

# **CAMBODIA**

**FEBRUARY 11 – 24, 2010**

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## Cambodia

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The attractions of Cambodia are many—the magic of Angkor Wat, the rare and recently rediscovered birds that can still be found in many parts of the country, and the marvelous rural landscapes that evoke childhood memories of an imagined exotic Southeast Asia. Only a few years ago the country was off limits, and these birds remained unknown to the outside world; now we are amongst the first birding groups to marvel at the sight of the almost mythical Giant Ibis and White-shouldered Ibis, as well as many others.

One of the attractions for a birder visiting Cambodia is the chance to observe in the wild some of the rarest birds in the world. The really special bird of this trip is the Giant Ibis, which survives in good numbers in a hidden-away corner of Preah Vihear Province. But other treats like Black-headed Woodpecker, White-shouldered Ibis, and Pale-capped Pigeon are very enticing. The remarkable Tonle Sap lake and its surroundings support large breeding populations of Greater Adjutant, Sarus Crane, Milky Stork, and Bengal Florican—birds that are approaching extinction elsewhere in Asia. This small country supports a remarkable 24 threatened bird species—a testament to the extent and quality of the forests, grasslands, and wetlands. Long may it remain so!

One of the highlights of our stay in Siem Reap was our wonderful hotel, the Angkor Village Resort, surely one of the most pleasant hotels in all of Asia.

We started our Cambodia sojourn by exploring the simply amazing ruins of the ancient city of Angkor, set in forest featuring remarkably large trees and wonderful congregations of birds. Large and noisy flocks of parakeets vied for our attention with a host of forest birds and wonderful views of the temples. Angkor is one of the great archaeological sites of Southeast Asia, along with Bagan in Burma, Borobodur in Java, and Ayutthaya in Thailand. This magnificent reminder of an empire that shaped the entire region is now a major attraction for visitors to Cambodia. The Khmer Empire flourished for three centuries from 800 to 1100 AD; they ruled over most of Burma, Laos, central Vietnam, and the Malay Peninsula.

Ang Trapeang Thmor is an extensive area of wetlands centered on a thousand-year-old reservoir. After a rough drive on terrible roads (despite advice to the contrary, the roads are not one little bit improved since last year), we found the place absolutely teeming with birds! We watched masses of Lesser Whistling-Ducks, big congregations of Painted and Woolly-necked storks, and a sensational flock of the rapidly declining *sharpii* race of Sarus Crane foraging in the fields. This sort of experience in Southeast Asia is, sadly, now unique to Cambodia. We also enjoyed good, long views of some skulking crakes and warblers, as well as delightful Pheasant-tailed and Bronze-winged jacanas.

The highlight of our tour was undoubtedly our journey into the remote parts of northern Cambodia for our four-night stay in the tiny and rustic village of Tmatboey. Our travels on dirt roads into the interior were punctuated with frequent stops for many exciting birds. The very attractive Rufous-winged Buzzard is still pleasingly common in the dry dipterocarp forests of this area. In fact, these are easily the best and most extensive dry dipterocarp forests surviving in Asia; this explains the presence of many of these species that are now otherwise very difficult to find or absent elsewhere in the entire region.

Our early morning walks in the cool of the day to the trapeangs (water holes) of the woodlands north of the village in search of the amazing Giant Ibis met with great success; we saw good numbers of this leviathan, as well as many other goodies. Walking through these bird-rich forests was a magical

experience, as we encountered numerous species that are so rarely seen outside Cambodia these days: more Rufous-winged Buzzards, Lesser Adjutants, Chinese Francolin, Pale-capped Pigeons, the spectacular Black-headed Woodpecker, and numerous Burmese Shrikes. The Giant Ibis certainly lived up to its name—huge, with startling pink legs and subtle grayish wing coverts. We spent time looking at well-hidden Spotted Wood-Owls and an incredible array of woodpeckers, the prehistoric Great Slaty being a particular standout. We enjoyed superb views of the critically endangered and handsome White-shouldered Ibis on a number of occasions. In the evening we returned to our simple but very comfortable lodge to enjoy a most welcome cold beer and a delicious meal prepared by the very helpful local ladies.

Our next destination, Prek Toal on the Tonle Sap lake, is yet another very special place. This reserve, located on the southern shores of the enormous Tonle Sap, is one of the largest waterbird colonies in Asia. After a long boat ride over the vast lake, we arrived in the core area and transferred to a small boat with electric motor to travel quietly up the small streams to a platform overlooking the breeding colonies. We were treated to great views of Painted Storks, a Milky Stork, and Asian Openbills perched distantly in the inundated forest.

Our trip to the grasslands of Steung, near the town of Kompong Thom, was fun and rewarding with incredible looks at the often elusive Bengal Florican in the long grass. Further luck with Manchurian Reed-Warblers, Bluethroats, Yellow-breasted Buntings, and others made this a memorable birding site.

Next we journeyed further east to Kratie, a small sleepy town on the banks of the mighty Mekong River. Taking a boat out onto the river, we soon found the delightful Mekong Wagtail, the river's only known endemic bird, as well as Small Pratincole and a number of other goodies. A pod of friendly Mekong river dolphins quietly cavorted around us as we made our way back to the shore, and was a suitable end to our boat trip. An afternoon outing to some nearby rice paddies was also rewarding and enjoyable, as we got to grips with a swag of prinias and some surprisingly cooperative Chestnut-capped Babblers. An outing to an area of evergreen forest (that is, alas, rapidly disappearing) was worthwhile with some outstanding bird sightings, as well as an encounter with one of the world's rarest primates, the gorgeous black-shanked Douc's langur.

Special thanks to you all for your great company and companionship on this thoroughly enjoyable tour. Thanks also to Laurant for his excellent organization. Our excellent drivers again proved to be indispensable.

***Susan Myers***

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## BIRDS

(some of the star birds in **bold** - completely subjective, of course!)

### NON-PASSERINES

1. Lesser Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*  
Swirling masses of this wildfowl were seen flying over the wetlands of Ang Trapeang Thmor; also observed at Kratie.
2. **Comb Duck** *Sarkidiornis melanotos*  
It was great to see 20 or so of this bird were seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor – now a very rare sight in Asia.
3. Cotton Pygmy-goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*  
In good numbers at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
4. India Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*  
a few seen at Stoung and Kratie.
5. Garganey *Anas acuta*  
a few seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
6. **Chinese Francolin** *Francolinus pintadeanus*  
one seen briefly in grassland at Tmatboey.
7. **Chestnut-headed Partridge** *Arborphila cambodiana*  
heard daily on Bokor but only seen well by Bob as everyone else was looking the other direction!
8. Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*  
heard in the bamboo-lined dry creeks at Tmatboey.
9. Siamese Fireback  
one seen briefly at Phnom Phrik.
10. Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
a few seen here and there at Angkor, Ang Trapeang Thmor and Kratie.
11. **Spot-billed Pelican** *Pelecanus philippensis*  
Large congregations of feeding and breeding birds on Tonle Sap and at Prek Toal; some seen distantly at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
12. Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*  
possibly the most common of the cormorants on Tonle Sap.
13. Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*  
Very common on Tonle Sap, also seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
14. Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*  
Common at Ang Trapeang Thmor, on Tonle Sap, a few at Kratie.
15. Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*  
A few at Ang Trapeang Thmor, very common on Tonle Sap.
16. Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*  
one seen briefly at Ang Trapeang Thmor; a few at Prek Toal.
17. Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor, Tonle Sap, Steung.
18. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor; Prek Toal; Steung.
19. Great Egret *Ardea alba*  
Very common and seen almost daily.

20. Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor.
21. Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*  
Very common and seen almost daily.
22. Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*  
Very common and seen daily.
23. Chinese Pond-Heron *Ardeola bacchus*  
Seen daily in good numbers throughout.
24. Little Heron *Butorides striata*  
a few at Prek Toal.
25. Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*  
a few at Prek Toal.
26. Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus*  
a few at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
27. **White-shouldered Ibis** *Pseudibis davisoni*  
A total of fifteen were seen at Tmatboey. This very exciting species is listed as Critically Endangered by BirdLife International. It occurs at a few sites in northern Cambodia, extreme southern Laos and East Kalimantan, Indonesia where there are believed to be only 20-25 individuals. The isolated population in Kalimantan may be a different species. The world population may be as few as 250 so the recent observation of 108 birds in the central north of Cambodia is very good news indeed.
28. **Giant Ibis** *Pseudibis gigantea*  
A total of six birds were seen over two days at Tmatboey. Another critically endangered species, this highly enigmatic bird is now confined to northern Cambodia, where it is probably still fairly widespread but extremely rare, with a few birds surviving in extreme southern Laos. Its historical range spanned southern Vietnam and south-east and peninsular Thailand, where it is now extinct. Its population is estimated at 50-249 birds. Its extremely small, declining population is seriously threatened by hunting, disturbance and lowland deforestation. Birders are contributing significantly to the conservation of this species by visiting Tmatboey. Please visit this URL for more details: <http://www.wcs.org/conservation-challenges/local-livelihoods/ecotourism/the-giant-ibises-of-tmatboey.aspx>
29. Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*  
thousands at Prek Toal; also a few at Steung.
30. Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*  
some sightings near Tmatboey in Preah Vihear Province.
31. Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*  
Up to four were seen at trapeangs in the woodlands of Tmatboey and a few at Prek Toal and Steung.
32. **Greater Adjutant** *Leptoptilos dubius*  
Some excellent close looks at three birds in flight over Prek Toal. This increasingly threatened species is now known to breed only in Assam and two sites in Cambodia. The entire breeding population probably is now no larger than 800 birds, most of that population is concentrated in Assam.
33. **Milky Stork** *Mycteria cinerea*  
good scope views of this very rare species amongst a group of Painted Storks at Prek Toal.
34. Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*  
common at Ang Trapeang Thmor, Tonle Sap, and Steung.
35. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*  
One seen in flight on Tonle Sap.
36. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes*  
a couple of sightings around Angkor; also recorded en route to Tmatboey.

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37. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*  
two at Ang Trapeang Thmor; also recorded at Steung; one at Kratie.
38. Black Kite *Milvus migrans*  
very common at Ang Trapeang Thmor, Steung and Kratie.
39. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur Indus*  
Tonle Sap.
40. Grey-headed Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*  
one seen very well at Tonle Sap.
41. Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela*  
quite common around Tmatboey where seen daily, also near Steung.
42. Eastern Marsh-Harrier *Circus spilonotus*  
a few around Ang Trapeang Thmor.
43. Shikra *Accipiter badius*  
between two and six birds were seen almost daily.
44. **Rufous-winged Buzzard** *Butastur liventer*  
in the province of Preah Vihear we saw this scarce bird daily.
45. Collared Falconet *Microhierax caerulescens*  
great flight views of a single bird at Tmatboey.
46. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*  
one at Kratie.
47. White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*  
good looks at a bird foraging near a village in Kratie.
48. White-browed Crake *Porzana cinerea*  
great show by a couple of birds at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
49. Black-backed Swamphen *Porphyrio indicus*  
many at Ang Trapeang Thmor; a couple at Steung and Kratie. This is one of the species formed from the six-way split of Purple Swamphen *P. porphyrio*.
50. Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*  
many at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
51. Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*  
a few at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
52. **Bengal Florican** *Houbaropsis bengalensis blandini*  
a great success this year with one spotted almost immediately on our arrival at the Steung grasslands. We then had great looks at two birds. This Critically Endangered species has two disjunct populations, one in the Indian subcontinent, and another in South-East Asia in Cambodia and adjacent southern Vietnam.
53. **Sarus Crane** *Grus antigone sharpii*  
a brilliant flock of 20 birds were seen feeding in fields near Ang Trapeang Thmor. Another threatened species classified as Vulnerable due to the dramatic decline of the South Eastern Asian *sharpii* race which is now confined to Cambodia, extreme southern Laos, south Vietnam and eastern Myanmar. It is extinct in Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and probably China.
54. Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*  
one at Ang Trapeang Thmor; a couple more in grasslands near Steung.
55. Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*  
recorded on sandbars on the Mekong at Kratie.
56. Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*  
common at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
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57. Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*  
many seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
58. Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus*  
up to 20 at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
59. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*  
two on the Mekong River at Kratie.
60. Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*  
good views of a few at Steung.
61. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*  
a few at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
62. Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*  
distant looks at a large flock at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
63. Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*  
one seen in flight at Steung.
64. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*  
one at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
65. Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*  
seen well at Steung.
66. Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea*  
great looks at a number of this cute bird at Kratie.
67. Brown-headed Gull *Larus brunnicephalus*  
Tonle Sap.
68. Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*  
abundant at Prek Toal/Tonle Sap.
69. Rock Dove *Columba livia*  
Ubiquitous.
70. **Pale-capped Pigeon** *Columba punicea*  
two seen perched at Tmatboey. This scarce species is declining and now classified as Vulnerable.
71. Red Collared-Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*  
seen on most days in the dry woodlands of Ang Trapeang Thmor and Preah Vihear Province.
72. Spotted Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*  
seen daily throughout.
73. Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*  
heard at Tmatboey.
74. Zebra Dove *Geopelia striata*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor.
75. Pompadour Green Pigeon *Treron pompadora*  
one or two were seen well at Tmatboey.
76. Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea*  
a few seen around Tmatboey.
77. Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria*  
excellent looks at this impressive parrot in the forests around Angkor.
78. **Blossom-headed Parakeet** *Psittacula roseate*  
many of this gorgeous parrot were seen around Tmatboey.
79. Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri*  
very common around Angkor and many seen around Tmatboey.

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80. Vernal Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus vernalis*  
many heard around Tmatboey and seen exceptionally well in a flowering tree at Phnom Phrik.
81. Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus micropterus*  
brief but good looks at Tmatboey.
82. Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*  
one very quick fly over at Prek Toal.
83. Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*  
great looks at an interesting congregation of mostly juvenile birds at Kratie.
84. Asian Drongo Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris*  
seen very well at Phnom Phrik.
85. Asian Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea*  
heard more often than seen, we saw one that responded very well to playback at Tmatboey.
86. Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis*  
one at Tmatboey.
87. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*  
heard frequently, we had good views of birds at Ang Trapeang Thmor and Kratie.
88. Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*  
seen at Tmatboey.
89. Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis*  
seen a couple of times at Tmatboey.
90. **Spotted Wood Owl** *Strix seloputo*  
a superb pair of bird was very responsive in woodland at Tmatboey.
91. Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*  
heard frequently and seen at Angkor Wat.
92. Spotted Owlet *Athene brama*  
a pair were seen very well as we left Tmatboey.
93. Brown Hawk Owl *Ninox scutulata*  
seen around at Tmatboey.
94. Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*  
heard at Tmatboey.
95. Indochinese Swiftlet *Aerodramus rogersi*  
recorded at a number of sites. The taxonomy of many swiftlets is incredibly complex and open to debate!  
In Handbook of the Birds of the World *germani* is subsumed in Edible-nest Swiftlet *A. fuciphaga*. (note: the  
inclusion of Indochinese Swiftlet on our Cambodia list is in error).
96. Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*  
one seen at Kratie.
97. Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*  
recorded almost throughout the rural landscape where they nest in the sugar palms that are so commonly  
grown.
98. Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata*  
we saw these fabulous birds frequently in the dry forests of the north and around Kratie; it was great  
watching them drink at a waterhole en route to Tmatboey.
99. Orange-breasted Trogon *Harpactes oreskios*  
a fabulous sighting at Phnom Phrik.
100. Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*  
Tmatboey, Kratie.
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101. Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*  
heard distantly at Prek Toal.
102. White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*  
a few at Tmatboey; Kratie.
103. Pied Kingfisher  
two seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
104. Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni*  
superb looks at a pair at Phnom Phrik.
105. Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis*  
this delightful bird was common around Tmatboey.
106. Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor; Tonle Sap, Steung, Kratie.
107. Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaultia*  
great looks at a number of this excellent bird on the sand islands of the Mekong at Kratie and at Steung.
108. Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*  
very common almost throughout.
109. Common Hoopoe *Upupa epops*  
a few birds were seen around Tmatboey.
110. Oriental Pied-Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris*  
this fabulous bird was seen a few times around Tmatboey, also near Kratie.
111. Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineate*  
very common and seen daily around Angkor and Tmatboey. The call of this bird is certainly one of the most evocative of the Cambodian birds!
112. Green-eared Barbet *Megalaima faiostricta*  
heard at Phnom Phrik.
113. Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*  
Angkor.
114. Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus*  
a total of six were seen in the dry dipterocarp forests of Tmatboey.
115. Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos macei*  
we saw two lovely birds in woodlands at Tmatboey.
116. Rufous Woodpecker *Celeus brachyurus*  
heard at Tmatboey.
117. White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*  
we had a number of encounters with this wonderful bird this year - seen well in woodlands near Tmatboey and at Phnom Phrik.
118. **Black-headed Woodpecker** *Picus erythropygius*  
a number of this sensational bird were seen at Tmatboey. Now scarce over much of its range, there is no doubt that the woodlands of Cambodia are the best place in the world to see this very glamorous bird.
119. Common Flameback *Dinopium javanense*  
quite common at Tmatboey.
120. Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*  
a couple were seen well in the woodlands of Tmatboey.
121. Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*  
we had memorable sightings of a group of six of this charismatic species on two occasions at Tmatboey; we were able to watch them at length as they interacted and fed.

## PASSERINES

122. Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*  
common in agricultural areas.
123. **Burmese Shrike** *Lanius collurio*  
super looks at this very smart and localized species at Tmatboey where we had one attending a nest also.
124. Indochinese Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina polioptera*  
up to four birds were seen daily at Tmatboey.
125. Small Minivet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*  
very common to abundant in the forests around Tmatboey.
126. Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*  
this very attractive bird was seen a few times at Tmatboey.
127. Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus*  
a few seen at Tmatboey.
128. Common lora *Aegithina tiphia*  
common at Ang Trapeang Thmor and around Tmatboey.
129. Great lora *Aegithina lafresnaye*  
two seen well at Phnom Phrik.
130. Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*  
recorded at Phnom Phrik.
131. Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons*  
a few seen at Tmatboey.
132. **Red-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*  
this very striking bird was seen a number of times near and around Tmatboey. Although quite wary, we had great views of a number of birds.
133. Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda*  
seen daily at Tmatboey.
134. Racket-tailed Treepie *Crypsirina ternia*  
excellent looks at a pair near Kratie.
135. Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*  
Tmatboey; Steung.
136. Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*  
seen and heard at Angkor and Tmatboey.
137. Asian Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*  
heard at Phnom Phrik but couldn't be tempted out.
138. **Indochinese Bushlark** *Mirafra marionae*  
seen daily at Tmatboey. One of the species resulting from the four way split of Rufous-winged Bushlark.
139. Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*  
Tonle Sap.
140. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*  
seen almost daily.
141. Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*  
quite common around Tmatboey and Kompong Thom.
142. Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *Sitta castanea*  
a few of this little gem were recorded at Tmatboey.

143. Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*  
seen very well at Tmatboey.
144. Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*  
a few around Angkor.
145. Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus*  
seen at Bang Malea temple.
146. Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster*  
common around Tmatboey and Kratie.
147. Stripe-throated Bulbul *Pycnonotus finlaysoni*  
a few at Bang Malea.
148. Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier*  
a few at Ang Trapeang Thmor and Kratie.
149. Streak-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus blanfordi*  
many were seen around Angkor.
150. Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*  
very common in the grasslands of Kompong Thom and Steung.
151. Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens*  
one or two seen at Tmatboey.
152. Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris*  
one seen at Prek Toal; a few at Steung; heard in the rice paddies around Kratie.
153. Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*  
two seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor; most common in the rice paddies around Kratie where we saw them in quite high numbers.
154. Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata*  
heard at Steung.
155. Manchurian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus tangorum*  
brief but good views of one at Steung.
156. Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis*  
a few seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor.
157. Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*  
common at Angkor and Kratie.
158. Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis*  
seen well in bamboo at Tmatboey, many heard at Prek Toal.
159. Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*  
a sneaky one seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor, then seen unusually well at Kratie.
160. Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi*  
one sighting of this very large warbler at Tmatboey.
161. Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*  
common around Angkor.
162. Pale-legged Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus tenellipes*  
one at Phnom Phrik.
163. Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris*  
many birds seen in grasslands at Steung; also at Kratie.
164. Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica*  
good looks at a few birds around Angkor and Bang Malea.

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165. Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*  
up to four were seen around Angkor; one or two at Phnom Phrik.
  166. Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassina*  
one at Tmatboey.
  167. Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis tickelliae indochina*  
super looks at a male that was lured out at Tmatboey.
  168. Hainan Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis hainanus*  
one seen very well at Angkor Wat; also at Bang Maelea temple.
  169. Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*  
one in the woodlands at Phnom Phrik.
  170. Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*  
great looks a few, some in breeding plumage in grasslands at Steung.
  171. Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*  
seen and heard at a number of sites.
  172. White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus*  
seen and heard in the bamboo-lined creeks at Tmatboey, also at Angkor and Phnom Phrik.
  173. Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maura*  
a few at Steung.
  174. Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*  
common in open areas.
  175. Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius*  
super views of a couple of birds of the *philippensis* race on the walls of Angkor Wat.
  176. White-browed Fantail *Rhipidura aureola*  
two or three seen on a couple of days at Tmatboey.
  177. Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*  
a few sightings at Ang Trapeang Thmor; also seen at Steung.
  178. White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus*  
seen daily at Tmatboey but they are remarkably furtive, we did get good looks a couple of times.
  179. Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps*  
heard and seen in woodland at Phnom Phrik, the very dry conditions probably made this species harder to find than usual.
  180. Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis*  
heard frequently along the creeklines at Tmatboey, one was seen quite well in thick bamboo.
  181. Chestnut-capped Babbler *Timalia pileata*  
brief but great views of this normally very shy bird in bamboo at Kratie.
  182. White-bellied Yuhina *Yuhina zantholeuca*  
a few seen at Phnom Phrik.
  183. Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*  
a couple of sightings at Phnom Phrik.
  184. Plain-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*  
Angkor and Ang Trapeang Thmor.
  185. Purple-throated Sunbird *Leptocoma sperata*  
quite common in the dry woodlands.
  186. Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus*  
quite common at Tmatboey.

187. Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis*  
one at Steung.
188. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum*  
Ang Trapeang Thmor.
189. Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis*  
seen in the tall woodlands around Angkor, Ang Trapeang Thmor and Koh Ker.
190. Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus*  
recorded daily in the woodlands around Tmatboey.
191. Asian Fairy Bluebird *Irena puella*  
heard at Phnom Phrik.
192. Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis gularis*  
one at Tmatboey; a few at Phnom Phrik.
193. Common Woodshrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus*  
one of the most common of the passerines in the forests of Tmatboey.
194. Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*  
recorded daily.
195. Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*  
common, particularly around Tmatboey.
196. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*  
one seen at Phnom Phrik.
197. Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*  
a few seen around Angkor this year; also at Tmatboey.
198. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*  
we recorded this species at Angkor and Phnom Phrik.
199. Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*  
seen well in the tall forests around Angkor and in the woodlands of Tmatboey.
200. Great Myna *Acridotheres grandis*  
recorded daily except at Tmatboey. The taxonomy is complicated! Previously this taxon was subsumed under *A. javanicus*. It is now split into *grandis* and *javanicus* but although the former is generally known as Great Myna while the latter is referred to as White-vented Myna, *grandis* is still often referred to as White-vented while *javanicus* is sometimes called Javan Myna. Not surprisingly this often leads to confusion! The former is found from Myanmar to south China and Vietnam, and the latter is found from Singapore to Bali. The populations are allopatric.
201. Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*  
very common everywhere except in Tmatboey.
202. Vinous-breasted Starling *Acridotheres burmannicus*  
quite common around Tmatboey.
203. Black-collared Starling *Gracupica nigricollis*  
we found this species to be common at Ang Trapeang Thmor and Tmatboey.
204. White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*  
one observed in the grounds of Angkor Wat; of the *leucopsis* race.
205. **Mekong Wagtail** *Motacilla samveasnae*  
sensational close views of this fascinating Mekong endemic as we approached numerous small sand islets and patches of vegetation in the river by boat.
206. Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*  
one at Ang Trapeang Thmor.

207. Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*  
recorded at Tmatboey.
208. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*  
a few in the grasslands at Steung.
209. **Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*  
many in the grasslands at Steung. Classified as Near Threatened by BirdLife International, this species winters in Cambodia and neighbouring countries. Recently severe declines have been noted in some breeding areas (e.g. Hokkaido) and concerns have been expressed over the levels of trapping at migration and wintering sites. Numbers at wintering sites appear to be declining across its range. (I have a very interesting article from a Japanese newspaper on this subject – if you're interested just drop me a line).
210. House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*  
seen at Kratie.
211. Plain-backed Sparrow *Passer flaveolus*  
this smart sparrow was seen at Ang Trapeang Thmor and also seen at Tmatboey.
212. Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*  
seen near all human habitation.
213. Streaked Weaver *Ploceus manyar*  
a few seen at Kratie.
214. Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*  
in good numbers at Steung; all in non-breeding plumage.
215. Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava*  
all too brief views in the grasslands of Steung.
216. Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*  
recorded at Steung and Kratie.

## MAMMALS

Long-tailed Macaque *Macaca fascicularis*

Black-shanked Douc's Langur *Pygathrix nigripes*  
great views of a large family group at Phnom Phrik.

Finlayson's (Variable) Squirrel *Callosciurus finlaysonii sinistralis*  
this race of Variable Squirrel is found in Cambodia and is characterised by a white ring at the base of the tail on a red pelage.

Pallas' Squirrel *Callosciurus erythraeus*

Cambodian Striped Squirrel *Tamiops rodolpheii*

Paddyfield Rat *Rattus argiventer*

Lyle's Fruit Bat *Pteropus lylei*

Mekong River Dolphin *Orcaella brevirostris*  
on the Mekong River!

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