

Sri Lanka:

Jewel of the Indian Ocean

Sun 1st – Sun 15th February 2015



A superb portrait of a Sri Lanka Blue Magpie at Sinharaja © Robin Chittenden/robinchittenden.co.uk – more pictures can be seen at two websites: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/robinchittenden> and <http://harlequinpictures.blogspot.co.uk/>

Report compiled by tour leader: Robin Chittenden



A selection of group photos from Nikki Borer: (clockwise from top left) Along the track at Embilipitiya • Crossing the Kelenie River is much more secure on the new ferry • Checking for swifts or raptors at Nuwara Eliya • The wonderful driver and his helper, Henry and Gemunu

Trip Diary

**Tour leaders: Robin Chittenden and Tharanga Herath
with Jessica Borer, Nicole Borer-Tuor, Roger & Chrissie Cresswell, Guy Millar, Jim & Annabel Millar, Richard Peile and Richard Swinbank.**

Sri Lanka has a wonderful selection of birds from a broad cross-section of habitats. Whether it is forest or wetlands that 'floats your boat' there is surely something for every birder. Forest birding can be frustrating at times with birds skulking or flitting through the trees. It is important to realise not everyone (and that includes the leaders) will see all the birds that are actually spotted. However, the wetland regions we visit offer some truly awesome birding, with many exciting species to be seen.

Colombo airport to Kithulgala

We stopped at a couple of paddyfields en route and at both we saw Ashy Woodswallows, including a pair displaying. Other birds there were a Chestnut-headed Bee-eater and a few Blue tailed Bee-eaters, White-throated Kingfishers and our first endemics: a Loten's Sunbird and the richly coloured Sri Lanka Swallow. An unexpected Alpine Swift zipped past, as they are more usually seen in the highlands, where we actually didn't see any! Also en route we came across a roadside tribe of Toque Macaques.

Kithulgala Rest House garden

Over our stay we saw some lovely birds from and in the hotel garden that overlooks the Kelenie River, including a pair of displaying Black Eagles that so rudely interrupted our buffet lunch. Other birds included Crested Serpent Eagle, a perched Oriental Honey-buzzard, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Asian Koel, Emerald Dove, plus a nice selection of the common species such as Brown-headed Barbet, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Yellow-billed Babbler and Oriental Magpie-robin.

Kithulgala area

Our first stop slightly up river from the Rest House was a delight. There was a succession of 'new' birds in what turned out to be a diverse bird flock: Brown-headed Barbet, Orange-billed Babblers, Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot, Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill, three Black-rumped Flamebacks, three bright Orange Minivets, Sri Lanka Green Pigeons later joined by a Green Imperial Pigeon, Black-capped Bulbul, Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike and Golden-fronted Leafbird. It just seemed continuous, but as it happens the flock moved on and things calmed, giving us time to take stock. What a lovely start. Nearby were three discrete Layard's Parakeets and a couple of Brown-backed Needletails flew over. Other wildlife included a couple of Sri Lanka Giant Squirrels and three species of lizard including a camouflaged Kangaroo Lizard. Other visits to this area produced an Asian Brown Flycatcher and Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, but we only ever heard Chestnut-backed Owlet. The local Green-billed Coucal was found nearby.

Makandawa Forest Reserve

You have to cross the Kelenie River to get to the reserve. The crossing itself is not nearly so exciting as in previous years, as there has been an upgrade to the transport to a stable floating platform that is expertly paddled across.

Entering the woodland it wasn't long before we came across several Sri Lanka Crested Drongos, six or so Malabar Trogons, a couple of Lesser Yellownapes and a Sri Lanka Scimitar Babbler all in one small area of the forest. Tharanga then made strenuous efforts, visiting a string of potential roost sites, in an attempt to locate the Serendib Scops Owl. While we waited, overlooking paddies and forest, we spotted a Legge's Flowerpecker, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Black-hooded Oriole, four Yellow-browed Buleuls, three Black-capped Buleuls, a Black-naped Monarch and a Dark-fronted Babbler. A prolonged downpour put paid to much more activity, although a pair of Sri Lanka Junglefowl was found by the path on the way back.

Kithulgala to Sinharaja

The drive from Kithulgala took us on a cross-country route. Birds seen included Black Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, White-bellied Sea Eagle and a very close Blue-tailed Bee-eater. A juvenile Rufous-bellied Eagle performed a dramatic long plummet on something unseen by us.

Sinharaja Forest Reserve

We paid two visits to the park, one by walking up the hill and the other by starting off early by jeep. We never really came across any massive mixed bird flocks but instead several smaller flocks. So perhaps not as exciting, but far easier to digest! Highlights from the walk included the scarce Sri Lanka Wood Pigeon, up to six incredibly tame Sri Lanka Junglefowl, a pair of Sri Lanka Frogmouths, roosting just above head height and completely in the open and a couple of Spot-winged Thrushes. At the last gasp a Sri Lanka Blue Magpie popped up and an Emerald Dove padded around the car park. A motionless Sri Lanka Green Pit Viper and a few 'whiskered' Purple-faced Leaf Monkeys were admired. Fabulous butterflies included the large but exceedingly delicate Sri Lanka Tree Nymph and the large robust flashy Blue Mormon.

On the jeep trip we stopped in suitable habitat on the way up and were soon observing four Sri Lanka Spurfowls. Another was seen later in the day as it crossed the main path. Walking along the main track started amazingly well when a Red-faced Malkoha popped out and allowed prolonged 'scope views. We later came across a few Dark-fronted Babblers and three Legge's Flowerpeckers, but it was not until after we arrived at the research station that birds began to show themselves. In one mixed flock we had fantastic views of a party of Ashy-headed Laughing Thrushes, three Black-naped Monarchs and two Large-billed Leaf Warblers. Nearby were two foraging White-faced Starlings we watched for several minutes. Also in the flock were several Malabar Trogons, four Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrikes, a handful of tame Sri Lanka Blue Magpies and nearby were a couple of Sri Lanka Scaly Thrushes that gave us the run around and in the end were only seen briefly - by the majority in flight only. Other 'good' birds were one or two Crimson-backed Flamebacks, Brown-backed Needletail, Sri Lanka Crested Drongo, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Brown-breasted Flycatchers, two Brown-capped Babblers and yet more Spot-winged Thrushes.

Kudawa village

The area around the hotel was interesting with breathtaking views of a male Asian Paradise Flycatcher with long white tail streamers. A Chestnut-backed Owlet popped out all too briefly. Several Sri Lanka Hill Mynas foraged for fruit and we also had great views of Emerald Dove and Spot-winged Thrush.

En route Sinharaja to Embilipitiya

Birds spotted on the journey included one Legge's Hawk-eagle, a Black Eagle, and a few Crested Serpent Eagles.

Kalametiya Sanctuary

Along the southern coast we spent an afternoon birding the scrub, rough grassland and wetlands of the Kalametiya Sanctuary. Along the road near the reserve we came across three Blue-faced Malkohas that gave brilliant prolonged views. By them a Greater Coucal was grappling with a large snail on the verge. Quite a start! Walking over the open scrubby area we across our first Yellow-wattled Lapwings, Jerdon's Bushlarks, Paddyfield Pipits, Orange-breasted Green Pigeons and Green Bee-eaters. Around the lagoons we found many Lesser Sand Plovers, Pacific Golden Plovers and Great Thick-knees. Nearby, on an area of short turf, we had an amazing total of at least 50 Oriental Pratincoles, plus masses of Lesser Sand Plovers, a couple of Pintail Snipes and two Indian Stone-curlews. By the beach we saw our first Tufted Grey Langurs and two White-bellied Sea Eagles sailed over us. Birding here was certainly easier....

Udawalawe National Park

This reserve is famous for its Asian Elephants and the scrubby habitat with interspersed trees and waterholes is also a magnet for many birds.

We took it slowly, stopping often, to watch the birds singing right by the track. Our high-seated jeeps got us to eyeball level with Ashy, Plain and Jungle Prinias; Jerdon's Bushlarks seemed to be everywhere, emitting their high-pitched song. Other common birds were Orange-breasted Green Pigeons, a few Yellow-eyed Babblers, Coppersmith Barbets, Indian Robins, Brown Shrikes, Green Bee-eaters, Indian Rollers and Blue-tailed Bee-eaters. Somewhat scarcer were a couple of pairs of Marshall's Ioras and two Grey-bellied Cuckoos. A Black-winged Kite defended its territory and couple of Crested Hawk-eagles were also right by the track, including one that snapped off a large twig for a nest. Several Asian Elephants, some right by jeeps, and a few Spotted Deer were seen and a Spectacled Cobra crossed the track.

We stopped at a very natural looking reservoir for a packed breakfast and enjoyed the wildlife at the same time. Here there were a few Painted Storks, a Lesser Adjutant, several Black-crowned Night Herons and a large Mugger Crocodile. We then stopped at a succession of waterholes where we saw two Woolly-necked Storks, Marsh Sandpipers, Little Ringed Plover, Grey-headed Wagtail and a White-browed Fantail. Two Malabar Pied Hornbills flapped past and perched up and two more were spotted in a nearby tree. As we headed for the exit we came across a Golden Jackal and a pair of frisky Asian Elephants. One jeep also had the good fortune of an Indian Pitta that popped out by them.

Tissamaharama area

We visited the water tanks around Tissamaharama on three separate occasions. We walked along the bund at Debarawewa twice. Waterbirds were everywhere with a profusion of Purple Herons, Egrets, Purple Swamphens, gorgeous Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, and Oriental Darters. Up to six Yellow Bitterns were rather skulking - being seen best in flight, and even trickier to see was a Watercock. A Stork-billed Kingfisher put in a couple of appearances. In the Rain Trees we found a couple of Sri Lanka Woodshrikes and perhaps scarcest of all a female White-naped Woodpecker. Other passerines were three Small Minivets and a couple of Oriental White-eyes, while the breeding colony of Little and Indian Cormorants had a smell reminiscent of a seabird colony.

At the Tissamaharama tank we saw a Stork-billed Kingfisher, but perched rather obscured, in contrast to a Yellow Bittern that was fishing in the open. A Watercock showed a little better at this tank by occasionally poking its head and neck out of the vegetation. Up to 11 Cotton Pygmy Geese, including a flock of eight, were watched closely as they perched in trees and flew about. The beautifully woven nests of the Baya Weavers were much admired. A huge Mugger Crocodile with its jaws agape showed its perfectly flossed teeth and orange-buff inner glow of the mouth. Thousands of Indian Flying Foxes hung suspended in the Rain Trees: on one occasion these were disturbed by a local fisherman and clouds of them took to the air at once. A fantastic spectacle!

Bundala National Park

This RAMSAR site is one of Asia's premier wetlands. There were masses of Little Stints, Curlew Sandpipers and Lesser Sand Plovers. Among the throngs were just one Red-necked Phalarope, and three Small Pratincoles that fluttered up and down one of the bunds. Terns seemed to be everywhere foraging, flying from A to B or roosting: Whiskered, Caspian, Gull-billed, Greater Crested, Lesser Crested and Little Terns. Heading away from the salt pans we came across a perched Grey-headed Fish Eagle and then the distinctive croaking of a Clamorous Reed Warbler was heard and it soon showed in the open a few times. We then came across a pool to dream of. It must have been teeming with fish as Spot-billed Pelicans, Painted Storks, Spoonbills, Great and Intermediate Egrets were all actively feeding in their own specialized way. A mother Wild Boar with young was seen by one jeep and on the way out from the park we came across a couple of Common Iora with fluffed up white rumps, two Jacobin (Pied) Cuckoos and a pair of wonderfully spotty Yellow-crowned Woodpeckers.

Yala National Park

After a short drive the first of two Indian Pittas was spotted. The second, later on during the safari, remained rooted to one spot in the open for an inordinate length of time for a pitta. A little further on and a Barred Buttonquail flew in and walked about in the trackside vegetation for all to enjoy. Then a couple of White-browed Fantails were found incubating on their respective nest. Negotiating a jeep jam we soon managed to 'scope most of the body of one Leopard that was taking a siesta in a tree and next to it another shorter tail was dangling. At another jam was yet another mostly obscured Leopard, but not before we had seen two Malabar Pied Hornbills and a few Ashy-crowned Sparrow-larks.

An Asian Elephant strolled past and a little later two female Asian Elephants, each with young, crossed the track. Other birds found were three Tawny-bellied Babblers, three Grey-bellied Cuckoos and just outside the park three Indian Nightjars. Other mammals seen included five Sambar, c. 50 Spotted Deer, five Golden Jackals and 14 Wild Boar.

En route to Nuwara Eliya

At a short break at the Rawana waterfall we saw a pair of distant Shaheen Peregrines as well as a Purple-rumped Sunbird poking its head out of its suspended nest. At the Surrey Tea Estate we picked out a few of the highland specialties: two Cinereous Tits, three Grey-headed Canary-flycatchers, a brief Dull-blue Flycatcher, plus a couple of Sri Lanka Scimitar Babblers, a Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, a male Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Orange Minivet and Small Minivet.

Victoria Park at Nuwara Eliya

Birding in persistent light rain is never particularly easy, yet despite this we had soon seen some Forest Wagtails and a couple of Sri Lanka Scimitar Babblers. And then in the shadows we watched a female Indian Blue Robin pop in and out of some dense vegetation. By the river a male Kashmir Flycatcher was picked out with style; we watched it flicking about before it vanished. Then with equal skill a Pied Thrush was spotted flying over. After a bit of to-ing and fro-ing we then saw two Pied Thrushes before they flew into their favourite roost tree where they continued to show from time to time in the shadows. Nearby we heard a Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush.

Horton Plains

There was such a queue of minibuses to get into the national park that the Indian Blackbirds were not hopping about the entrance at dawn. Luckily most of us saw one a little later in the park itself. There were several birds around the Arrenga Pool: three Blyth's Reed Warblers, a Green Warbler and a Dull-blue Flycatcher were all very showy. A Sri Lanka Bush Warbler was rather skulking, but was actually completely unconcerned, so was seen by everyone down to just a few feet.

Nearby, after a bit of to- and fro-ing, there it was, the mythical beast that is the Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush, perched in the open long enough for everyone to see it. Tharanga visibly relaxed. Other good birds were three Yellow-eared Babblers, a few Sri Lanka White-eyes, and a drumming Crimson-backed Flameback that refused to show. Carrying on to the open areas we found five Pied Bushchats and seven Hill Swallows as well as several Sambar.

On the way back to Nuwara Eliya we were very fortunate to come across a Brown Fish Owl right by the road. Around the corner we stumbled over a tribe of Bear Monkeys plus two Grey-headed Canary-flycatchers, another Green Warbler and a little later a Himalayan Buzzard.

Bomuruella

Our final afternoon in the highlands was spent in some local forest. Again general dampness hampered the birding. Highlights were three Yellow-eared Bulbuls, three Sri Lanka White-eyes, three Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrikes and a Velvet-fronted Nuthatch.

Nuwara Eliya to Kandy

We stopped at the Blue Field Tea Factory en route. After the visit a couple of Black Eagles and a Legge's Hawk-eagle drifted up and a further down the mountain we came across a 'kettle' of raptors that was composed of two Oriental Honey-buzzards, a Crested Serpent Eagle and three Brahminy Kites, all low over the road.

Kandy

The lake by our hotel had a colony of Black-crowned Night Herons, Indian and Little Cormorants. On the lake itself was a single Spot-billed Pelican plus an Indian Pond Heron in summer plumage, a monster Water Monitor and yet more Indian Flying Foxes.

Peradeniya Botanical Gardens

A heavy rain shower slowed things down but despite this we saw three Loten's Sunbirds and a Green Warbler. The rain eased off and out popped two Forest Wagtails, two Brown-breasted Flycatchers and a brief Jerdon's (Blue-winged) Leafbird. The birding was slow. Another roost of Indian Flying Foxes was spectacular when large numbers took to the air. Later we visited the Temple of the Tooth.

Udawattekele Royal Forest

The stroll though this peaceful forest was very relaxing. We saw lovely things as soon as we arrived by the entrance. Above was a party of Southern Hill Mynas and below two Barking Deer, and the first of three White-rumped Shamans. We birded from the wide track through the forest, which itself was fairly open and allowed reasonable views of Dull-blue Flycatcher and three Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrikes, Green Warbler, Forest Wagtail, Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Yellow-browed Bulbul, Brown-capped Babbler, Emerald Dove, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Small Minivet, Square-tailed Buleuls and three Crimson-backed Flamebacks.

Sigiriya tank & Fortress moat

A stroll by the water filled moat was magical. First there were a couple of Indian Pygmy Woodpeckers, at last a showy Blue-winged Leafbird, an Asian Paradise Flycatcher dipping into the water, a pair of White-browed Fantail on a nest, Indian Robins, Crimson-fronted Barbet and Crested Treeswifts.

Walking along another section an Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher was on view all too quickly. Then everything seemed to happen at once. An Indian Pitta was spotted very close to the track and out in the open. It seemed completely unconcerned. A few yards away a heavenly Orange-headed Thrush poked about in the leaf litter. During all this time a Crimson-backed Flameback was regularly returning to the same branch to feed giving wonderful views. Then as we waited for dusk in flew an Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher and sat right by us. A little later and a Jerdon's Nightjar flew over and as we exited the area a Brown Fish Owl sat right by the track.

On the final morning we strolled between our hotel (via the Sigiriya tank) and the Sigiriya Fortress moat. We started with a couple of skulkers: a brief Brown-capped Babbler and a really close Orange-headed Thrush. Then we enjoyed some of the more common birds of this habitat: Sri Lanka Green Pigeon, Black-rumped Flameback, etc. As on the previous day the tank had a breeding colony of Great Egrets and a Purple Heron with two nearly fledged young.

A fabulous array of butterflies were feeding by a nearby embankment, perhaps the most beautiful was the Common Jezebel. By the moat 'new' birds were a male Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike, a Large Cuckoo-shrike and a couple of Thick-billed Flowerpeckers.

We walked a rather wet track nearby where, we saw our first Grey-breasted Prinia and another Jungle Prinia. Clouds of butterflies had come to take salts. Another Black Eagle drifted over.

My thanks go to Baur's for making such smooth arrangements, and especially to Tharanga for his brilliant leading, Henry for his careful driving and his mate Gemunu too, both of whom looked after us extremely well and found a few birds.

ITINERARY

2nd February: AM Arrive Colombo, drive to Kithulgala, PM Kithulgala
 3rd February: All day Kithulgala
 4th February: Early AM Kithulgala, drive to Sinharaja, PM Sinharaja
 5th February: All day Sinharaja
 6th February: AM Sinharaja, drive to Embilimpitiya PM Kalametiya
 7th February: AM Udawalawe NP, drive to Tissamaharama, PM Debarawewa tank
 8th February: AM Bundala NP, PM Tissamaharama tank
 9th February: AM Debarawewa and Tissamaharama tank, PM Yala NP
 10th February: AM drive to Nuwara Eliya, PM Victoria Park
 11th February: AM Horton Plains, PM Bomurella
 12th February: AM drive to Kandy, PM Peradeniya Botanical Gardens & Temple of the Tooth
 13th February: AM Udewattekele Forest Reserve, drive to Sigiriya PM Sigiriya
 14th February: AM Sigiriya, PM drive to Negombo
 15th February: Return to London.

ANNOTATED LIST OF THE BIRD SPECIES RECORDED

(A total of 230 species was recorded by the group)

Sri Lanka Spurfowl *Galloperdix bicalcarata* ENDEMIC

Five at Sinharaja.

Sri Lanka Junglefowl *Gallus lafayetti* ENDEMIC

Seen at several locations including Kithulgala, Sinharaja and Horton Plains in the Wet Zone, and Yala and Sigiriya in the Dry Zone.

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristata*

Common in dry wooded grasslands.

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*

Common.

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

Up to 13 Tissamaharama tank.

Pintail *Anas acuta*

18 flew over Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Four Bundala National Park

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

One Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*

Fairly common in the south.

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

Fairly widespread in small numbers.

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*

Two Udawalawe National Park and one Yala National Park.

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

Two Udawalawe National Park, one Bundala National Park and one Yala National.

Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephala*

A widespread and fairly common species.

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Three Kalametiya Sanctuary, several Bundala National Park and at least ten Yala National Park.

- Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis***
At least six Debarawewa and Tissamaharama tanks.
- Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***
Best counts of about 15 Udawalawe National Park and 16 Kandy.
- Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii***
Common and widespread.
- Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus***
Widespread and abundant.
- Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea***
Fairly common and widespread.
- Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea***
Common and widespread.
- Great Egret *Ardea alba***
Fairly common and widespread.
- Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia***
Common and widespread.
- Little Egret *Egretta garzetta***
Common and widespread.
- Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis***
Best views Bundala National Park and Tissa tank; quite common in south plus one Kandy.
- Little Cormorant *Microcarbo niger***
Common.
- Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis***
Much less widespread than Little Cormorant
- Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster***
Quite common in the south and three Sigiriya on 22nd.
- Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus***
One Udawalawe National Park.
- Peregrine Falcon (Shaheen) *Falco peregrinus peregrinator***
A pair Rawana waterfall and one Sigiriya.
- Oriental Honey-buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus***
Several seen throughout the tour.
- Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus***
One Udawalawe National Park and one Horton Plains.
- Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus***
Fairly common and widespread.
- White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster***
Ones and twos here and there.
- Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus***
One Udawalawe National Park and one Bundala National Park.
- Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela spilogaster***
Fairly common. Endemic subspecies *S. c. spilogaster*.
- Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivigatus***
Two Sinharaja Forest Reserve.
- Shikra *Accipiter badius***
Ones and twos here and there. Best view of male perched on a gate near Bundala National Park.
- Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo burmanicus***
One near Horton Plains
- Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis***
Two Kithulgala Forest Reserve then seen here and there en route until one Sigiriya.
- Rufous-bellied Hawk-eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii***
One en route near Sinharaja.

Changeable [Crested] Hawk-eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus ceylanensis*

Best views Udawalawe National Park, Bundala National Park and Yala National Park. Sri Lanka and southern Indian birds display a prominent long crest, quite different to races of Changeable Hawk-eagle inhabiting the remainder of the species' range. Endemic subspecies *N. c. ceylanensis*.

Legge's Hawk-eagle *Nisaetus kelaarti*

One Sinharaja Forest Reserve and one Blue Field Tree Factory.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

Widespread and fairly common in wetland areas.

Watercock *Gallixrex cinerea*

One Debarawewa tank and one Tissamaharama tank.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio poliocephalus*

Fairly common. The various populations of this species are accorded species status by some authorities. The form occurring in Sri Lanka and India is the 'Grey-headed' Swamphen *P. p. poliocephalus*.

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Not very common.

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator leggei*

One Yala NP on 17th. Endemic subspecies *T. s. leggei*. The distinctive 'song' resembles the noise made by a small motorbike.

Indian Stone-curlew *Burhinus indicus*

Two Bundala NP. Note that Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) have concluded that this taxon, which also occurs throughout much of in India, merits specific status and have split it from the widespread Eurasian Stone Curlew *B. oedicnemus* of Europe and Central Asia.

Great Thick-knee *Burhinus recurvirostris*

Eight Kalametiya Sanctuary, three Bundala National Park, two Tissamaharama tank and four Yala National Park.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Common in freshwater and coastal wetlands in the southeast.

Yellow-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus malabaricus*

Fairly common in dry habitats in south.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus lankae*

Common and widespread. Endemic subspecies *V. i. lankae*.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

30 plus Kalametiya Sanctuary, 15 Bundala National Park and Yala National Park.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

One Kalametiya Sanctuary and several Bundala National Park.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Three Bundala National Park.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Two Udawalawe National Park and one Yala National Park.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus seebohmi*

Two Bundala National Park, six Bundala National Park and two Yala National Park.

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

150+ Kalametiya Sanctuary and 30+ Bundala National Park.

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

Fairly common.

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*

Four Kalametiya Sanctuary, two Bundala National Park and two Yala National Park.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

At least 100 Bundala National Park, five Tissamaharama tank and one Sigiriya.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Six Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Common in coastal wetlands.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

Common in and near coastal wetlands.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Fairly common.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

One Udawalawe National Park.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Fairly common at fresh water wetlands in the southeast.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Fairly common at fresh water wetlands in the southeast.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

20+ Kalametiya Sanctuary and 12 Bundala National Park.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

14+ Kalametiya Sanctuary and many Bundala National Park.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Five Kalametiya Sanctuary and 30+ Bundala National Park.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

One Bundala National Park.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

One Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*

50+ Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea*

Three Bundala National Park.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

50+ Kalametiya Sanctuary, one Debarawewa tank and 200 Bundala National Park

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Fairly common in southeast.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

Fairly common in southeast.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

The most numerous and widespread tern.

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

A melanistic individual Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Greater Crested Tern *Sterna bergii*

100+ Bundala National Park.

Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis*

30+ Bundala National Park.

Feral Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Present

Sri Lanka Wood Pigeon *Columba torringtoniae* ENDEMIC

Up to three Sinharaja Forest and one Horton Plains.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

One Bundala National Park.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis ceylonensis*

Common and widespread. Endemic subspecies *S. c. ceylonensis*.

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica robinsoni*

Fairly common in wet zone. Endemic subspecies *C. i. robinsoni*.

Orange-breasted Green Pigeon *Treron bicincta leggei*

Fairly common in the dry zone. Endemic subspecies *T. b. leggei*.

Sri Lanka Green Pigeon *Treron pompadora* ENDEMIC

Common in wet zone. Formerly, this taxon was the nominate race of Pompadour Green Pigeon, restricted to Sri Lanka.

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea*

Fairly common.

Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot *Loriculus beryllinus* ENDEMIC

Common in wet zone.

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria*

Common Kithulgala Forest Reserve.

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*

Common and widespread throughout the dry zone.

Plum-headed Parakeet *Psittacula cyanocephala*

Two Udawalawe National Park.

Layard's Parakeet *Psittacula calthropae* ENDEMIC

Up to three Kithulgala Forest Reserve.

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus*

Two Bundala National Park. Jacobin Cuckoo is the name in widespread use for this species in Africa. In Asia it is more commonly known as the Pied Cuckoo.

Grey-bellied Cuckoo *Cacomantis passerinus*

Two Udawalawe National Park and three Yala National Park. These grey-bellied birds are now treated as specifically distinct from the rufous-bellied Plaintive Cuckoo *C. merulinus* of southeast Asia.

Asian Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea*

Fairly common and widespread.

Blue-faced Malkoha *Rhopodytes viridirostris*

Three Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Red-faced Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus pyrrhocephalus* ENDEMIC

Two Sinharaja Forest.

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

Ones and twos here and there.

Green-billed Coucal *Centropus chlororhynchus* ENDEMIC

One Kithulgala

Indian Scops Owl *Otus bakkamoena*

A pair of roosting birds in the hotel grounds at Embilipitiya.

Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis*

One near Horton Plains and another Sigiriya.

Chestnut-backed Owlet *Glaucidium castanonotum* ENDEMIC

One heard Kithulgala and one glimpsed near Sinharaja Forest Reserve. In the past, this species has been treated as a race of Asian Barred Owlet *G. cuculoides*.

Sri Lanka Frogmouth *Batrachostomus moniliger*

A pair Sinharaja Forest Reserve. Despite its name, this species also occurs in the mountains of southwestern India and is not endemic to Sri Lanka. The male greyer, the female more rufous.

Jerdon's Nightjar *Caprimulgus atripennis*

One Sigiriya.

Indian Nightjar *Caprimulgus asiaticus*

Three Udawalawe National Park.

Indian Swiftlet *Collocalia unicolor*

Widespread. The nests are still harvested in some areas.

Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*

Two Kithulgala and four Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

A few seen here and there.

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba*

One en route to Kithulgala

Little Swift *Apus affinis singalensis*

Most seen around Sigiriya. Sri Lanka birds belong with Little Swift of the race *A. a. singalensis* which is considered to be closest to the African and Indian races of Little Swift *A. affinis* but, in truth, it shows features associated with House Swift *A. nipalensis* from northeast India and southeast Asia.

Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata*

Ones and twos seen here and there. Best views Sigiriya.

Malabar Trogon *Harpactes fasciatus fasciatus*

Six Kithulgala Forest Reserve and six Sinharaja Forest Reserve. Endemic subspecies *H. f. fasciatus*.

Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*

Several Udawalawe National Park and one Bundala National Park.

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*

One Debarawewa tank and one Tissamaharama tank.

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Widespread throughout the country.

Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca*

One Udewattekele Forest Reserve and one or two Sigiriya.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Fairly common.

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis travancoreensis*

Four Udawalawe National Park and nine Kalametiya Sanctuary.

Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis ceylonicus*

Regularly encountered throughout the dry lowland regions of Sri Lanka. The race *M. o. ceylonicus* is endemic to Sri Lanka.

Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*

A common and widespread winter visitor.

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaultii*

One en route to Kithulgala and eight Yala National Park.

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Two Udawalawe National Park.

Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill *Ocyeros gingalensis* ENDEMIC

Common Kithulgala Forest Reserve and Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Malabar Pied Hornbill *Anthraceros coronatus*

One Kalametiya Sanctuary, four Udawalawe National Park and four Yala National Park.

Brown-headed Barbet *Megalaima zeylanica zeylanica*

Widely recorded throughout.

Yellow-fronted Barbet *Megalaima flavifrons* ENDEMIC

Heard much more frequently than it was seen. Common at Kithulgala and Sinharaja in the Wet Zone, but absent from the Dry Zone.

Crimson-fronted Barbet *Megalaima rubricapillus* ENDEMIC

Two Sigiriya.

Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*

Just five seen in the dry zone.

Indian Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopus nanus gymnophthalmos*

Two Sigiriya. The race *D. n. gymnophthalmos* is endemic to Sri Lanka.

Yellow-crowned Woodpecker *Dendrocopus mahrattensis*

Two Bundala National Park.

Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus wellsi*

Two Kithulgala Forest reserve. Endemic subspecies *P. c. wellsi*.

Black-rumped Flameback *Dinopium benghalense psarodes*

Fairly common in wet zone. The endemic subspecies *D. b. psarodes* which we encountered shows a red, rather than golden orange, wings and mantle.

Crimson-backed Flameback *Chrysocolaptes stricklandi* ENDEMIC

One Sinharaja Forest Reserve, heard Horton Plains, three Udewattekele Forest Reserve and two Sigiriya. This bird differs from Greater Flameback in showing red, rather than golden-orange wings and mantle.

White-naped Woodpecker *Chrysocolaptes festivus*

A female Debarawewa tank.

Indian Pitta *Pitta brachyura*

One Udawalawe National Park, two Yala National Park and one Sigiriya.

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus leggei*

Fairly common in wet zone. Endemic subspecies *H. p. leggei* differs subtly from other races in having a blacker cap/back and a slightly brighter grey-pink wash to the chest

Sri Lanka Woodshrike *Tephrodornis affinis* ENDEMIC

Two Debarawewa tank, up to three Tissamaharama tank, one Surrey Tea Estate and three Sigiriya.

Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus*

Six en route to Kithulgala and three Bundala National Park.

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

Fairly common.

Marshall's Iora *Aegithina nigrolutea*

Four Udawalawe National Park. Only recently discovered on Sri Lanka.

Large Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei*

One Sigiriya.

Black-headed Cuckooshrike *Coracina melanoptera*

One Sigiriya.

Small Minivet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

Fairly common.

Orange Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*

Fairly common. Now split from Scarlet Minivet *P. speciosus* of N India and southeast Asia.

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*

Widespread.

Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus ceylonensis*

Fairly common. Endemic subspecies *O. x. ceylonensis*.

White-bellied Drongo *Dicrurus caerulescens*

Fairly common. Endemic subspecies *D. c. leucopygialis* in which only the undertail-coverts are white is restricted to the Wet Zone. A second endemic race, *D. c. insularis* in which the entire belly is white also occurs in Sri Lanka where it is restricted to the Dry Zone.

Sri Lanka Crested Drongo *Dicrurus lophorinus* ENDEMIC

Two or three Kithulgala Forest Reserve and seven Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

White-browed Fantail *Rhipidura aureola*

One Udawalawe National Park, three Yala National Park and a pair Sigiriya.

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea ceylonensis*

One Kithulgala Forest Reserve and six Sinharaja Forest Reserve. Endemic subspecies *H. a. ceylonensis* differs little from other races.

Asian Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*

Fairly common. Two races occur in Sri Lanka. Males of the endemic race *ceylonensis* are not known to attain the white plumage, so those stunningly beautiful white males we saw would be migrants of the nominate form.

Sri Lanka Blue Magpie *Urocissa ornata* ENDEMIC

Up to four Sinharaja Forest Reserve including one well away from the research centre.

House Crow *Corvus splendens*

Widespread and extremely common.

Indian Jungle Crow *Corvus culminatus*

Widespread and fairly common. Formerly part of the Large-billed Crow complex, Sri Lanka and peninsular Indian birds are now part of a three-way split as *C. culminatus*.

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis ceylonensis*

Three Surrey Tea Estate and two near Horton Plains. Endemic subspecies *C. c. ceylonensis*.

Cinereous Tit *Parus cinereus mahrattarum*

Up to seven in the vicinity of Nuwara Eliya. These grey and white birds are now separated by IOC from Great Tit.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Common.

Hill Swallow *Hirundo domicola*

At least six at Horton Plains and one Peradeniya Botanical Gardens. Formerly included in Pacific Swallow *H. tahitica*, and restricted to Sri Lanka and the Western Ghats region of southern India.

Sri Lanka Swallow *Cecropis hyperythra* ENDEMIC

Common where found.

Jerdon's Bushlark *Mirafra affinis*

Common in dry zone. A recent change in the taxonomy of *Mirafra* bushlarks resulted in this taxon being split from the Rufous-winged or Bengal Bushlark *M. assamica*.

Ashy-crowned Sparrow-lark *Eremopterix grisea*

Ten Yala National Park.

Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

One distantly Bundala National Park.

Black-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus* ENDEMIC

Up to four Kithulgala Forest Reserve and one Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*

Common and widespread.

Yellow-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus penicillatus* ENDEMIC

Two Horton Plains and three Bomurella.

White-browed Bulbul *Pycnonotus luteolus insulae*

Ones and twos here and there and eight Sigiriya. Endemic subspecies *P. l. insulae*.

Yellow-browed Bulbul *Iole indica guglielmi*

Four Kithulgala Forest Reserve, several Sinharaja Forest Reserve and two Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Square-tailed Bulbul *Hypsipetes ganeesa humei*

Common Kithulgala Forest Reserve and Sinharaja Forest Reserve and two Udewattekele Forest Reserve. Endemic subspecies *H. g. humei*.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

Ones and twos in the dry zone. Two subspecies occur in Sri Lanka: *cursitans* in the dry lowlands and *omalurus* elsewhere.

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii pectoralis*

One Sigiriya. Endemic subspecies in Sri Lanka *pectoralis*.

Jungle Prinia *Prinia sylvatica valida*

Two Udawalawe National Park and two Bundala National Park.

Ashy Prinia *Prinia socialis brevicauda*

Several en route to Kithulgala and several Udawalawe National Park.

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata insularis*

Several Udawalawe National Park, four Yala National Park and one Sigiriya.

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Widespread. Endemic subspecies *O. s. sutorius* occurs in the lowlands and *O. s. fernandornis* in the hills.

Sri Lanka Bush Warbler *Elaphrornis palliseri* ENDEMIC

Two Horton Plains.

Clamorous Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus meridionalis*

One seen well and others heard Bundala National Park. Endemic subspecies *A. s. meridionalis*. Sometimes called Indian Reed Warbler.

Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*

Three Horton Plains.

Green Warbler *Phylloscopus nitidus*

One Horton Plains, two Bomurella, one Peradeniya Botanical Gardens and three Udewattekele Forest.

Large-billed Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus magnirostris*

Two Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Brown-capped Babbler *Pellorneum fuscicapillum* ENDEMIC

Two Sinharaja Forest Reserve, one Udewattekele Forest Reserve and one Sigiriya.

Sri Lanka Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus melanurus* ENDEMIC

One Kithulgala Forest Reserve, four Sinharaja Forest Reserve, two Surrey tea Estate, two Victoria Park Horton and heard Sigiriya.

Dark-fronted Babbler *Rhopocichla atriceps nigrifrons*

Two Kithulgala Forest Reserve, several Sinharaja Forest Reserve and two Sigiriya. Endemic subspecies *R. a. nigrifrons* occurs in the Wet Zone and *R. a. siccatus* in the Dry Zone and hills.

Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense nasalis*

Eight Udawalawe National Park and one Bundala National.

Orange-billed Babbler *Turdoides rufescens* ENDEMIC

At least four Kithulgala Forest Reserve and 30+ Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Yellow-billed Babbler *Turdoides affinis taprobanus*

A common species. Endemic subspecies *T. a. taprobanus* is restricted to Sri Lanka where it occurs from sea level to the highest mountains.

Ashy-headed Laughingthrush *Garrulax cinereifrons* ENDEMIC

15 Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosa egregia*

A few seen here and there.

Sri Lanka White-eye *Zosterops ceylonensis* ENDEMIC

Five Horton Plains and three Bomurella.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

One Sinharaja Forest Reserve, one Bomurella and three Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Sri Lanka Hill Myna *Gracula ptilogenys* ENDEMIC

Up to six Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Southern Hill Myna *Gracula indica*

Up to six Kithulgala Forest reserve Sinharaja Forest Reserve and eight Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis melanosturnus*

Widespread and abundant.

White-faced Starling *Sturnornis albofrontalis* ENDEMIC

Two Sinharaja Forest Reserve

Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush *Myophonus blighi* ENDEMIC

One heard near Bomurella and one showed well Horton Plains.

Pied Thrush *Zoothera wardii*

Two Victoria Park.

Orange-headed Thrush *Geokichla citrina citrina*

Two Sigiriya.

Spot-winged Thrush *Geokichla spiloptera* ENDEMIC

Up to six Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Sri Lanka Thrush *Zoothera imbricata*

Two Sinharaja Forest Reserve. Formerly treated as race of Scaly Thrush *Z. dauma*.

Indian Blackbird *Turdus simillimus kinnisii*

One Horton Plains. Birds in Sri Lanka are of the endemic subspecies *T. s. kinnisii* and may warrant specific status.

Indian Blue Robin *Luscinia brunnea*

A female Victoria Park. This species is a winter visitor to Sri Lanka from the forests of the Himalayas and western China.

Oriental Magpie-robin *Copsychus saularis*

Widespread throughout.

White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus leggei*

Three Udewattekele Forest Reserve and one Sigiriya.

Indian Robin *Saxicoloides fulicata leucoptera*

Several in southeast and up to eight Sigiriya.

Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata atrata*

Up to ten Nuwara Eliya and Horton Plains.

Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica*

Singles at both Kithulgala and Sinharaja Forest Reserves. A winter visitor from northern Asia.

Brown-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa muttui*

Ones and twos seen here and there.

Kashmir Flycatcher *Ficedula subrubra*

A male in Victoria Park, Nuwara Eliya. This species breeds in the northwestern Himalayas centred on Kashmir, and winters exclusively in the highlands of Sri Lanka.

Dull-blue Flycatcher *Eumyias sordida* ENDEMIC

One at the Surrey Tea Estate, eight Horton Plains and one Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis tickelliae jerdoni*

Ones and twos here and there.

Jerdon's Leafbird *Chloropsis jerdoni*

One Tissamaharama tank, one Peradeniya Botanical Gardens and one Sigiriya. Now treated as a distinct species, separate from Blue-winged Leafbird.

Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons*

One Kithulgala.

Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile*

Two Sigiriya

Legge's Flowerpecker *Dicaeum vincens* ENDEMIC

One Kithulgala Forest reserve and three Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Pale-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos ceylonensis*

Fairly common.

Purple-rumped Sunbird *Leptocoma zeylonica zeylonica*

Fairly common.

Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus*

A few seen in southeast and a couple Sigiriya.

Loten's Sunbird *Cinnyris lotenia lotenia*

One en route to Kithulgala and three Peradeniya Botanical Gardens.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Several in the highlands. Treated by some as a distinct species, Indian Sparrow *Passer indicus*.

Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*

One Udawalawe National Park and up to eight Tissamaharama tank.

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

Several seen here and there.

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*

A few here and there.

Black-throated Munia *Lonchura kelaarti*

Two near Sinharaja Forest Reserve and one Nuwera Eliya.

Black-headed Munia *Lonchura malacca*

Common where found.

Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus*

Seven Victoria Park, two Peradeniya Botanical Gardens and one Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

One male Grey-headed Wagtail Udewalawe National Park and a few Bundala National Park.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Three Kithulgala Forest Reserve and several in the highlands.

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus malayanus*

Fairly common where found.

MAMMALS**Black-naped Hare *Lepus nigricollis***

Two Kalametiya Sanctuary and one Bundala National Park.

Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel *Rafula macroura*

Ones and twos of both the black-and-tan and grey-and-white forms here and there.

Layard's Palm Squirrel *Funambulus layardi*

A couple Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

Indian Palm Squirrel *Funambulus palmarum*

Widespread throughout the lowlands.

Dusky Striped/Palm Squirrel *Funambulus sublineatus*

One Nuwara Eliya.

Indian Grey Mongoose *Herpestes edwardsii*

One Udewalawe National Park and three near Sigiriya.

Ruddy Mongoose *Herpestes smithii*

Ones and twos here and there.

Golden Jackal *Canis aureus*

One Udewalawe National Park and five Yala National Park.

Leopard *Panthera pardus*

Three Yala National Park.

Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*

Large roosting groups were seen at Tissamaharama tank, the Peradeniya Botanical Gardens and by the lake in Kandy.

Tufted Grey Langur *Semnopithecus priam thersites*

Regularly seen in dry forest.

Purple-faced Leaf Monkey *Presbytis vetulus vetulus*

Several Sinharaja Forest.

Bear Monkey *Presbytis vetulus senex*

At least ten near Horton Plains.

Toque Macaque *Macaca sinica*

A common and widespread species.

Wild Boar *Sus scrofa*

One with young Bundala National Park and up to 14 Yala National Park.

Indian/Red Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjak*

Two or three Udewattekele Forest Reserve.

Sambar *Cervus unicolor*

Five Yala National Park and several Horton.

Spotted Deer [Chital] *Axis axis*

Five Udawalawe National Park and 50+ Yala National Park.

Water Buffalo *Bubalus bubalis*

Feral herds seen here and there.

Asian (aka Sri Lankan) Elephant *Elephas maximus maximus*

20+ Udawalawe National Park one Bundala National Park and nine Yala National Park.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Mugger Crocodile *Crocodylus palustris*

Sri Lankan (aka Spectacled aka Indian Cobra) Cobra *Naja naja naja*

Sri Lanka Green Pit Viper *Trimeresurus trigonocephalus*

Southern House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus*

Green Garden Lizard *Calotes calotes*

Garden Lizard *Calotes versicolor*

Sri Lankan Kangaroo Lizard *Otocryptis wiegmanni*

Common Indian (Bengal) Monitor *Varanus bengalensis*

Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*

Indian Black Turtle (Indian Pond Terrapin) *Melanochelys trijuga*

Indian Flapshell Turtle *Lissemys punctata*

FISHES

Blotched Filamented Barb *Dawkinsia srilankensis* endemic

Deccan (Black) Mahseer *Tor khudree*

Ceylonese Combtail *Belontia signata* endemic

Walking Catfish *Clarias brachysoma* endemic

Nile Tilapia *Oreochromis niloticus*

BUTTERFLIES

Glassy Tiger *Parantica aglea*

Blue Glassy Tiger *Danaus similes*

Blue Tiger *Tirumala limniace*

Dark Blue Tiger *Tirumala septentrionis*

Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus*

Great Crow *Euploea phaenareta*

Common Indian Crow *Euploea core*

Sri Lanka Tree Nymph *Idea iasonia*

Common Evening Brown *Melanitis leda*

Chocolate Soldier *Junonia iphita*

Lemon Pansy *Junonia lemonias*

Great Eggfly *Hypolimnias bolina*

Common Sailor *Neptis hylas*

Clipper *Parthenos sylvia*

Common Jezebel *Delias eucharis*

Lesser Albatross *Appias paulina*

Psyche *Leptosia nina*

Small Salmon Arab *Colotis amata*

Lemon Emigrant *Catopsilia pomona*
Common Grass Yellow *Eurema hecabe*
Common Jay *Graphium doson*
Blue Mormon *Papilio polymnestor*
Common Mormon *Papilio polytes*
Common Rose *Pachliopta aristolochiae*
Crimson Rose *Pachliopta hector*
White Banded Awl *Hasora taminatus*
Dark Cerulean *Jamides bochus*

DRAGONFLIES

Sri Lanka Orange-faced Sprite *Pseudagrion rubriceps ceylonicum*
Pied Parasol *Neurothemis tullia*
Slender Skimmer aka Green Marsh Hawk *Orthetrum Sabina*
Crimson Marsh Glider *Trithemis aurora*

OTHER TAXA

Northern Golden Orb Weaver aka Giant Golden Orb Weaver aka Giant Wood Spider *Nephila pilipes*