

# SE CHINA 2012

3<sup>rd</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012

## HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

- Cabot's Tragopan
- Elliot's Pheasant
- Black-faced Spoonbill
- Pied Falconet
- Long-billed Plover
- Little Curlew
- Great Knot
- Swinhoe's Snipe
- Spoon-billed Sandpiper
- Saunder's Gull
- Chinese Crested Tern
- Swinhoe's Minivet
- Tiger Shrike
- Japanese Paradise-flycatcher
- Chestnut Bulbul
- Korean Bush-warbler
- Hartert's Leaf-warbler
- Marsh Grassbird
- Reed Parrotbill
- Courtois's Laughingthrush
- Buffy Laughingthrush
- Grey-sided Scimitar-babbler
- Blyth's Shrike-babbler
- Fujian Fulvetta
- Indochinese Yuhina
- Narcissus Flycatcher
- Blue-and-white Flycatcher
- Siberian Blue Robin
- Siberian Thrush
- Fork-tailed Sunbird
- Pechora Pipit
- Pallas's Reed Bunting
- Japanese Grosbeak

Leaders: Nick Bray and Menxiu Tong

## SUMMARY:

In this exciting ZOOTHERA tour we targeted some of Asia's rarest species as we birded areas of south-east China rarely visited by western birders. Our adventure began at Shanghai where we immediately set about finding our first endemics of the tour, with Reed Parrotbill and Marsh Grassbird giving themselves up relatively easily. Numerous lagoons on the outskirts of the city were full of waders, with pride of place going to a Little Whimbrel. Moving on to Rudong with the primary aim of seeing Spoon-billed Sandpiper in breeding plumage being successful, we enjoyed the fantastic migration spectacle, with it literally raining birds at Magic Forest. It was an exciting bird-filled couple of days, rivalling anything Beidaihe can muster! With Japanese Paradise-flycatcher, Narcissus Flycatcher, Siberian and Pale Thrushes, Pechora Pipit, Blue-and-white Flycatcher, Pallas's Reed Bunting and many others seen well. A short internal flight to Nanchang took us to the picturesque mountains around Wuyishan produced possibly the biggest thrill of the tour, with a male Cabot's Tragopan watched feeding in a tree, just below the road for half an hour. This site also hosts several recent splits which make this corner of China so interesting for the world lister, with David's Fulvetta (split from Grey-cheeked Fulvetta), and Fujian Fulvetta (split from Grey-hooded Fulvetta) present. Moving on to Wuyuan we visited a colony of the incredibly rare Courtois's Laughingthrush, a species only discovered 12 years ago and which has a world population of less than 200 individuals. Finally we visited the Min Jiang Estuary which is the best place in the world to see the Critically Endangered Chinese Crested Tern, whose world population is possibly now under 30 individuals. What a tour!



Cabot's Tragopan – Wuyishan 2012. Wuyishan is the best place to see this stunningly beautiful Chinese endemic. Several were seen along the track that wound its way up the mountain. However, this bird gave the most amazing views as it fed in a small bush just below us as we returned to the hotel on our first evening. Totally oblivious to our presence, we watched it for half an hour in the sunshine. Amazing!

## Day 1 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Early afternoon departure on the direct Virgin Atlantic flight to Shanghai.

## Day 2 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Following a morning arrival at Shanghai Airport the group met up after some had flown from UK and others had spent a day or two before the tour started in the city. We then headed the short distance to the coast and stopped along the road which transects a huge reedbed. In no time at all the first of our two key target species appeared, when a pair of superb **Reed Parrotbills** appeared, although frustratingly didn't linger. But we didn't have to worry as over the course of the next hour we were treated to repeated views of several birds darting around the reeds, and on a couple of occasions they appeared alongside the road right next to us. The other key bird here is **Marsh Grassbird** and initially all we had were rather distant views of individuals song flying high in the air before plummeting down to an invisible perch in the dense reeds. Again our patience was rewarded with decent scope views when one bird remained on top of a reed stem for quite some time and began singing. There were lots of other birds here with an **Amur Falcon** and **Japanese Sparrowhawk** flying by, **Chinese Pond-heron**, **Purple Heron**, at least 7 **Great Bitterns** flying around and a couple of **Pacific Swifts**.

Our scrutiny of the area also revealed a **Manchurian (Korean) Bush-warbler** skulking alongside the road, several **Oriental Reed-warblers**, **Vinous-throated Parrotbills** nest-building, brief **Siberian Rubythroat** and a few **Black-faced Buntings**. Leaving here we drove along the coast road and found a small party of roosting waders on the rocks which turned out to be 7 **Terek Sandpipers**, a couple of **Common Greenshanks** and 2 **Grey-tailed Tattlers**. Just inland are numerous fish ponds and marshes which were teeming with shorebirds, and **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** and **Long-toed Stints** were particularly numerous. Our first wader session to look at these beauties also resulted in **Marsh**, **Common** and **Wood Sandpipers**, **Kentish Plover**, **Black-winged Stilts** and **Common Redshank**. Some movement on the scrub-covered bank led us to the first of two fine **Pechora Pipits** and Derek spotted a distant **Red-throated Pipit** as well. Further along this road we enjoyed incredible views of all these waders again, along with a flock of breeding-plumaged **Red-necked Stints**, **Pied Avocet**, **Common Snipe** and **Eastern Black-tailed Godwit** as well, along with two races of **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** and a very bright **Citrine Wagtail**. Best of all was the **Little Curlew** we scoped in a ploughed field some distance from the road which was associating with some **Common Whimbrels** showing the size and structure differences nicely, and a few **Oriental Pratincoles** flying around were only a minor distraction! After a huge lunch at a nearby restaurant we headed back to the coastal road and checked out a small wooded area which held a couple of **Eastern Crowned Warblers** before spending the rest of the day at a more wooded area where a gaggle of Chinese photographers pointed the way to a superb **Narcissus Flycatcher**. This area was very good and also held **Long-tailed Shrike**, several **Mugimaki** and **Asian Brown Flycatchers**, **Yellow-browed** and **Pale-legged Leaf-warblers** and just before we left a **Chinese Grosbeak** flew in and landed above us.



This Reed Parrotbill is a Chinese endemic and showed incredibly well in the reedbeds near Shanghai.



Long-toed Stint proved to be a relatively common migrant here.



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was also quite common and allowed a close approach.

What a first day! All that remained was the tedious drive to Rudong, some 4 hours away and a late supper.

### **Day 3 Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

Early this morning we headed towards Magic Forest and birded along the tree-lined road, which had attracted a large fall of mainly warblers and flycatchers overnight. Indeed everywhere we looked **Asian Brown** and **Grey-streaked Flycatchers** were flitting amongst the green canopy, with smaller numbers of **Mugimaki** and surprisingly several **Narcissus Flycatchers** as well. A **Dark-sided Flycatcher** was a welcome find a little later, and we also picked out our first **Claudia's Warbler** amongst the more numerous **Eastern Crowned** and **Yellow-browed Warblers**, and several **Oriental Turtle-doves** and **Olive-backed Pipits** as well. A **Manchurian Bush-warbler** was singing from an exposed perch and we enjoyed several minutes of fine views. Then a few **Eye-browed Thrushes** perched up nicely for us, but a **Pale Thrush** was only present briefly. As the day warmed up we headed back for breakfast before driving out to the coast where we donned our recently purchased khaki-coloured wellington boots and walked out onto the mudflats where we had an hour to find **Spoon-billed Sandpiper** before the high tide covered the exposed mud. The mudflats were teeming with shorebirds and we began with **Grey** and **Pacific Golden Plovers**, summer-plumaged **Greater Sandplover** and **Curlew Sandpipers** along with many fine **Dunlin** as well. Overhead, majestic **Saunders's Gulls** passed close by and we scoped a few which landed nearby. But our attention was drawn to the hundreds of lovely **Red-necked Stints** who were feeding avidly but were also very skittish as the tide approached rapidly. Rather frustratingly Menxiu found a roosting spoonie which refused to show its all-important bill before suddenly flying off, leaving us all a little downhearted. So we headed back along the coast, finding **Broad-billed Sandpiper** and a flock of 6 **Black-faced** and single **Eurasian Spoonbill**, and plenty more shorebirds but still no spoonies. So our next port of call was at the high-tide roost where we walked out onto the mudflat and waited for quite some time in the hot sun. Eventually hundreds of birds descended after being disturbed by a passing digger and we set about the tricky task of nailing a spoonie in the suddenly increasing heat haze. A few near misses followed when a bird was found only to disappear before everyone could get on it,



**Narcissus Flycatcher** was passing through in small numbers at Magic Wood.



**Eastern Crowned Warbler** was another common migrant.



**Saunders's Gull** was surprisingly common along the coast and reservoirs.

but eventually we had a superb breeding-plumaged **Spoon-billed Sandpiper** in the scope and could enjoy the moment at last. Then another was found, and another and before we knew it at least 5 individuals were found – all in various stages of plumage. What a bird this is and along with its incredible rarity value it is a stunner as well! But there was plenty else to keep us occupied with both **Greater** and **Lesser Sandplovers** standing out from the hordes of stints and **Dunlins**. It was a decent photo opportunity and we spent the rest of the morning admiring the commotion and activity at relatively close quarters. After lunch and a short siesta we headed back to the Magic Forest area in high spirits as Menxiu had just received a phone call with the hot news that his friend was watching a male **Japanese Paradise-flycatcher**



**Spoon-billed Sandpiper in breeding plumage was another major highlight.**



**Wading across the mudflats during our wader-fest at Rudong.**



**This Japanese Paradise-flycatcher was a surprising find at Magic Forest during an amazing fall of migrants.**

**flycatcher** right at that moment and as we were only ten minutes away we dived over to the spot with fingers crossed. Surely it would move on before we arrived, as anyone knows its madness to chase other people's birds during spring migration right? How wrong can you be and as we pulled up Menxiu's friend pointed into the canopy above us and wham! Can you believe a stunning long-tailed vision of beauty was looking down at us! What a bird and one to set our pulses racing for sure and it certainly warranted an intensive grilling and

suitably lengthy period of observation. But there had obviously been another minor fall this afternoon as this section of forest was teeming with even more birds than this morning. So we set off along the road and soon notched up our first **Grey-capped Woodpecker**, **Swinhoe's** and **Ashy Minivets**, **Chestnut Buntings**, **Eurasian Wryneck**, **Eastern Great Tit**, **Dusky**, **Arctic** and **Pale-legged Leaf-warblers**, **Black-naped Oriole** and **Azure-winged Magpie**, along with the other '*phylloscs*' and flycatchers seen earlier. Some nearby fishponds were then checked for any lingering dowitchers, but we only found lots of **Long-toed Stints** and **Sharp-tailed Sandpipers** amongst the regular waders. But close **Saunder's Gulls** were nice, although a few **White-checked** and **Daurian Starlings** and **Pallas's Reed Buntings** were even better! Tony found another **Pechora Pipit**, whilst **Black-browed** and **Oriental Reed-warblers**, **Reed Parrotbill** and **Common Rosefinch** were also seen. As if things couldn't get any better we checked out the 'new' Magic Forest, a small area of isolated trees and scrub and immediately had eye-ball popping views of a **Rufous-tailed Robin** perched out in the open a foot above the ground where it remained for 20 minutes or so! With a flock of **Japanese White-eyes** and an excellent **Northern Boobook** staring down at us we found it hard to tear ourselves away in the gathering gloom.

### Day 4 Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Just ten minutes away from the hotel is the new Magic Wood, a small patch of woodland and scrub a little larger than a football field and we were excited about returning there. This morning we paid an early visit and turned up a number of excellent birds, in fact many more birds were present than yesterday evening's visit. A **Red-billed Starling** posed nicely on top of the temple as we arrived but we didn't dally as we were eager to see what goodies lay in wait for us. Upon arrival it seemed to be raining birds, when **Lesser Cuckoo**, **Asian Koel**, a couple of **Hair-crested Drongos**, and flocks of *phylloscs* literally dropped in out of the sky. The first of at least 3 **Rufous-tailed Robins** present here demanded our attention, and then **Two-barred** and **Pallas's Warblers** appeared amongst roving flocks of **Yellow-browed**, **Claudia's** and **Eastern Crowned Warblers**. At least two male **Siberian Blue Robins** were found and skulked in typical fashion, whilst **Siberian** and **Pale Thrushes**, **Radde's Warbler**, and both **Tristram's** and **Meadow Buntings** were also new out in the small grassy area. Both **Mugimaki** and **Yellow-rumped Flycatchers** showed well, flocks of **Yellow-billed Grosbeaks** flew over, and the **Northern Boobook** flew around the area repeatedly looking for a birder-free zone to roost! Moving on to the other forest there appeared to be smaller numbers of flycatchers present although **Narcissus** and some **Asian Brown** and **Grey-streaked Flycatchers** were still around. We even had a brief view of an elusive **Elisae's Flycatcher** which promptly disappeared, but an impressive **Blue-and-white Flycatcher** was seen by everyone, as was a **Forest Wagtail**. More **Rufous-tailed Robins**, **Siberian**, **Eye-browed** and **Pale Thrushes**, a male **Siberian Rubythroat**, **Dusky Warbler** and a fine **Japanese Grosbeak** were all seen as well. There were also loads of **Pale-legged Leaf-warblers** around and an estimate of 100+ was made from both sites visited so far today. So with time running out we drove to the coast and donned our wellington boots again and marched out onto the tidal flats getting our first **Great Knot** and **Far-eastern Curlews** of the tour amongst hordes of all the usual waders, along with a flyby **Black-capped Kingfisher** as well. We even ignored the dozen or so **Saunder's Gulls** flying overhead repeatedly! With the tide racing in towards us we walked briskly back to



Always a much-wanted migrant, this was one of several Daurian Starlings seen.



This Northern Boobook was a good find at the 'new' Magic Forest near Rudong.

shore and then headed over to the hotel to pack and have lunch. A quick two hour journey was a lot less than expected and we ended up at the airport with several hours to spare for the flight to Nanchang and the next stage of our adventure.

### **Day 5 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

It took most of the morning to reach the mountains of Wuyishan but it was definitely worth the wait as we left the lowlands behind and began to climb higher. A lake beside the narrow road held a few **Chinese Spot-billed Ducks**, and the nearby area held **David's Fulvetta** ( a recent split from **Grey-cheeked Fulvetta**), **Collared Finchbill** and **Crested**

**Bunting**. Whilst at the edge of a small village we saw a pair of **Chinese Blackbirds** and heard the distinctive song as well. But we didn't do any more birding as time was pressing and we wanted to get to the hotel in the National Park for lunch. Afterwards most of us walked up the road which turned out to

be a good move as first of all we found a **Yellow-cheeked Tit**, followed by **Rufous-faced** and **Chestnut-crowned warblers** side-by-side on the same branch, and then nice views of **Sulphur-breasted Warbler** zipping around the forest beside the road. A **Hartert's Warbler** ( a recent split from the Blyth's Leaf-warbler complex) began calling and pretty soon we had decent views of this smart little sprite.

Further along a flock of **Black-chinned Yuhinas** and **Red-billed Leiothrix** appeared briefly before the minibus caught us up and we drove high up into the mountains. No sooner had we passed the Fujian/Jiangxi border than a female **Cabot's Tragopan** ran across the bumpy track in front of us.

A few moments later a male tragopan flew down from the slope above and alighted right in front of us for a few moments before scurrying into the forest. Wow! Moving ever upwards we came across a mixed flock with **Black-chinned Yuhinas**, **White-bellied Erpornis**, **Yellow-cheeked Tit**, **Kloss's Leaf-warbler** (formerly in the White-tailed Leaf-warbler complex), and a **White-backed Woodpecker** appeared as well which was a bonus. In the distance we heard

**White-necklaced Partridge**, but that would have to wait for another day. A few kilometres more and a female **Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush** was the first of several to be seen this afternoon, and a colony of nesting **Asian House-martins** also held a **Fork-tailed Swift** as well. A short distance further on and we had **Fujian Fulvetta** (split from Grey-hooded/Streak-throated complex), several singing **White-spectacled Warblers**, **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes**, and a brief **Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler**.

For a grand finale we definitely were not expecting, as we drove back down in the early evening sunshine we were extremely fortunate to spot a fine male **Cabot's Tragopan** feeding on fresh buds in a small tree just below the road. So we could look down on him and admire its intricately beautiful plumage, and over the next half an hour he fed totally unconcerned by our presence. As cameras clicked and many superlatives were exchanged this much-wanted species carried on feeding, and on several occasions moved around the branches and clambered into a different tree – all the time with the sun shining on him. What a treat and with smiles all round we drove slowly back down to the hotel



**Rufous-tailed Robin proved to be exceptionally confident on passage.**



**The scenery at Wuyishan was spectacular and holds several prized species.**



**Cabot's Tragopan is undoubtedly the easiest of this family to see well!**

for a celebratory beer or two!

### Day 6 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May

We left the hotel at 4.30am and drove up the mountainous road towards the summit of Huangang Shan. The day dawned clear and promised to be full of birds, and did indeed begin promisingly with several new species and some nice mixed flocks. A female **Cabot's Tragopan** with four chicks crossing the road in front of us was a good way to begin, and was followed by a couple **Barred Cuckoo-doves** flying by, and an extremely cooperative **Pygmy Wren-babbler** giving point-blank views. Higher up the mountain a **Buffy Laughingthrush** was watched singing in a tree, **Fujian Fulvetta** showed well, and then a pair of **Blyth's Shrike-babblers** (now split from White-browed Shrike-babbler) were seen feeding beside the bank right next to the road, plus two male **Small Niltavas** were perched on the same branch singing at each other! Lots of other birds were seen on the drive up including **Yellow-cheeked Tit**, **Collared Finchbill**, **Hartert's** and **Kloss's Leaf-warblers**, **White-spectacled** and **Chestnut-crowned Warblers**, **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush**, **Red-billed Leiothrix**, **Black-chinned Yuhina** and **Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush**. Unfortunately the weather deteriorated rapidly and by the time we had reached the summit was pretty bad with dense mist, high wind and visibility down to just a few metres hampering our attempts at some of the goodies present here. Yet several **Brown Bush-warblers** were seen at very close quarters and a **Yellow-bellied Bush-warbler** was lured in as well, but a singing **White-browed Shortwing** failed to reveal itself. So we headed back down but couldn't escape the rain until much later in the day. During a break in the weather we walked a few kilometres but the pattern for the rest of the day was a lot of legwork for little reward. Yet a flock of **Indochinese Yuhinas** was very nice and a fine **Spotted Wren-babbler** performed very well around its damp gully. The lower down the mountain we got the better the weather but bird activity was very low, although we still had **Spotted Forktail**, a pair of **Red-billed Blue Magpies**, **Mountain Bulbul** and a **Brownish-flanked Bush-warbler**. We walked the last few kilometres back to the hotel seeing a close **Pallas's Warbler**, and after much perseverance Derek found a **Brown Dipper** feeding on the fast flowing stream, and we ended the day with the endemic **Yellow-bellied Tit**.



and an extremely cooperative **Pygmy Wren-babbler** giving point-blank views. Higher up the mountain a **Buffy Laughingthrush** was



**Fujian Fulvetta** is a recent split from the **Streak-throated Fulvetta** complex.



**Blyth's Shrike-babbler** (male) is a recent split from **White-browed Shrike-babbler**.

### Day 7 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May

After a night of heavy rain it didn't look too promising for our chances of reaching Huangang Shan this morning, however the weather cleared up and we began our drive back up the mountain. Our only stop on the way up produced **Yellow-bellied** and **Yellow-cheeked Tits**, as well as a flock of **Black-chinned Yuhinas** and **Red-billed Leiothrix**. On arrival at the summit we were greeted by clearing skies and a rolling mist that would occasionally obscure the wonderful view but compared to yesterday it was so much better. As soon as we arrived a couple of **Buff-throated Warblers** were found and this proved to be a common species up here,

along with **Brown Bush-warbler** and **Rosy Pipit**. Several **Siberian Stonechats** were also seen, along with a colony of **Asian House-martins**, a brief **Siberian Rubythroat**, and several **Yellow-bellied Bush-warblers**. We searched the whole summit for **Upland Pipit** without any success, but did find **Common Rosefinch**, **Daurian Redstart**, **Verditer Flycatcher** and a rather unexpected **Blunt-winged Warbler** which seemed to be on territory and reacted very well to a little tape-feeding. Sadly, by late morning we had to leave and return to the hotel in readiness for our departure, but along the way down we picked up **Bianchi's Warbler** and our sighting of **Brown-chested Jungle-flycatcher** was very unexpected, although not by our local guide! The rest of the afternoon was spent driving across the rainy lowlands to Wuyuan.

### **Day 8 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

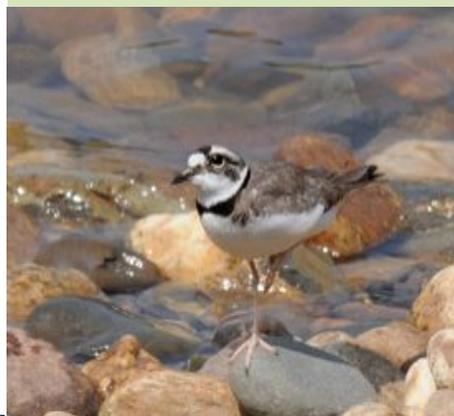
We drove through the rural Wuyuan countryside to a quiet little village alongside a river and walked across some fields where both **White-browed** and **Masked Laughingthrushes** were present. Moving on to a secluded little valley we birded beside a patch of Bamboo for a few hours, and almost immediately a **Grey-sided Scimitar-babbler** began calling from the densely vegetated slope above us. It took quite a while but eventually we had decent and tickable views of a pair as they repeatedly circled us, crossing the path nearby on numerous occasions and alighting briefly on one or two favoured perches. Then a cracking male **Fork-tailed Sunbird** flew in and perched nearby, whilst several flocks of **David's Fulvetta**s passed by, and amidst one such flock a **Grey-headed Parrotbill** made the first of two appearances here this morning. Other birds seen included **Chinese Pond-heron**, **Grey-headed Lapwing**, **Crested Serpent-eagle**, **Dollarbird** and **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush**. By mid-morning it was really quite hot so we retraced our route to the river and after a bit of a search found a **Long-billed Plover** on a shingle bank. Our next stop was beside another river to view some distant **Blue-throated Bee-eaters** before arriving at a patch of tall woodland beside another village where in no time at all we were watching numerous **Courtois's Laughingthrushes** in the canopy above us. There were maybe 50 or so birds present, many of which seemed to be nest-building high overhead or moving around the wood in roving flocks. At one stage several birds came quite low and began feeding on a bare trunk allowing incredibly great views. Hardly any western birders have made the pilgrimage to see this very rare species since its rediscovery in 2000, really quite a shame as it is a stunningly beautiful bird. The same patch of woodland also held **Great Spotted** and **Grey-capped Woodpeckers**, **Chinese Blackbird**, **Ashy Drongo** and **Grey Treepie** as well. Leaving here we headed to a restaurant for a fine lunch, stopping to see a **Brown Crake** catch a mouse in some roadside ricefields (!) and whilst it was being prepared we walked up to the roof and had very close views of a pair of **Pied Falconets** which were nesting in a hole in a large tree nearby. We watched the birds catching dragonflies and butterflies and bringing their catch to the hole. It really was quite a show and so great to be able to watch



The scenery at Huanggang Shan was truly spectacular and unlike anywhere else.



Fork-tailed Sunbird at Wuyuan. An often tricky species to connect with.



Long-billed Plover at Wuyuan - a good bird to find and this one showed well.

these birds more or less at eye-level as they perched in the surrounding treetops. The afternoon session commenced alongside a river where a **Brown-breasted Bulbul** was perched on a telegraph wire. As we watched this a **Chinese Hwamei** began singing and was lured onto the same wires giving superb views in the scope, and a **Crested Kingfisher** also flew by and landed. Then amidst an area of rice fields a couple of **Russet Sparrows** and several **Red-billed Starlings** were present, and at the next site just along the road a short distance an **Asian Barred Owl** gave brief views. We ended the day back at the **Courtois's Laughingthrush** wood where we enjoyed seconds of these great birds, along with a **Grey-headed Woodpecker**, **Japanese Grosbeak** and some flyover **White-throated Needle-tails**.

### **Day 9 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Not far out of the city as we were driving through the rural countryside around Wuyuan we stopped to watch a flock of noisy **Masked Laughingthrushes** and as we returned to the minibus a **Chinese Bamboo-partridge** began calling from above us on the steep slope. As we pulled alongside the area a pair of bamboo-partridges were seen fighting and rolling down the earth bank towards us, when suddenly they realised they were being watched and ran for cover. A short wait then resulted in further views of a slightly ashamed looking individual walking up the slope and away from us! Having just said this species hardly ever shows out in the open, how wrong can you be! We then returned to the secluded valley again this morning and split up in search of the tough skulkers we wanted to see, which turned up several brief **Elliot's Pheasants** and a **Tiger Shrike** for one group and a juvenile **Silver Pheasant** for the others. Several **Dusky Fulvettas** were present this morning and showed very well for everyone, whilst plenty of other common birds were seen. Leaving here we paid a visit to another site for **Short-tailed Parrotbill** but only succeeded in adding **Cinnamon Bittern** and **Yellow-bellied Prinia** to our list. In the afternoon we headed back to the laughingthrush wood and had **Black-collared Starling** on some telegraph wires along the way. Once at the wood we walked to the far side where Menxiu found a couple of drake **Mandarin Ducks** roosting in a tree on the opposite bank, and in the end we counted five males. Also here was a **Black-winged Cuckooshrike**, as well as several fine **Black-naped Orioles** and a **Grey-faced Woodpecker**.

### **Day 10 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Another crack at **Elliot's Pheasant** resulted in brief views of a male after a tricky hike through tall, wet grassland and Bamboo forest. Apart from that, all the usual birds were seen at this site before we left on the long drive back to Nanchang. Well it shouldn't have been that long but with heavy rain and flooding as we approached the city, coupled with major roadwork's resulted in a much later arrival time than originally anticipated. It was here we said farewell to David who had to return to the UK early.



**Courtois's Laughingthrush – only possible to see in this one small area of China.**



**Masked Laughingthrush is more widespread but still nice to see.**



**Climbing up to the roof of a restaurant was worth it for these views of Pied Falconet.**

## Day 11 Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Another short internal flight took us to Fuzhou where we arrived early afternoon and drove the short distance to the coast, where we donned wellington boots once again upon reaching a coastal tidal creek. Here a boatman took us a few kilometres along the channel to the edge of the Minjiang Estuary, where we set about searching for the exceedingly rare **Chinese Crested Tern**. This is undoubtedly one of the best places to find this bird, as a few individuals regularly roost and feed here before returning to their nesting islands some 30kms away. With viewing conditions hampered by the sea mist that is often present here, this wasn't an easy search but at least 40 **Great Crested Terns** patrolling the coast and landing at the water's edge on several occasions kept our hopes high. The incoming tide necessitated a hasty walk up the coast before we had to return across a deeper channel in the middle of the estuary, but on at least two occasions we had views of flyby **Chinese Crested Terns** to get our pulses racing. They were easy to pick out, being much paler and almost white on the upperparts compared to the **Great Crested Terns**, with long bills and a quick view in the scope revealed the all-important dark tip to the bill. Plenty of other waders were here and most giving close views including **Far Eastern Curlew**, **Great Knot** and **Grey-tailed Tattler**, along with over 70 **Terek Sandpipers** and large gatherings of **Red-necked Stints**. Unfortunately, with high tide at 4.00pm it didn't give us long to scan the tideline as the water retreated before the light began to fade and we had to return to our waiting vehicles. As we left both **Arctic** and **Dusky Warbler** were found amidst some driftwood on the beach.



David's Fulvetta is a recent split from Grey-cheeked Fulvetta.



Chinese Pond-heron in breeding plumage is a really stunning bird when seen well.

## Day 12 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Another attempt at the elusive **Chinese Crested Tern** necessitated a 4.40am departure from the hotel, however with driving rain and dense mist it did seem like rather a foolish thing to do! Yet upon arrival at the narrow channel where our boatman was waiting to ferry us across to the estuary, the rain eased enough for us to seriously consider going for it. Once everyone was across and with the day brightening the thick mist was the next obstacle we had to overcome. The tide was receding rapidly but we just couldn't see more than 50 yards in any direction, but we decided to wade across the channel onto the opposite side of the estuary and try our luck there. The mist did recede a little and we began to see some waders moving around but it was hard going. A small group of around 15 **Great Crested Terns** could just be made out in the poor conditions some distance away, but there wasn't anything paler readily apparent amongst them. When they flew away some of the group decided to go with Menxiu and look for **White-shouldered Starling** so leaving a few foolish souls to continue the apparently futile tern search. Well, after a little while we could see blue sky and the mist lifted just enough to raise our optimism and then we started to hear terns somewhere in the distance and walked towards the commotion. Sure enough we could just about make out a group of **Great Crested Terns**, which promptly flew off and we wondered if it was just not to be our day. All of a sudden Tony picked up a couple of terns at the water's edge which flew up and close past us showing very pale upperparts and a long, dark tipped bill – **Chinese**



Red-billed Starling was quite common in rural areas around Wuyuan.

**Crested Terns!!** They disappeared into the mist and celebrations began. But we were not done as the distinctive sound of more terns carried to us through the dense bank of mist further along the coast. So we walked towards it and spotted a line of Great Cresteds on a sand bar, as well as the two **Chinese Crested Terns** again. The mist lifted sufficiently and we edged closer and closer until we dared not go any more and lapped up the views of these incredibly rare birds. So feeling rather elated we caught up with the rest of the group and enjoyed nice views of several **White-shouldered Starlings** on the telegraph wires, along with a flyby **Lesser Coucal** as well before heading up to Fuzhou Forest Park. We had lunch here before setting out on the trails and despite a heavy shower managed some nice views of **Great Barbet**, **Chestnut Bulbul** and **Fork-tailed Sunbird**. Another trail gave brief views of a distant **Bay Woodpecker**, whilst a **Collared Owlet** flew in and perched overhead and a trio of **Rufous Woodpeckers** perched up in a big tree. Best of all was a couple **Grey-headed Parrotbills** called in and they gave nice protracted views as they fed close by. With Menxiu seeing a **Pale-headed Woodpecker** beside the trail the omens looked promising for our final bash at birding in south-east China tomorrow.



**Chinese Crested Tern (2 birds on left) is one of the rarest birds in the world.**



**Collared Owlet can be found across Asia but is always nice to see.**

### **Day 13 Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

A last early start saw us following the paved path that meanders along the side of the mountains here and despite the humid conditions we enjoyed some great sightings. A flock of **Indochinese Yuhinas** gave an outstanding show as they came in to inspect our owlet imitation, which also attracted a **Chestnut Bulbul** as well. Both **Grey-sided** and **Streak-breasted Scimitar-babblers** and **Great Barbet** also showed well, as did **Orange-bellied Leafbird**, whilst **Scarlet Minivet** was a little distant. A **White-necklaced Partridge** called repeatedly from the hill above us and was seen briefly by the leaders, but couldn't be lured closer. Returning to the car park we followed the path beside a fast-flowing mountain stream where a **Blue Whistling-thrush** flew by, and our final new bird of the tour was a splendid **Slaty-backed Forktail** to finish our birding in this seldom visited corner of China. In the afternoon we flew back to Shanghai and said our goodbyes to Menxiu who had proven to be a superb guide and a good friend.



**We came across a flock of confiding Indochinese Yuhinas at Fuzhou.**



**Slaty-backed Forktail was seen along the stream at Fuzhou Forest Park.**

### **Day 14 Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

All that remained was to set out on our various journey's home and our cosmopolitan group headed off to all points of the globe, namely Canada, Beijing, UK and Japan and the conclusion of another great Asian tour.

Nick Bray.

## BIRDLIST FOR SE CHINA 2012

SPECIES Endemics in bold	SCIENTIFIC NAME
1. <b>White-necklaced Partridge (H)</b>	<i>Arborophila gingica</i>
2. <b>Chinese Bamboo-Partridge</b>	<i>Bambusicola thoracicus</i>
3. <b>Cabot's Tragopan</b>	<i>Tragopan caboti</i>
4. Silver Pheasant	<i>Lophura nycthemera</i>
5. <b>Elliot's Pheasant</b>	<i>Syrmaticus ellioti</i>
6. Ring-necked Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
7. Mandarin Duck	<i>Aix galericulata</i>
8. Chinese Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas zonhoryncha</i>
9. Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
10. Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
11. Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
12. Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
13. Great Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>
14. Yellow Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>
15. Cinnamon Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>
16. Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
17. Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
18. Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
19. Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>
20. Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
21. Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>
22. Chinese Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>

23.	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
24.	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
25.	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
26.	Black-faced Spoonbill	<i>Platalea minor</i>
27.	Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
28.	Eastern Marsh-Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>
29.	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
30.	Chinese Goshawk	<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>
31.	Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>
32.	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
33.	Mountain Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>
34.	Pied Falconet	<i>Microhierax melanoleucos</i>
35.	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>
36.	Brown Crake	<i>Amauornis akool</i>
37.	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>
38.	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
39.	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>
40.	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
41.	Pacific Golden-plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
42.	Lesser Sandplover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>
43.	Greater Sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
44.	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
45.	White-faced Plover	<i>Charadrius dealbatus</i>
46.	Long-billed Plover	<i>Charadrius placidus</i>
47.	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
48.	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>

49.	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
50.	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
51.	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>
52.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
53.	Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>
54.	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
55.	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
56.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
57.	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
58.	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
59.	Little Curlew	<i>Numenius minutus</i>
60.	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
61.	Far Eastern Curlew	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>
62.	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
63.	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
64.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
65.	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
66.	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>
67.	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>
68.	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
69.	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>
70.	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
71.	Long-toed Stint	<i>Calidris subminuta</i>
72.	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>
73.	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>

74.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
75.	Spoon-billed Sandpiper	<i>Eurynorhynchus pygmeus</i>
76.	Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>
77.	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
78.	Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
79.	Swinhoe's Snipe	<i>Gallinago megala</i>
80.	Oriental Pratincole	<i>Glareola maldivarum</i>
81.	Saunders's Gull	<i>Saundersilarus saundersi</i>
82.	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
83.	Black-tailed Gull	<i>Larus crassirostris</i>
84.	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
85.	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelocheidon nilotica</i>
86.	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>
87.	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
88.	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>
89.	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
90.	Great Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>
91.	Chinese Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bernsteini</i>
92.	Rock Dove	<i>Columbia livia</i>
93.	Oriental Turtle-dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
94.	Red Collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
95.	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
96.	Barred Cuckoo-dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>
97.	Chestnut-winged Cuckoo	<i>Clamator coromandus</i>
98.	Large Hawk-cuckoo	<i>Cuculus sparverioides</i>
	Himalayan Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>

99.		
10 0.	Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>
10 1.	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
10 2.	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>
10 3.	Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
10 4.	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>
10 5.	Northern Boobook	<i>Ninox japonica</i>
10 6.	White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>
10 7.	Pacific Swift	<i>Apus pacificus</i>
10 8.	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
10 9.	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
11 0.	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>
11 1.	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>
11 2.	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
11 3.	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>
11 4.	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
11 5.	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
11 6.	Great Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>
11 7.	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>
11 8.	Grey-capped Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>
11 9.	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>
12 0.	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
12 1.	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Celeus brachyurus</i>
12 2.	Grey-faced Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>
12 3.	Pale-headed Woodpecker (H)	<i>Gecinulus grantia</i>
12	Bay Woodpecker	<i>Blythipicus pyrrhotis</i>

4 12 5.	Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>
12 6.	Swinhoe's Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cantonensis</i>
12 7.	Ashy Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>
12 8.	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
12 9.	Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
13 0.	Tiger Shrike	<i>Lanius tigrinus</i>
13 1.	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
13 2.	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
13 3.	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>
13 4.	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>
13 5.	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
13 6.	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
13 7.	Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>
13 8.	Japanese Paradise-flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone atrocaudata</i>
13 9.	Asian Paradise-flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
14 0.	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
14 1.	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>
14 2.	Red-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>
14 3.	Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>
14 4.	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
14 5.	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
14 6.	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
14 7.	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
14 8.	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>
14 9.	Asian House-Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>

15 0.	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>
15 1.	<b>Yellow-bellied Tit</b>	<b><i>Pardaliparus venustulus</i></b>
15 2.	Eastern Great Tit	<i>Parus minor</i>
15 3.	Yellow-cheeked Tit	<i>Parus spilonotus</i>
15 4.	Yellow-browed Tit	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
15 5.	Chinese Penduline-tit (H)	<i>Remiz consobrinus</i>
15 6.	Black-throated Tit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
15 7.	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>
15 8.	Collared Finchbill	<i>Spizixos semitorques</i>
15 9.	Brown-breasted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus xanthorrhous</i>
16 0.	Chinese Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus sinensis</i>
16 1.	Sooty-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus aurigaster</i>
16 2.	Himalayan Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
16 3.	Chestnut Bulbul	<i>Hemixos castanonotus</i>
16 4.	Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mccllellandii</i>
16 5.	Manchurian Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia canturians</i>
16 6.	Brownish-flanked Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>
16 7.	Yellowish-bellied Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia acanthizoides</i>
16 8.	Brown Bush-warbler	<i>Bradypterus luteoventris</i>
16 9.	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
17 0.	Buff-throated Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus subaffinis</i>
17 1.	Radde's Warbler (L)	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>
17 2.	Pallas's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>
17 3.	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
17 4.	Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>

17 5.	Two-barred Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>
17 6.	Pale-legged Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>
17 7.	Eastern Crowned Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>
17 8.	Claudia's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus claudiae</i>
17 9.	<b>Hartert's Leaf-warbler</b>	<b><i>Phylloscopus goodsoni fokiensis</i></b>
18 0.	Kloss's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus o. ogilviegranti</i>
18 1.	Sulphur-breasted Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ricketti</i>
18 2.	Bianchi's Warbler	<i>Seicercus valentine latouchei</i>
18 3.	White-spectacled Warbler	<i>Seicercus affinis intermedius</i>
18 4.	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>
18 5.	Rufous-faced Warbler	<i>Abroscopus albogularis</i>
18 6.	Black-browed Reed-warbler	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>
18 7.	Blunt-winged Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus concinens</i>
18 8.	Oriental Reed-warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
18 9.	<b>Marsh Grassbird</b>	<b><i>Megalurus pryeri</i></b>
19 0.	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
19 1.	Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
19 2.	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
19 3.	Masked Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax perspicillatus</i>
19 4.	Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax monileger</i>
19 5.	Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i>
19 6.	<b>Courtois's Laughingthrush</b>	<b><i>Dryonastes galbanus</i></b>
19 7.	Buffy Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax berthemyi</i>
19 8.	<b>Chinese Hwamei</b>	<b><i>Garrulax canorus</i></b>
19 9.	White-browed Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax sannio</i>
20	Rufous-capped Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis ruficeps</i>

0.		
20 1.	Spotted Wren-Babbler	<i>Spelaeornis formosus</i>
20 2.	<b>Grey-sided Scimitar-Babbler</b>	<b><i>Pomatorhinus swinhoei</i></b>
20 3.	Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>
20 4.	Pygmy Cupwing	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>
20 5.	Red-billed Leiothrix	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>
20 6.	Blyth's Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius ricketti</i>
20 7.	<b>Fujian Fulvetta</b>	<b><i>Alcippe guttaticolis</i></b>
20 8.	<b>David's Fulvetta</b>	<b><i>Alcippe morrisonia davidi</i></b>
20 9.	Dusky Fulvetta	<i>Schoeniparus brunnea</i>
21 0.	Indochinese Yuhina	<i>Yuhina torqueola</i>
21 1.	Black-chinned Yuhina	<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>
21 2.	Grey-headed Parrotbill	<i>Paradoxornis gularis</i>
21 3.	Vinous-throated Parrotbill	<i>Paradoxornis webbianus</i>
21 4.	<b>Reed Parrotbill</b>	<b><i>Paradoxornis heudei</i></b>
21 5.	Japanese White-eye	<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>
21 6.	Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>
21 7.	Grey-streaked Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>
21 8.	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>
21 9.	Yellow-rumped Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i>
22 0.	Narcissus Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula narcissina</i>
22 1.	Elisae's Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula elisae</i>
22 2.	Mugimaki Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>
22 3.	Blue-and-white Flycatcher	<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>
22 4.	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>
22	Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>

5		
22 6.	Brown-chested Jungle-flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias brunneatus</i>
22 7.	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
22 8.	White-browed Shortwing (H)	<i>Brachypteryx montana</i>
22 9.	Rufous-tailed Robin	<i>Larvivora sibilans</i>
23 0.	Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Larvivora cyane</i>
23 1.	Blue Whistling-thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>
23 2.	White-crowned Forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>
23 3.	Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>
23 4.	Slaty-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>
23 5.	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>
23 6.	Plumbeous Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i>
23 7.	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>
23 8.	Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>
23 9.	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura</i>
24 0.	Siberian Thrush	<i>Zoothera sibirica</i>
24 1.	Chinese Blackbird	<i>Turdus mandarinus</i>
24 2.	Eye-browed Thrush	<i>Turdus obscurus</i>
24 3.	Pale Thrush	<i>Turdus pallidus</i>
24 4.	Brown-headed Thrush	<i>Turdus chrysolaus</i>
24 5.	Crested Myna	<i>Acridotheres cristatellus</i>
24 6.	Black-collared Starling	<i>Gracupica nigricollis</i>
24 7.	Daurian Starling	<i>Sturnia sturnina</i>
24 8.	White-shouldered Starling	<i>Sturnia sinensis</i>
24 9.	Red-billed Starling	<i>Sturnus sericeus</i>
25	White-cheeked Starling	<i>Sturnus cineraceus</i>

0		
25	Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>
1.		
25	<b>Fork-tailed Sunbird</b>	<b><i>Aethopyga christinae</i></b>
2.		
25	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
3.		
25	Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i>
4.		
25	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
5.		
25	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
6.		
25	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
7.		
25	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>
8.		
25	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>
9.		
26	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
0.		
26	Pechora Pipit	<i>Anthus gustavi</i>
1.		
26	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>
2.		
26	Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>
3.		
26	Crested Bunting	<i>Emberiza lathami</i>
4.		
26	Meadow Bunting	<i>Emberiza cioides</i>
5.		
26	Chestnut Bunting	<i>Emberiza rutila</i>
6.		
26	Tristram's Bunting	<i>Emberiza tristrami</i>
7.		
26	Black-faced Bunting	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>
8.		
26	Pallas's Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza pallasi</i>
9.		
27	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
0.		
27	Oriental Greenfinch	<i>Chloris sinica</i>
1.		
27	Yellow-billed Grosbeak	<i>Eophona migratoria</i>
2.		
27	Japanese Grosbeak	<i>Eophona personata</i>
3.		
27	Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer rutilans</i>
4.		
27	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
5.		

27	White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>
27	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
7.		

## ZOOTHERA GLOBAL BIRDING

19 Tudor Close

Paignton

Devon

TQ4 7RF

Tel: 01803 431765

email: [info@zotherabirding.com](mailto:info@zotherabirding.com)

web: [www.zotherabirding.com](http://www.zotherabirding.com)



ZOOTHERA GLOBAL  
BIRDING - SOUTH-EAST CHINA  
TOUR REPORT 2012