (Cochoa...) making everything feel slow.

**Accommodation:** Famous Subandi Homestay lived up to its reputation (Mobile: +62 81274114273). Pak Subandi himself joined us for two evening sessions around the forest entrance for night birds which we appreciated. He had a fair share of stories to tell and are accustomed to host birders with special needs: Dead-early mornings, late evenings, really dirty laundry, and providing as much food as you can eat. The walls of the dining room is covered with an amazing huddle of photos of all birds you dream of and Tiger! Subandi's nephew Dwi joined us for the first two days on Tapan Road and was a sharp birder. The total cost for our stay was rather expensive 11.450.000 IR and included (2 pax) 7 nights, all food, snacks, fruits and water, three day trips to Tapan Road, transport from Padang-Kerisik Dua back and forth, guiding two days on Tapan Road (Dwi), permits to the national park (we never got a specification of the bill, to be forced to pay entrance fees to Gunung Kerinci and Tapan Road feels like a robbery since the park management is rather ill, there is obviously poaching and trapping going on. On three separate evenings we heard distant chainsaws from the entrance to Gunung Kerinci and even heard a large tree falling: Quite clearly illegal logging is making space to new plantations. On our combined 8 days we only met an official park rangers at one occasion on Tapan Road! Where are the staff? Where is the management? Where does permit-money end up? What is the policy to prevent hunting and logging?)

**Birding:** How many days do you need? The answer is dependent on how lucky you think you are. To start with you need one day at lower sections and one day at higher sections. After that it's a matter of stalking down the remaining birds. We chose three full days plus one afternoon and one morning, and were in hindsight maybe too optimistic, it was a minimum. Below I have summarized our experience regarding each important species.

**Red-billed Partridge:** The only way to see one is to tape one in. So learn and listen for the call. At two occasions we were lucky with calling birds close to the trail, first time half way between the entrance and Base Camp and the second time at Air Minum. On two other occasions birds called too far away.

**Salvadori's Pheasant:** Difficult one since they never call. According to Subandi they do flap their wings in excitement from time to time, we believe we heard that noise below Air Minum one late afternoon. Seem to appear in pairs or small flocks. Most oftenly seen around and below Base Camp. Probably best chances are in the mornings since the trail is more empty then. Has also been found during nighttime on roosts. On our forth day on Kerinci we finally connected with a few birds, firstly a pair was found well off the track while chasing a pair of calling Eyebrowed Wren-Babblers. They walked away quickly and only MG saw them. Later the same afternoon on the way back, coming around a bend below Camp Cochoa suddenly a male and two females fed on the trail and soon quietly ran off.

**Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant:** After many years of absence, Peacock-Pheasants seem to be back close to the entrance. We heard two different birds calling from the Dry Steambed on two different evenings. Standing still at a strategical place at the base of the steambed we managed to get awesome views of the male. It had become rather shady light unfortunately prevailing decent shots. They do response to tape.

**Javan Woodcock:** There were frequently squeaky calls heard after dusk around Base Camp that previously was thought to be coming from the woodcock. In fact, this sound apparently comes from a bat(!).

**Sumatran Green Pigeon:** Seen almost daily often distantly flying in larger flocks, or high up in canopy feeding on figs. Only seen around the entrance and halfway up to Base Camp.

**Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon:** According to previous reports common above First shelter. We heard one calling briefly at the burnt tree and saw one taking off close to First shelter. So this is one of the high altitude species.

**Pink-headed Fruit-Dove:** Basically see above. We only heard one bird call above First shelter. However we might have heard some birds lower down too, but we are a bit unsure since the call is pretty similar to Barred Cuckoo-Dove which is more common.

**Mountain Scops Owl:** Should be rather common by call. We heard one bird call after dusk just a few times below Base Camp on our last night. Never(?) respond to tape.

**Rajah Scops Owl:** Should be found between the entrance and Base Camp, most often around the so called

banana plantation half way between these sites. Not a sniff during our stay. Sometimes responds apparently.

**Barred Eagle Owl:** Heard on two different evenings close to the entrance, calling very sporadically. Most birding groups have it either around the entrance or at the Dry Steambed, sometimes responds apparently.

**Short-tailed Frogmouth:** Several heard around the entrance and also in the Dry Steambed. Mostly non-responsive, one bird was eventually glimpsed in the torchlight on the last morning. Most sightings are in the Dry Steambed.

**Salvadori's Nightjar:** Heard during one minute each evening close to the entrance. Mostly non-responsive but some observers have them hawking at least.

**Nightbirds generally:** We experienced very low general activity. It was mostly quiet and if anything called it usually only did so once or twice. Post-breeding season is probably best to be avoided if you want to score anything good.

**Sumatran Trogon:** Usually associated with feeding flocks, we had two different pairs close to Air Minum and below Camp Cochoa. Maybe easier on Tapan Road.

**Schneider's Pitta:** Only heard twice during 5 days, both times (same bird?) close to the banana plantation, non-responsive. One juvenile bird hopped on the trail on two different morning at dawn. We followed it for a while, and had good looks despite poor light. On our last morning a stunning male performed briefly on the trail below Air Minum at first light. The bird was rather shy, when it suddenly perched on a log we put on the torchlight and had a few seconds of brilliant views before it vanished into the understorey. Most groups observe Schneider's Pitta between the entrance and Base Camp.

**Orange-spotted Bulbul:** Only seen at First shelter. Unexpectedly also seen on highest parts of Tapan Road.

**Spot-necked Babbler:** Great looking babbler! We had a small flock of 4 birds in a loose feeding party above Camp Cochoa. Also seen and heard on Tapan Road.

**Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler:** Commonly heard, especially on the lower parts of the trail, but possible at least until somewhere above Air Minum. Seen on three dates. Always close to ground.

**Sumatran Wren-Babbler:** Notably more uncommon than the previous species. On our first morning we luckily heard one calling close to the trail below Base Camp, soon we found no less than three different pairs duetting rather close to each other, one pair gave brilliant views. After that we only heard one other bird a late afternoon closer to Air Minum. Most groups have this bird on the lowest parts of the trail.



*Sumatran Wren-Babbler. Note abberant bill-shape of this individual!*



*Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler. "Hot-wet-tea!"*

**Long-tailed Sibia:** Unexpectedly difficult with only observations on one out of five days. They were loosely connected to feeding flocks, always in the canopy swiftly moving, rather close to Camp Cochoa, which should be the general area, they are not typically on the lower sections.

**Sumatran Cochoa:** The last 1,5 days were more or less dedicated to this enigmatic bird. We spent almost all time searching from Camp Cochoa the short distance up to the burnt tree. On five days on Kerinci we never heard it! In the last hour on our last morning we finally connected with one, but the observation was anything but satisfying. The acitivity-level had almost dropped to zero when suddenly a Collared Owlet appeared causing frenetic calling from Cinereous Tits, Fantails and Warblers attracting more birds. Suddenly a large all dark bird came in, sat still giving views only from below and back before it took off. It was the Cochoa! We could at least eliminate any other possibilities. Interestingly the tail-form was very striking, a character not well described in literature. All tail feathers were very rounded at the tip and most conspicuous was that the tail feathers were grouped in two mini-streamers. (There is a fine photo showing this tail-form of sibling-species Javan Cochoa in a Birdtour Asia report from Sumatra and west Java, 2013 on page 4 by James Eaton –



<http://www.birdtourasia.com/pdf%20Reports/Birdtour%20Asia%20Java%20and%20Sumatra%202013.pdf>). We asked both Subandi and Dwi about the behaviour of the Cochoa to try to maximize our chances. If they call there is a good chance to tape one in, however, if they come in they are always silent and (mostly) high up. Most people see the bird around Camp Cochoa or burnt tree, but this summer one bird was found all way down at Base Camp. Beware that the squirrels(?) at Camp Cochoa have a very low-key drawn-out whistle not unlike a distant Cochoa. There are no recordings of Sumatran Cochoa on xeno-canto or AvoCet but they do according to Dwi respond to Javan Cochoa.

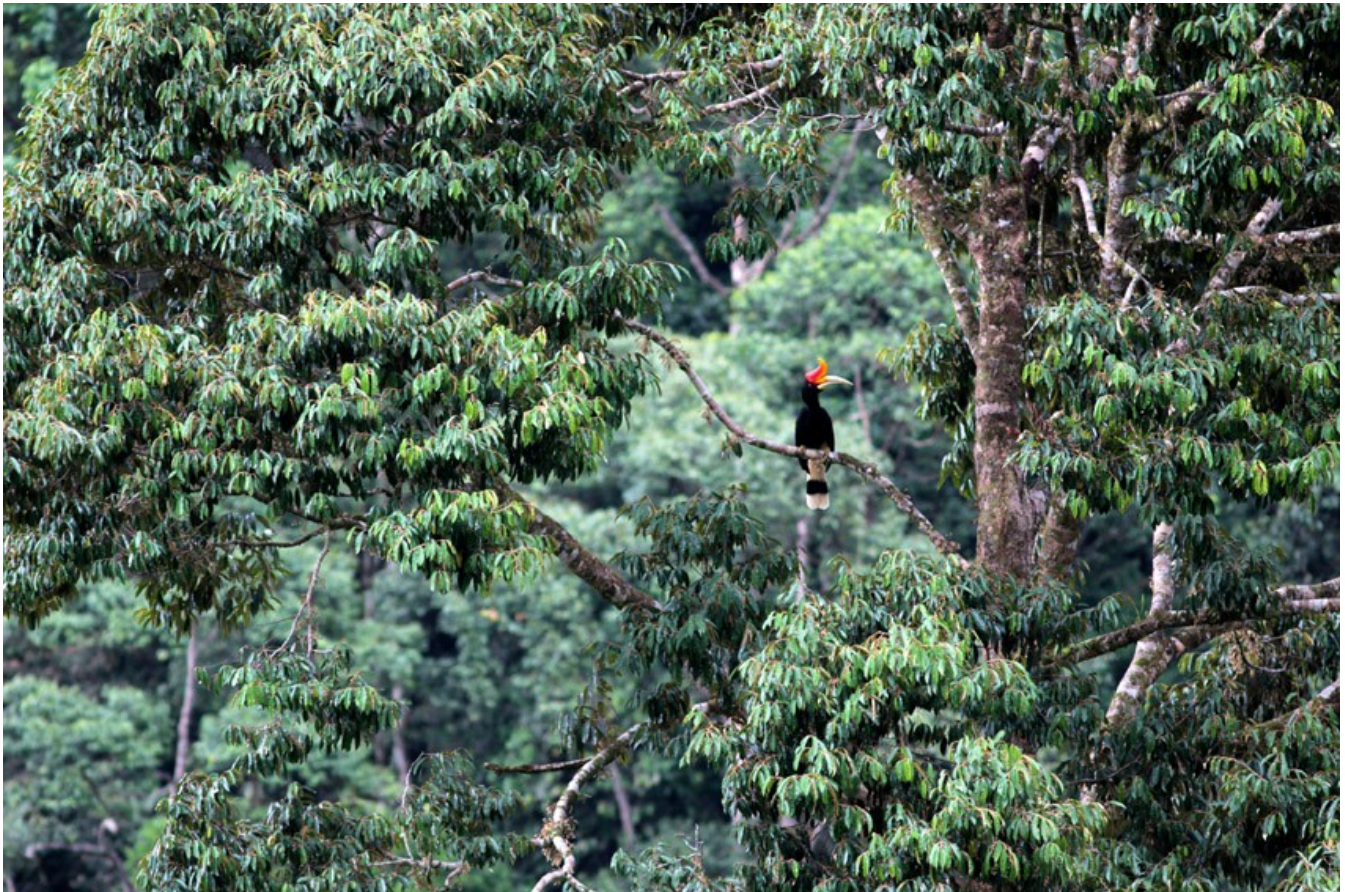
**Sunda Robin:** Should be possible to find around Air Minum. We never found one though, spending too much time looking for the Cochoa. Reported as a possible split candidate based on different call from Javan birds.

**Rufous-vented Niltava:** Should not be neglected since it is not an easy bird to see on regular itineraries to Peninsular Malaysia. This high-altitude nice-looking flycatcher is (only) found from First shelter and up. We had one female at the very camp site and two different males in small feeding flocks, both also containing Indigo Flycatchers.

**Shiny Whistling-Thrush:** One of the easiest endemics. Impossible to miss.

**Brown-winged Whistling-Thrush:** Daily encounters of singles at Base Camp and/or Air Minum. Amazingly we found a ringed bird at Air Minum.

**Horsfield's (Scaly) Thrush:** Apparently quite possible on the highest parts. Hendriks *et al* saw 2 birds early morning on the trail up there in 2007. Few go there that early. We never gave it a shot.



*Royal Rhinoceros Hornbill at lower Tapan Road. On our last day we encountered no less than incredible ten birds, the whishing sound of flying pairs was fantastic framework to the rainforest scenery.*

### **Bukit Tapan**

Ranging from around 300 to 1500 masl Tapan Road cuts through virgin rainforest in the Kerinci-Seblat National Park. In our experience three days was barely enough to do this place justice. In short we spent one day on higher elevation, one day in the middle and one day on the lowest parts down to Muara Seko beyond the border sign. Especially the lowest parts were very exciting, the potential must be enormous. Maybe the large discrepancy between different trip-reports is a proof of that. Beside a few gulleys that you enter for Graceful Pitta and Marbled Wren-Babblers specifically, all birding is easily done from the road. Disturbance from passing vehicles is not insignificant. We walked almost the whole stretch of the road, except the distance from the third



bridge to the border. If we would have had another day we would have spent it on the lowest parts. If we would have liked to do something differently that would be our first day. After birding around the high pass (which is generally good, we saw one Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant here) we should have taken the car down to the Pitta gulley and continued from there on downward. Stake-outs are hard since flocks are on the move. A scope is very useful here, not only for raptors but also distant canopy-dwellers. Besides all good birding there is also a fantastic feeling to bird areas where Tigers and Clouded Leopards roam... About seeing the endemics: Sumatran Treepie, Cream-striped and Spot-necked Bulbuls were all commonly seen, the Treepie less so on the lower slopes. Sumatran Drongo and Trogon and Blue-masked Leafbird were seen a few times each. Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant were heard regularly on the highest parts, but out of reach. At the high pass there is a possibility to enter the pine forest where the lack of thick undergrowth made glimpsing a bird possible after some patience. Graceful Pitta was whistled in by Dwi in a classic manner, but not a sniff anywhere else. The tricky one is the Sumatran Leafbird. Only immature birds and females have been seen the last years. We did good with Leafbirds in general with several sightings of Blue-masked and Blue-winged and even a flock of Greater Green Leafbirds but alas no Sumatran!

Accommodation: Most visitors to Tapan Road stay at a hotel in Sungai Penuh. We chose to stay at Subandi all days. We would not like to recommend that. The drive back and forth was time-consuming and exhausting.



*Scaly-breasted Bulbul, one of a plethora of bulbuls on Tapan Road.*



*Grey-bellied Bulbul, on a closer look the grey belly is beautifully satin-like. Lower Tapan Road.*

### **Padang**

The largest city in West Sumatra. The airport is connected to a few international destinations, we flew with AirAsia from Kuala Lumpur. Western visitors need a visa to enter Indonesia, for a number of countries there is a possibility to obtain a visa-on-arrival at Padang Airport. It's paid in cash and costs (July 2015) 35 USD/140 RM/480.000 IR. Immigration procedures and luggage claim took about 45 minutes. We purchased a ticket for taxi-meter for 15.000 IR at the airport. The drive to our hotel Brigitte's House took almost an hour, and we paid the driver around 120.000 IR. The other alternative at the airport was to negotiate a fixed prize taxi. A late evening stroll along the beachside produced an immature White-bellied Sea-Eagle and two Greater Crested Terns off-shore. If time had permitted we would've aimed for Padang Hill on the southern mouth of the river at the southern end of the city. It's partly forested and loosely connected to the tree-covered hillsides south and east of Padang. Taxi from New House to the airport cost 150.000 IR.

Accommodation:

#### **Brigitte's House**

Jalan Kampung Sebelah I No. 14 D

E-mail: [brigitte.house@yahoo.com](mailto:brigitte.house@yahoo.com)

Telephone: +62 75136099

Brigitte Nola Kebeaken, mobile: +62 81374257162

Recommended by Lonely Planet and (therefore) popular, almost fully booked. A decent twin room was at 230.000 IR. If Brigitte's House is full you might be referred to New House which is run by the same owners. Brigitte can be helpful if you need to book Mentawai Fast or other ferries to the Mentawai Islands. When we arrived at Mentawai Fast ferry terminal two tickets with our names waited for us, Brigitte had booked them for us the night before, the ferry was crowded and we're unsure if we would have been given a seat otherwise. When I contacted Mentawai Fast directly ([mentawaifast@gmail.com](mailto:mentawaifast@gmail.com)) prior to the trip they stated that you didn't need to book a ticket before, but just show up 30 minutes before departure. We suspect a few seats are always allotted to foreigners.



**New House Padang**

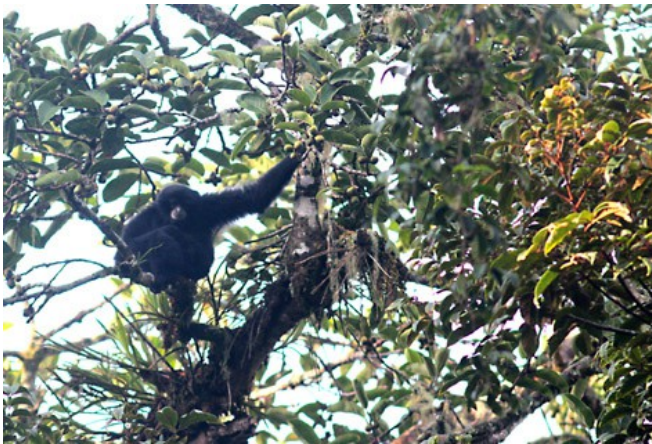
Jalan Hos Cokroaminoto No. 104

Telephone: +62 75125982

More centrally located and rather newly built guest house. Spacier than Brigitte's and clean. Costed 250.000-330.000 IR per twin room. Although we had booked a certain room for our return night after Kerinci/Tapan we were forced to pay for a pricier room at arrival since someone else were allotted our room. A strange and inflexible booking system.



Southern parts of Padang city.



Endangered Siamang below Base camp on Gunung Kerinci.  
Furry and vocal.



'Sunda' Collared Owlet in clouds at Camp Cochoa.



## List of birds: West Sumatra July, 26<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

Following IOC World Bird List 5.3 (July 2015) ([www.worldbirdnames.org](http://www.worldbirdnames.org)). In total: 190 species, including 13 heard onlys (HO), 21 species on The IUCN Red List for Threatened Species (2014.3), 17 Sumatran endemics. Subspecies notations are foremost literature-based.

- 1 **Red-billed Partridge** *Arborophila rubrirostris* Endemic to Sumatra  
1 seen below Base camp, GK 31.7, 1 h GK 3.8, 2 seen Air Minum + 1 h Base Camp, GK 4.8.
- 2 **Salvadori's Pheasant** *Lophura inornata* NT Endemic to Sumatra  
1 m + 1 f below Base camp and 1 m + 2 f below Camp Cochoa 4.8.
- 3 **Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant** *Polyplectron chalcurum* Endemic to Sumatra  
1 m seen High pass + 5 h TR 1.8, 2 h TR 2.8, 1 m seen Dry Steambed, GK + 1 h 3.8, 1 h GK 4.8.
- 4 **Wedge-tailed Shearwater** *Puffinus pacificus*  
1 Padang-Sipora 27.7, 1 Sipora-Padang 29.7.
- 5 **Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*  
1 Tua Pejat, Sipora 27.7, 1 Tua Pejat, Sipora 29.7.
- 6 **Intermediate Egret** *Egretta intermedia intermedia*  
150 Padang 7.8.
- 7 **Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra sacra*  
2 Tua Pejat, Sipora 27.7, 1 Tua Pejat, Sipora 29.7.
- 8 **Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra*  
1 imm Padang-Sipora 27.7.
- 9 **Brown Booby** *Sula leucogaster*  
1 ad Sipora-Padang 29.7  
**Booby sp.** *Sula sp.*  
2 distant juv Padang-Sipora 27.7. Probably Red-footed or Masked.
- 10 **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus hypoleucus*  
1 Entrance, GK 4.8.
- 11 **Crested Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*  
3 TR 1.8.
- 12 **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*  
*Ssp sipora* 1 h Sipora 27.7, 3 Sipora 29.7.  
*Ssp ?* 1 h GK 31.7, 1 h TR 1.8.
- 13 **Blyth's Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus alboniger*  
1 ad + 1 juv TR 1.8, 2 ad TR 2.8, 3 ad TR 5.8.
- 14 **Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** *Lophotriochois kienerii formosus*  
1 e.r. Kersik Dua 30.7.
- 15 **Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus malaiensis malaiensis*  
1 e.r. Kersik Dua 30.7, 1 TR 1.8.
- 16 **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus intermedius*  
1 Tua Pejat, Sipora 27.7, 1 Sipora 28.7.
- 17 **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*  
1 imm Padang 26.7.
- 18 **Red-legged Crake** *Rallina fasciata*  
1 seen + 1 h Sipora 28.7, 1 seen + 2 h Sipora 29.7.
- 19 **Greater Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii*  
2 Padang 26.7.
- 20 **Bridled Tern** *Onychoprion anaethetus*  
2 Padang-Sipora 27.7, 2 probable Sipora-Padang 29.7.
- 21 **Sooty Tern** *Onychoprion fuscatus*  
1 sitting on a red buoy Sipora-Padang 29.7.
- 22 **Black-naped Tern** *Sterna sumatrana*  
Max 25 Tua Pejat, Sipora 27-29.7.
- 23 **Rock Dove** *Columba livia* (domest.)  
Max 10 Tua Pejat, Sipora 27-29.7, 1 Padang 30.7.
- 24 **Barred Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia unchall unchall*  
Seen daily at GK (max 5) and TR (max 25+).
- 25 **Ruddy Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia emiliana elassa*  
3 Sipora 28.7, 1 Sipora 29.7.

- 26 **Little Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia ruficeps sumatrana*  
Seen daily at GK (max 15) and TR (max 20).
- 27 **Common Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*  
2 Sipora 27.7, 1 Sipora 28.7.
- 28 **Pink-necked Green Pigeon** *Treron vernans*  
5 Sipora 28.7.
- 29 **Thick-billed Green Pigeon** *Treron curvirostra smicrus*  
Max 20 Sipora 27-29.7.
- 30 **Sumatran Green Pigeon** *Treron oxyurus* NT Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
Seen almost daily at lower parts of GK (max 20) and TR (max 5).
- 31 **Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** *Treron spheonurus etorques*  
1 h burnt tree, GK 31.7, 1 seen First Shelter, GK + 1 h 3.8, 2 h GK 6.8.
- 32 **Pink-headed Fruit Dove** *Ptilinopus porphyreus* (HO) Endemic to Sumatra, Java & Bali  
1 h above First Shelter 3.8.
- 33 **Green Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula aenea consobrina*  
150-200(!) seen Sipora 27-29.7.
- 34 **Mountain Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula badia badia* (HO)  
1 h High pass, TR 1.8.
- 35 **Pied Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula bicolor*  
15 Sipora 28.7, 10 Sipora 29.7.
- 36 **Raffles's Malkoha** *Rhinorhiza chlorophaea*  
3 Muara Seko, TR 5.8.
- 37 **Chestnut-breasted Malkoha** *Phaenicorphaeus curvirostris*  
*Ssp. oeneicaudus*: 2 Sipora 27.7, 6 Sipora 29.7.  
*Ssp. singularis*: 1 Lower TR 5.8.
- 38 **Green-billed Malkoha** *Phaenicorphaeus tristis tristis*  
1+1 TR 1.8, 2 TR 2.8.
- 39 **Violet Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus xanthorhynchus*  
1 h Sipora 27.7, 1 h Sipora 28.7, 4 Sipora 29.7.
- 40 **Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx basalis*  
1 Sipora 28.7.
- 41 **Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus threnodes* (HO)  
1 h Sipora 29.7, 1 h e.r. Padang-Kerisik Dua 30.7.
- 42 **Rusty-breasted Cuckoo** *Cacomantis sepulcralis sepulcralis* (HO)  
1 h TR 1.8.
- 43 **Mountain Scops Owl** *Otus spilocephalus vandewateri* (HO)  
1 h GK 4.8.
- 44 **Mentawai Scops Owl** *Otus mentawi* Endemic to Mentawai Islands  
1 Sipora 27.7, 3 + 3 h Sipora 29.7.
- 45 **Barred Eagle-Owl** *Bubo sumatranus sumatranus* (HO)  
1 h below Base Camp, GK 30.7, 1 h Entrance, GK 3.8.
- 46 **Collared Owlet** *Glaucidium brodiei sylvaticum*  
2 h GK 30.7, 1 h GK 31.7, 2 h GK 3.8, 2 h GK 4.8, 1 + 2 h GK 6.8.
- 47 **Short-tailed Frogmouth** *Batrachostomus poliophus* NT Endemic to Sumatra  
1 h GK 30.7, 1 h GK 3.8, 2 h GK 4.8, 1 glimpsed GK 6.8. All observations close to the Entrance.
- 48 **Sunda Frogmouth** *Batrachostomus cornutus cornutus* (HO)  
1 h close to the road construction, Sipora 29.7.
- 49 **Salvadori's Nightjar** *Caprimulgus pulchellus pulchellus* (HO) NT Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
1 h GK 30.7, 1 h GK 3.8, 1 h GK 4.8.
- 50 **Grey-rumped Treeswift** *Hemiprocne longipennis perlonga*  
Max 35 daily Sipora 27-29.7.
- 51 **Whiskered Treeswift** *Hemiprocne comata comata*  
10 TR 2.8, 4 TR 5.8.
- 52 **Giant Swiftlet** *Hydrochous gigas* NT  
5 TR 5.8.
- 53 **Glossy Swiftlet** *Collocalia esculenta*  
10-100 daily GK and TR.
- 54 **Black-nest/Mossy-nest Swiftlet** *Aerodramus maximus/salangana*  
All black swiftlets daily on Sipora.



- 55 **Edible-nest Swiftlet** *Aerodroma fuciphagus vestitus*  
Possible birds on Sipora 27.7. 10 Padang Airport 7.8.
- 56 **Silver-rumped Spinetail** *Rhipidura leucopygialis*  
5 TR 5.8.
- 57 **Sumatran Trogon** *Apalharpactes mackloti* **Endemic to Sumatra**  
1 pair below Air Minum, GK 30.7, 1+1 TR 1.8, 1 male TR 2.8, 1 pair below Camp Cochoa, GK 4.8.
- 58 **Red-headed Trogon** *Harpactes erythrocephalus flagrans*  
1 male TR 5.8.
- 59 **Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis sodalis*  
1 Sipora 28-29.7.
- 60 **White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis perpulchra*  
2 Sipora 28-29.7, 1 en route Kersik Dua 30.7, 1 en route Padang 6.8, 1 Padang Airport 7.8.
- 61 **Collared Kingfisher** *Todiramphus chloris*  
1 en route Kersik Dua 30.7.
- 62 **Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher** *Ceyx erithaca erithaca*  
1 Sipora 28.7, 1 Muara Seko, TR 5.8.
- 63 **Rhinoceros Hornbill** *Buceros rhinoceros rhinoceros* **NT**  
2 TR 1.8, 10(!) TR 5.8.
- 64 **Oriental Pied Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris convexus*  
Max 3 Sipora 27-29.7.
- 65 **Bushy-crested Hornbill** *Anthracoceros galeritus* (HO)  
3 h TR 1.8, 2 h TR 2.8.
- 66 **Wreathed Hornbill** *Rhyticeros undulatus*  
1 Base Camp, GK 31.7, 1 h TR 1.8, 2 TR 5.8.
- 67 **Fire-tufted Barbet** *Psilopogon pyrolophus*  
Seen daily GK and TR, max 15 TR 2.8.
- 68 **Golden-whiskered Barbet** *Megalaima chrysopogon chrysopogon*  
3 TR 2.8, 5 TR 5.8.
- 69 **Red-throated Barbet** *Megalaima mystacophanos mystacophanos* **NT** (HO)  
3 h TR 5.8.
- 70 **Black-browed Barbet** *Megalaima oorti*  
Seen daily GK and TR, max 15 GK 31.7.
- 71 **Blue-eared Barbet** *Megalaima duvaucelii duvaucelii*  
7 TR 5.8.
- 72 **Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos canicapillus volzi*  
1 above Camp Cochoa, GK 6.8.
- 73 **Banded Woodpecker** *Chrysophlegma miniaceum malaccense*  
1 ad TR 2.8.
- 74 **Greater Yellownape** *Chrysophlegma flavinucha*  
1 below Camp Cochoa, GK 4.8.
- 75 **Lesser Yellownape** *Picus chlorolophus vanheysti*  
1 above Air Minum, GK 30.7.
- 76 **Maroon Woodpecker** *Blythipicus rubiginosus*  
1 Base camp, GK 30.7, 1 TR 2.8.
- 77 **Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot** *Loriculus galgulus*  
3 Sipora 28.7, 1 Sipora 29.7, 1 perched beautiful male TR 5.8.
- 78 **Blue-rumped Parrot** *Psittinus cyanurus pontius* **NT**  
8 Sipora 28.7, 2 Sipora 29.7.
- 79 **Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae psittacinus*  
1+1 TR 1.8, 15(!) +3 TR 2.8, 1 h GK 3.8, 3 TR 5.8.
- 80 **Banded Broadbill** *Eurylaimus javanicus harterti*  
2 TR 2.8, 3 h TR 5.8.
- 81 **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** *Eurylaimus ochromalus* **NT**  
4 TR 5.8.
- 82 **Schneider's Pitta** *Hydrornis schneideri* **VU** **Endemic to Sumatra**  
2 h Base camp, GK 30.7, 1 juv close to the Entrance, GK at dawn 31.7 + 3.8, 1 male below Air Minum at dawn 6.8, 1 h evening Base camp, GK 6.8.
- 83 **Graceful Pitta** *Erythropitta venusta* **VU** **Endemic to Sumatra**  
1 ad + 1 juv TR 1.8.

- 84 **Golden-bellied Gerygone** *Gerygone sulphurea* (HO)  
1 h TR 1.8.
- 85 **Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus intermedius*  
2 TR 1.8, 15 TR 2.8, 1 GK 4.8.
- 86 **Sunda Cuckooshrike** *Coracina larvata melanocephala*  
1 TR 1.8, 2 TR 2.8.
- 87 **Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike** *Coracina striata*  
6 Sipora 27.7, 2 Sipora 28.7.
- 88 **Lesser Cuckooshrike** *Coracina fimbriata schierbrandii*  
2 TR 5.8.
- 89 **Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris montanus*  
Max 15 GK 4.8, max 8 TR 5.8.
- 90 **Sunda Minivet** *Pericrocotus miniatus*  
5 GK 31.7, 15 GK 6.8.
- 91 **Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus xanthogaster*  
1 female GK 31.7, 5 TR 2.8, 4 TR 5.8.
- 92 **Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach bentet*  
Numerous between Kersik Dua and entrance, GK.
- 93 **Blyth's Shrike-Babbler** *Pteruthius flaviscapis*  
Seen daily on GK, max 15 31.7.
- 94 **Dark-throated Oriole** *Oriolus xanthonotus mentawi* NT  
Max 5 Sipora 27-29.7.
- 95 **Black-naped Oriole** *Oriolus chinensis sipora*  
Max 4 Sipora 28-29.7.
- 96 **Black-and-crimson Oriole** *Oriolus cruentus consanguineus*  
1 GK 30.7, 2 TR 1.8, 8 TR 2.8, 2 TR 5.8.
- 97 **Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*  
*Ssp periopthalmicus*: Max 4 Sipora 27-29.7.  
*Ssp ?*: Max 8 TR 1-2 & 5.8.
- 98 **Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus remifer remifer*  
1 male TR 2.8, 1 GK 4.8.
- 99 **Sumatran Drongo** *Dicrurus sumatranus* NT Endemic to Sumatra  
*Ssp sumatranus*: 5 TR 2.8.  
*Ssp viridinitens*: Max 10 Sipora 27-29.7.
- 100 **White-throated Fantail** *Rhipidura albicollis atrata*  
Seen most days up to 6 GK and TR.
- 101 **Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*  
*Ssp leucophila*: Max 3 Sipora 27-29.7  
*Ssp prophata*: 1 TR 2.8, 2 TR 5.8.
- 102 **Sumatran Treepie** *Dendrocitta occipitalis* Endemic to Sumatra  
10 TR 1.8, 5 TR 2.8, 1 h TR 5.8
- 103 **Slender-billed Crow** *Corvus enca compiler*  
3 TR 5.8.
- 104 **Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis antioxantha*  
Seen daily at GK and TR. Max 10+ TR 5.8.
- 105 **Cinereous Tit** *Parus cinereus ambiguus*  
2 GK 30.7, 3 h GK 3.8, 4 GK 4.8, 3 GK 6.8.
- 106 **Cream-striped Bulbul** *Pycnonotus leucogrammicus* Endemic to Sumatra  
10 TR 1.8, 4 TR 2.8, 6 TR 5.8.
- 107 **Spot-necked Bulbul** *Pycnonotus tympanistrigus* NT Endemic to Sumatra  
20 TR 1.8, 6 TR 2.8, 6 TR 5.8.
- 108 **Black-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus atriceps hyperemnus*  
3 Sipora 28.7, 2 Sipora 29.7.
- 109 **Scaly-breasted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus squamatus webberi* NT  
1 TR 2.8, 10 TR 5.8.
- 110 **Grey-bellied Bulbul** *Pycnonotus cyaniventris cyaniventris* NT  
2 TR 2.8, 10 TR 5.8.
- 111 **Sooty-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus aurigaster*  
1 en route Kersik Dua 30.7. Introduced?



- 112 Orange-spotted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus bimaculatus bimaculatus* Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
2 Higher TR 1.8, 10 First Shelter, GK 3.8.
- 113 Yellow-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus goiavier analis*  
1 en route Kersik Dua 30.7, 1 TR 5.8.
- 114 Olive-winged Bulbul** *Pycnonotus plumosus porphyreus*  
20+ daily Sipora 27-29.7.
- 115 Cream-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus simplex simplex*  
2 TR 5.8.
- 116 Asian Red-eyed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus brunneus brunneus*  
1 TR 2.8, 1 TR 5.8.
- 117 Spectacled Bulbul** *Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*  
1 TR 5.8.
- 118 Ochraceous Bulbul** *Alopoixus ochraceus sumatranus*  
3 TR 1.8, 1 TR 2.8, 1 TR 5.8.
- 119 Hairy-backed Bulbul** *Tricholestes criniger sericeus*  
15+ TR 5.8.
- 120 Buff-vented Bulbul** *Iole olivacea olivacea* NT  
1 TR 5.8.
- 121 Sunda Bulbul** *Ixos virescens sumatranus* Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
2 TR 1.8, 3 TR 2.8, 1 TR 5.8.
- 122 Cinereous Bulbul** *Hemixos cinereus cinereus*  
10 TR 2.8, 10+ TR 5.8.
- 123 Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica javanica*  
Max 10 Sipora 27-29.7, 5 Padang 30.7, 10 TR 1.8, 1 TR 2.8, 10 TR 5.8.
- 124 Pygmy Wren-babbler** *Pneopyga pusilla lepida*  
Heard daily GK max 10 31.7, 1 seen above Base camp, GK 31.7, 3 h TR 1.8.
- 125 Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliaris papilio*  
5 TR 1.8, 1 h TR 2.8.
- 126 Mountain Tailorbird** *Phyllergates cuculatus cuculatus*  
Daily on GK, max 10 30.7.
- 127 Sunda Bush Warbler** *Horornis vulcanius flaviventris*  
Max 10 daily above Camp Cochoa, GK.
- 128 Mountain Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus trivirgatus trivirgatus*  
Daily on GK, max 15+ 3.8.
- 129 Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus castaniceps muelleri*  
2 TR 1.8.
- 130 Sunda Warbler** *Seicercus grammiceps sumatrensis* Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
Daily on GK, max 10+ 3.8.
- 131 Hill Prinia** *Prinia superciliaris dysancrita*  
Daily on TR, max 10 5.8.
- 132 Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris rafflesi*  
3 Muara Seko, TR 5.8.
- 133 Rufous-tailed Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sericeus hesperius*  
3 Muara Seko, TR 5.8.
- 134 Ashy Tailorbird** *Orthotomus ruficeps concinnus*  
Max 15+ Sipora 27-29.7.
- 135 Grey-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigriceps larvata*  
Daily on GK and TR. Max 20+ GK 31.7.
- 136 Grey-headed Babbler** *Stachyris poliocephala*  
3 Muara Seko, TR 5.8.
- 137 Spot-necked Babbler** *Stachyris striolata striolata*  
4 GK 31.7, 3 TR 2.8, 2 TR 5.8,
- 138 Golden Babbler** *Stachyris chrysaea frigida*  
Daily on GK and TR, max 20 GK 31.7.
- 139 Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler** *Napothera rufipectus* Endemic to Sumatra  
Daily on GK, max 8 4.8.
- 140 Marbled Wren-Babbler** *Napothera marmorata marmorata*  
1 TR 5.8. Responded to tape, however untickable views.
- 141 Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler** *Napothera epilepidota diluta*

- 2 Base camp, GK 4.8.
- 142 Sumatran Wren-Babbler** *Rimator albostratus* Endemic to Sumatra  
6 Base camp, GK 31.7, 1 h Air Minum, GK 3.8.
- 143 Horsfield's Babbler** *Malacocincla sepiaria barussana*  
2 TR 2.8, 2 TR 5.8.
- 144 Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush** *Garrulax mitratus mitratus*  
3 TR 1.8. Only three!!
- 145 Long-tailed Sibia** *Heterophasia picaoides similima*  
10 above Camp Cochoa 31.7.
- 146 Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus buxtoni*  
Daily on TR, max 40+ 5.8.
- 147 Black-capped White-eye** *Zosterops atricapilla atricapilla*  
15 GK 30.7, 1 TR 2.8, 1 GK 3.8, 10 TR 6.8.
- 148 Mountain White-eye** *Zosterops montanus difficilis*  
25+ First shelter, GK 3.8.
- 149 Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella crinigera*  
1 male Sipora 28.7, 3 Sipora 29.7, 4 lower TR 5.8.
- 150 Blue Nuthatch** *Sitta azurea expectata*  
Daily on Gk, max 10 4.8.
- 151 Asian Glossy Starling** *Aplonis panayensis pachistorhina*  
Max 3 Sipora 27-29.7.
- 152 Javan Myna** *Acridotheres javanicus*  
Max 4 Entrance, GK 31.7. Introduced.
- 153 Sumatran Cochoa** *Cochoa beccarii* VU Endemic to Sumatra  
1 above Camp Cochoa 6.8.
- 154 Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis pagiensis* (HO)  
3 h Sipora (in mangroves) 28.7.
- 155 Rufous-browed Flycatcher** *Anthipes solitaris solitaris*  
1 TR 1.8, 1 h TR 5.8.
- 156 White-tailed Flycatcher** *Cyornis concretus concretus*  
1 male TR 5.8.
- 157 Fulvous-chested Jungle Flycatcher** *Cyornis olivaceus*  
1 h TR 1.8, 5 TR 2.8, 1 juv TR 5.8.
- 158 Rufous-vented Niltava** *Niltava sumatrana*  
2 males + 1 female First shelter, GK 3.8.
- 159 Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassinus thalassoides*  
Daily on TR, max 6 5.8.
- 160 Indigo Flycatcher** *Eumyias indigo ruficrissa*  
Almost daily on GK. Max 2.
- 161 Lesser Shortwing** *Brachypteryx leucophris leucophris*  
Daily on GK, max 10 30.7. 1 h TR 1.8.
- 162 White-browed Shortwing** *Brachypteryx montana saturata*  
Heard daily above Air Minum, GK, 1 male seen below Camp Cochoa 6.8.
- 163 Sunda Forktail** *Enicurus velatus sumatranus* Endemic to Sumatra & Java  
2 TR 5.8.
- 164 Shiny Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus melanurus* Endemic to Sumatra  
Daily on GK, max 6+ 3.8.
- 165 Brown-winged Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus castaneus* NT Endemic to Sumatra  
Daily on GK, max 2 30.7.
- 166 Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus caeruleus dichrorhynchus* (HO)  
2 h TR 2.8.
- 167 Rufous-chested Flycatcher** *Ficedula dumetoria muelleri* NT  
1 male TR 5.8.
- 168 Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperythra sumatrana*  
Daily on GK, max 6+ 3.8.
- 169 Greater Green Leafbird** *Chloropsis sonnerati zosterops*  
1 male + 2 females TR 5.8.
- 170 Blue-winged Leafbird** *Chloropsis cochinchinensis moluccensis*  
3 males TR 2.8, 1 pair TR 5.8.



- 171 Blue-masked Leafbird** *Chloropsis venusta* **NT** Endemic to Sumatra  
4 TR 1.8, 4 TR 2.8, 1 pair TR 5.8.
- 172 Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker** *Prionochilus percussus ignicapilla*  
4 TR 5.8.
- 173 Yellow-vented Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum chrysorrheum chrysorrheum*  
1 Sipora 27.7.
- 174 Orange-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum trigonostigma trigonostigma*  
Max 5 Sipora 27-29.7, 6 TR 2.8, 10 TR 5.8.
- 175 Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum ignipectus beccarii*  
4 GK 31.7, 1 TR 1.8, 3 GK 3.8.
- 176 Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum batuense*  
1 male Sipora 29.7.
- 177 Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Chalcoparia singalensis sumatrana*  
4 TR 2.8, 1 male TR 5.8.
- 178 Plain Sunbird** *Anthreptes simplex*  
8 TR 5.8.
- 179 Brown-throated Sunbird** *Anthreptes malacensis malacensis*  
1 male Sipora 29.7.
- 180 Van Hasselt's Sunbird** *Leotocoma brasiliana brasiliana*  
1 male Sipora 29.7.
- 181 Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis ornatus*  
2 en route Kersik Dua 30.7.
- 182 Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja siparaja*  
1 male Sipora 28.7, 1 male Sipora 29.7.
- 183 Temminck's Sunbird** *Aethopyga temminckii*  
1 juv GK 31.7, 2 males TR 1.8, 4 TR 2.8, 8 TR 5.8, 1 GK 6.8.
- 184 Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra cinireicollis*  
Max 10+ Sipora 27-29.7, 1 above Air Minum, GK (!) 4.8, 1 TR 5.8.
- 185 Spectacled Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera flavigaster*  
1 TR 2.8.
- 186 Yellow-eared Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera chrysogenys chrysogenys*  
5 Sipora 28-29.7.
- 187 Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus malaccensis*  
Max 5 Sipora 27-29.7, 20+ Padang 30.7, 1 en route Padang 6.8, 10 Padang Airport 7.8.
- 188 Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata fretensis*  
8 Sipora 27.7, 3 TR 1.8, 1 Padang Airport 7.8.
- 189 White-headed Munia** *Lonchura maja*  
2 Sipora 27.7.
- 190 Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea cinerea*  
3 en route Kersik Dua 30.7, 1 TR 1.8, 1 TR 5.8.

## List of mammals: West Sumatra July, 26<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

Lots of unidentified squirrels, bats and treeshrews.

- 1 Black Giant Squirrel** *Ratufa bicolor*  
1 GK 4.8, 1 GK 6.8.
- 2 Three-striped Ground Squirrel** *Lariscus insignis*  
Commonly seen around camp sites on GK.
- 3 Low's Squirrel** *Sundasciurus lowii*  
Seen at GK.
- Flying squirrel** sp  
1 Sipora 1 28.7.
- 4 Small-toothed Palm Civet** *Arctogalidia trivirgata*  
1 GK 31.7.
- 5 Yellow-throated Marten** *Martes flavigula*  
2 ran across the trail close to Camp Cochoa, GK 3.8.
- 6 Mitred Langur** *Presbytis cruciger* **VU**  
Daily sightings off small flocks on GK, often below Base Camp, also seen on lower sections of Tapan Road.

**7 Mentawai Langur** *Presbytis potenziani* **EN** Endemic to Mentawai Islands

1 Sipora 28.7, 1 h Sipora 29.7.

**8 Sunda Pig-tailed Macaque** *Macca nemestrina* **VU**

4 TR 1.8, 3 TR 5.8.

**9 Siamang** *Hylobates syndactylus* **EN**

Heard daily on GK but only one flock of 5 seen below Base Camp 4.8.

**10 Wild Boar** *Sus scrofa*

1 TR 1.8.

**Dolphin sp**

A small flock from the Sipora-Padang ferry.

**Comments on some other birds NOT seen***Red-billed Malkoha*

Lowest parts of Tapan Road.

*Western Barn Owl*

Sometimes seen around Kersik Dua or Sungai Penuh.

*Silvery Pigeon*

Recently refound on Simeulue and Siberut.

*Banded Kingfisher*

Tapan Road.

*Ruby-throated Bulbul*

Almost disappeared from Tapan Road apparently due to trapping!

*Streaked Bulbul*

Lowest parts of Tapan Road.

*Black Laughingthrush*

Almost disappeared from Tapan Road apparently due to trapping!

*Sunda Thrush*

No modern records from GK.

*Sumatran Leafbird*

Almost disappeared from Tapan Road apparently due to trapping!

*Large Niltava*

Possible at GK.

*Pygmy Blue Flycatcher*

Few records from GK.

*Mountain Serin*

No modern records from GK.

**Additional record shots**

Salvadori's Pheasant, shy, secretive, endemic, and stunning.



Small-toothed Palm Civet, impressive meeting on the descent from Camp Cochoa a late Kerinci afternoon.

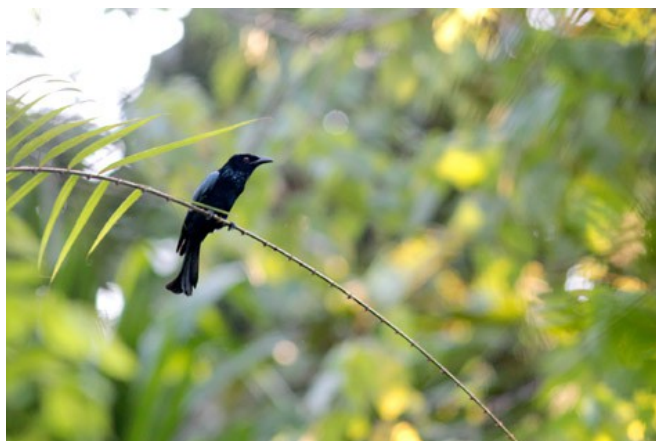




*Red-billed Partridge playing hide and seek at Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.*



*Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant, a male running across the Dry Steambed at Kerinci.*



*Endemic Mentawai Islands form of Sumatran Drongo.*



*Distinctive form of Thick-billed Green Pigeon on Sipora.*



*A singing male Rufous-chested Flycatcher at lower Tapan Road.*



*An alert Rufous-browed Flycatcher in a Tapan Road gully.*

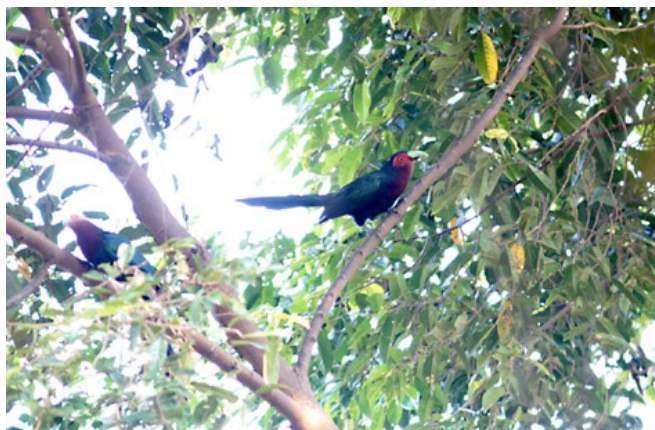




*White-tailed Flycatcher, regularly fantailing to show off its white central tailmarkings on lower Tapan Road.*



*Seldom depicted female yellow-vented(!) Rufous-vented Niltava at First shelter, Gunung Kerinci.*



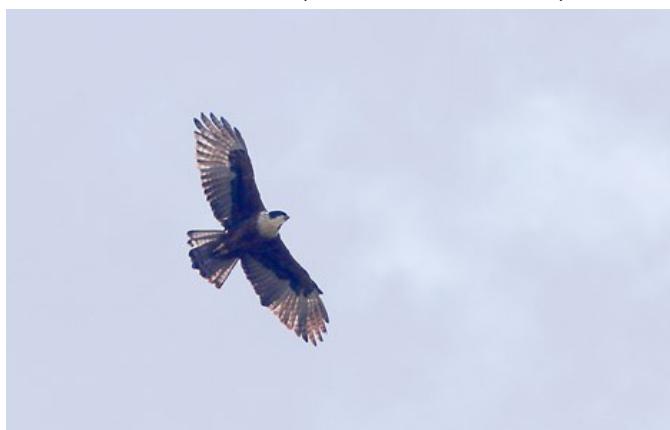
*The unique Mentawai-form of Chestnut-breasted Malkoha on Sipora.*



*Austral migrant on Sipora, a Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo. Rufous bases to outermost tailfeathers, well-marked ear-coverts, not white forehead (vs Little Bronze Cuckoo).*



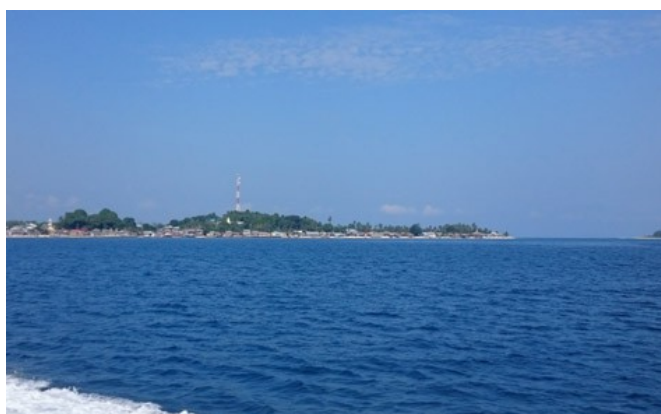
*Trail-hopping juvenile Schneider's Pitta above the entrance at Gunung Kerinci, the dullness is total compared to an adult male.*



*Rufous-bellied Eagle en route close to Kersik Dua.*



## Birding on Sipora



Approaching Sipora from the Mentawai Fast. Tua Pejat, Northern Sipora from northeast.



Afternoon hiking from Mateus's house, exploring the interior of the island.



Mateus making way using a machete.



Easy birding from the new road construction on northern Sipora. Several calling Mentawai Scops Owl at dawn.



Wisma Bintang.



Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike, Sipora.





Mateus.



The far end of the same track that is under construction. Several Red-legged Crakes in roadside bushes here.



Endemic subspecies sipora of Black-naped Oriole, here attracted to pishing!



Mentawai-form of Dark-throated Oriole.



A remote farmer settlement, interior Sipora.