

India - A Wildlife Cruise on the Brahmaputra River

Naturetrek Tour Report

31 January - 17 February 2014



Cruise Boat Charaidev



Asian Elephants



Indian Pond Heron



Golden Langur



Elephant Ride

Report & images compiled by Bharat Mandhyan



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Day 1

Friday 31st January

This morning we whisked you from Kolkata airport to your elegant hotel near Salt Lake Stadium; lunch was eaten and in the afternoon we headed to the Botanical Gardens of Kolkata for a gentle stroll and an introduction to some of eastern India's beautiful birds. An Asian Koel and a Common Hawk-Cuckoo serenaded us from the trees of this attractive site, as we watched Coppersmith, Blue-throated and Brown-headed Barbets, Common and Jungle Mynas, Greater Coucal and Rose-ringed Parakeet. Black Kites drifted overhead, and Five-striped Palm-Squirrels scampered lightly through the forest as sooty-grey Common Langurs romped through the grass (the sootiness was a geographical variation, rather than pollution!). After supper, time was at your leisure – with some of you choosing to explore the bustle of the streets of Kolkata – and the evening was spent in the delightful Hyatt Hotel.

Day 2

Saturday 1st February

First on our agenda this morning was our flight to Assam. We collected you early from your hotel and retraced our steps to the airport for our short and comfortable flight northeast to Dibrugarh. From the left of the plane we had a glorious view of lofty Kanchenjunga (believed until 1852 to be the highest mountain in the world, and still mightily miffed at losing the accolade!) and many of its snow-clad friends. At Dibrugarh we were efficiently collected by Babu and Imran (setting the tone for the outstanding efficiency of all our local staff throughout the cruise) and driven for about four hours through the charming countryside of Assam.

Tiny black goats and dumpy toffee-coloured cows chomped by the roadsides, Purple Swamphens, Indian Pond Herons and Purple Herons crowded the ditches and marshes, and immaculate houses with bright gardens met our gaze wherever we looked. On arriving at the great sandy beaches of the Brahmaputra we boarded our boat – Charaidew – and were met by the smiling crew bearing fruit juice. You were quickly settled into your spacious cabins. After supper, our first evening’s entertainment largely consisted of learning to put on our splendidly orange life jackets. We wore them grudgingly at first, but we would grow used to them by the end of the cruise.

Day 3

Sunday 2nd February

By dawn today, many of you were on the top deck of Charaidew, taking photos or simply admiring the majesty of the river in the cold, early-morning light. This morning was devoted to our first major outing – to Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary – in search of the eponymous ape and a host of other great creatures. After another drive through attractive and fascinating Assamese landscapes we reached the sanctuary where – after meandering into the thicket for some distance a small family of Pig Tailed Macaques sat waiting for us in a tree above the guard station near the entrance. We watched them for some time until we were distracted by the second charismatic creature to be found before we’d left the car-park...two Malayan Giant Squirrels (and yes, they really are giant) were found by the sharp eyes of the park guards in a nearby tree. Having admired the squirrels to our satisfaction we strode off into the forest for a wonderful walk. A brilliant Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker shone from a tangle of vines and nearby Common Iora and Oriental White-eyes were seen. Red-breasted Parakeets called from the treetops, Maroon Oriole soared over the canopy in a way which brings a warm, fuzzy glow to a tour-leader’s heart, and we were treated to lengthy looks at a family of Hoolock Gibbons going about their business. Even more of a treat, some of you felt, was the chorus of gibbon-song that accompanied us around the forest.

On returning to the entrance of the park we were shown the shape of things to come in terms of Charaidew’s hospitality – in our absence the team had prepared an excellent breakfast in the garden of the guard station. That breakfast was frequently interrupted by the creatures which appeared while we were enjoying it. An Orange-headed Thrush was found, much admired and much photographed behind the guard station, and a family of coy Capped Langurs put in an occasional appearance. The best of the Capped Langurs was yet to come however. After breakfast we once again walked into the forest and hadn’t got far before we encountered the same family of monkeys among the trees and vines by the track. Our walk ended at a crossroads where on one side we watched a perched Common Hawk Cuckoo and on the other we were delighted by a Crimson Sunbird. So many beautiful, charismatic birds in one forest!

On the drive back to the Brahmaputra we stopped at a roadside swamp to admire Bronze-winged Jacanas, Asian Openbills, Lesser Adjutants, Lesser Whistling-Ducks, Spotbills and Grey-headed Lapwings. And as we reached the shore we were treated to a small flock of Bar-headed Geese on the beach and to the lovely sight of a huge train of domestic buffalo, including skipping calves, being driven through the shallows.

In the afternoon we sailed for the first time, en route to Majuli Island and on reaching it we took a brief walk through a village in the golden light of the afternoon. Children beamed their impossibly big smiles at us, Green Bee-eaters zipped overhead, Chestnut-tailed Starlings gorged themselves from the flaming flowers of Silk Cotton Trees. And we were happy to be there!

Day 4

Monday 3rd February

This morning we visited Majuli, described as the world's biggest river island (and frankly it concerns me a little that there's someone out there who claims to have measured them all!). Biggest or not, it is a delightfully beautiful place. We first stopped at a marsh outside a village where we were treated to one of our favourite scenes - everywhere we looked there were birds and also smiling people and tail-wagging dogs. Citrine Wagtails, Paddyfield Pipits and Baya Weavers fed in the muddy fields around the marsh; Green and Wood Sandpipers trotted through the shallows; Northern Lapwings and River Terns flapped by; and a straight-from-the-field guide, a cameo of Great, Intermediate, Cattle and Little Egrets was also to be seen. Next we visited our first Mising tribal village where ladies spun and wove, mustard-seed dried on trays in the sun, pigs rooted in the shadows and – as was the case everywhere we went in Assam – everybody greeted us with bright eyes and beautiful smiles. We drifted to a thatch-built stilt-house where, as we sat cross-legged, Mising rice wine and a local chicken dish were provided for us to sample. Driving from the village we encountered stately Lesser Adjutant Storks (and their not-so-stately offspring) nesting in the tops of trees.

Our final stop this morning was first Aunuati and then at the beautiful Kamalabari Monastery where we were privileged to watch monks perform their entrancing, time-honoured dance in honour of the incarnations of Vishnu. The short walk back to the vehicles was brightened by Silk Cotton Trees decked with blossom, Common Mynas and Jungle Mynas.

This afternoon we set sail in earnest – more books, more beers and, for those sporting binoculars, plenty to watch. Gangetic River Dolphins broke the endless expanses of water alongside Pallas' Fish-Eagle and Long-legged Buzzards which were seen over the banks and beaches of the river. Gadwall, Ruddy Shelduck and Bar-headed Geese were present in their thousands. And as we reached our mooring, and the people of the nearby village came out to see us, we bemused them completely by performing a Mexican wave and trying to persuade them to return the compliment!

Day 5

Tuesday 4th February

Today was largely spent sailing but before we set sail we visited the lovely village of Jamuguri. Here, as on Majuli Island, we were met with smiles in every home. Those of a birdier persuasion also had plenty to keep them busy, with good views on offer of Greenish Warbler, Baya Weaver, the ever popular Indian Roller and many other handsome birds. Having visited the village, taken a thousand photos, and bought beautiful local textiles, we returned to Charaidew and set sail for the rest of the day, passing shores dotted with countless ducks, with the beady eyes of hungry Peregrines and a White-tailed Eagle trained on them. On our left side Kaziranga National Park soon appeared, as Gangetic Dolphins surfaced all around us – who could ask for more?

After mooring we decided to take the country boat to check the channel out, as we had heard it was too shallow to manoeuvre towards the eastern range of the Kaziranga National Park and to our dismay this appeared to be true so there was change of plan, we headed back to Charaidew and started sailing further downstream. Another good thing today was that we spotted our first Indian Wild Water Buffalo on the shores of the channel...

Day 6

Wednesday 5th February

Due to heavy mist in the morning we started our sail late but had a delightful mooring at Silghat, where butterflies abound. This is a favourite feeding ground for the Gangetic River Dolphins, and everybody had sightings of the same.

This afternoon we made our first foray into Kaziranga National Park, before reaching the Bagori range we stopped at the Gajraj viewpoint overlooking the park. We did the western range of the park by jeep, with notable highlights being several rare Swamp Francolins, and as we drove back through the dusk we watched a family of Elephants with a tiny infant playing in a lake, as Spot-billed Pelicans bobbed in the shallows nearby.

Day 7

Thursday 6th February

For many, this morning was the most magical of an altogether wonderful trip. We left Charaidew before dawn in order to reach the central range of Kaziranga for an early morning Elephant-ride through the great grasslands of the park. Two male Rhinos, allowed us to get close, and countless photos were taken! Our placid elephants, and their skilled mahouts, led us through herds of Water Buffalo, Hog Deer and Barasingha; Siberian Stonechats stood guard atop the grass-clumps, while Plain Prinias wove their way through the grasses; and our lives slowed to the gentle pace of our swaying elephants as we all enjoyed the experience, silent and spellbound.

After that, we made our way to the western range of the park where a fine breakfast was taken at the gate. Our tummies full, we drove into the park for a delightful safari. The by-now normal cast of wonderful creatures (rhino and deer in great numbers) were joined here by a White Pelican overhead in perfect light, a Greater Adjutant Stork circling in a stack of Lessers, and Crested Serpent-Eagles and Changeable Hawk-Eagles on late-morning thermals. From a tower over a lake we watched Greenshank and Spotted Redshank, and a family of graceful Black-necked Storks, as well as a party of Smooth-coated Otters that played on the shore before swimming the length of the lake in front of us. A perfect day!

Day 8

Friday 7th February

We started early to do the eastern range (Agratoli) which consists of woodland and grassland, the serenity and the diversity of the park was mesmerizing. Greater One-horned Rhinos abounded, Asian Elephants made vain attempts to hide in the undergrowth, and Hog Deer, Barasingha and Wild Boar carpeted the edges of every waterhole. The birds came thick and fast too from the Sahola Watchtower overlooking the large lake (jheel).

A delicious lunch was taken at a nearby Diphulu River Lodge. And then we returned back to our Charaidew. Later a surprise awaited us at Charaidew whereby on the sun-deck, local youngsters danced and sang Bihu, a dance telling of love, spring and new life.

Day 9

Saturday 8th February

After taking an early breakfast we drove towards Burapahar range of the park which a mixture of well wooded with grassland area. Fewer mammals were seen today however, birds abounded in the Silk Cotton forest and scrub.

Alexandrine and Rose-ringed Parakeets shrieked from the blossom-laden trees, accompanied by hordes of Chestnut-tailed Starlings, Common Mynas and Red-vented Bulbuls. Here we saw distant Wreathed Hornbill. Highlight was on our drive back when Imran spotted a cracker of a bird - the ever-elusive Pied Falconet. This exceptional sight flummoxed your leaders for a moment (and let's face it, we're not easily flummoxable!)

We started sailing towards Tezpur as soon as we reached Charaidew. Since we planned earlier to have a shopping experience, we drove to the Tezpur city market and strolled there, experiencing busy streets with shops everywhere selling all sorts of material that one can think of...some picked up the spices and others enjoyed picking up silk woven items.

Day 10

Sunday 9th February

And for something completely different, today we drove to Nameri National Park where we boarded rubber rafts and, guided by the skilful paddles of local tribal people, we drifted down a river. Red-vented Bulbuls squeaked and whistled from the flame-flowered Silk Cotton Trees, the skies were filled with the wings of hundreds of birds, and nobody felt the need to say a word. Rare Ibisbills probed among the rocks with their slender bills, Common Merganser, River Terns drifted by on silvery wings, Great Thick-knees crouched on a beach and a Pallas' Fish-Eagle took exception to a Jungle Crow approaching its nest.

After rafting we had tea (Chai) at the eco camp where we visited a breeding programme for the highly endangered Pygmy Hog. All in all, a marvellous way to spend a day! We sailed further downstream towards Guwahati and this time we moored at a deserted sandy beach on the river, where we had a bbq on the beach and some Assamese and English music.

Day 11

Monday 10th February

Before starting our sail today we visited a river island and Chitalmari village, where we saw their vegetable farms and saw their houses from inside too. Today we set sail for the last time, bound for the Assamese metropolis of Guwahati. From our mooring in the river we visited the celebrated Umananda Temple on Peacock Island. I'd like to say we admired the introduced population of Golden Langurs here but, to be quite honest, they were too portly to bound through the trees like proper langurs, they sat, quite literally, on the fence! ...and here too – and slightly more wild-looking – we found Asian Koel and Purple Sunbird.

Day 12

Tuesday 11th February

Our last visit was to the thought-provoking Kamakhya Temple on a hill above Guwahati. Later, we bid heartfelt farewells to the staff of Charaidew, and headed for the airport. We took our packed lunch boxes and made an unattractive-sounding trip to the rubbish dump at Gorchuk outside the city. Ghastly as it sounded, this is a memorable outing... As we reached the dump we saw at least a hundred Greater Adjutants – a tremendous chunk of the remaining world population of this endangered bird – and swirling thousands of Black Kites (both Black and Black-eared subspecies). Perhaps the real highlight, however, was the chance to meet the graceful Bangladeshi people who, tiny children included, clamber over the dunes of rubbish every day, in search of anything that can be sold. We flew back to Kolkata for a final night in the grandeur of the Hyatt.

Day 13

Wednesday 12th February

This morning eight of you headed to the airport for your flight back to the UK, others headed for the Sunderbans post-trip extension.

Sunderbans Extension

Day 1

Wednesday 12th February

After we said goodbye to our 8 guests, Yvonne, Roy, Cynthia, Helen, Andy, Janice, Richard, Mary, Mathew, Lizzie and I set off on the next leg of our adventure to the Sunderbans. The three hour bus ride provided views of village life in rural Bengal. We were greeted by Mr Sambhu and his team and welcomed on our boat 'Sundari'. We sailed for two hours to our camp at Tigerland in Pakhirala. The camp was pretty and picturesque. We sorted ourselves out and after lunch visited the Sajnekhali office and watchtower. The watchtower produced a few Chital Deer, Wild Boar, Ashy Woodswallows and Small Minivets.

Day 2

Thursday 13th February

We left early and sailed towards the Sudhanyakhali watchtower. We spend some time there watching Purple-rumped Sunbirds fleeing around in the surrounding trees. We then moved on as tourist boats appeared at the jetty. We quickly saw our first Brown-winged Kingfisher and we saw more Brown-wings as we sailed on. Large crocs were seen today along with more Chital.

We came back to the tower in the afternoon and spotted Black-rumped Woodpeckers on a dead tree! Black-naped Monarchs and Bronze Drongo were having a dip while we watched.

Day 3

Friday 14th February

Today we travelled south taking the outer route towards Dobanki canopy walk. The walk did not produce much but we saw a few crocodiles in the course of the day along with some Brown-winged Kingfishers and many Black-capped Kingfishers. A White-bellied Sea-eagle put up a great aerial display when it mobbed a young Brahminy Kite off his patch. On the way back we stopped at the Sudhanyakhali tower. A large troop of Rhesus Macaques were feeding on some berries from a tree close to the watchtower, and a big drama unfolded in the troop when a large male appeared on site.

Day 4

Saturday 15th February

Our plan today was to go to the place called the sea face, where about eight rivers merge together - this part of the delta is so wide its called the sea face. As usual we started early to avoid other tourist boats. We came across many Irrawaddy Dolphins that showed up, and they put on a glorious show! They stayed around for a while breaching every so often. As we approached the village the sun was setting for us for the final time in the Sunderbans.

Day 5

Sunday 16th February

Today was the day of departure. We packed our bags and said goodbye to the crew of the camp. We set sail down south circumnavigating the Bali Island. We sailed on and then turned northwards. We came up to Amlabethi Island where we came across a few hundred ducks like Common Shelducks, Gadwalls, Shoveler, and Lesser Whistling Ducks. A flock of Grey-headed Lapwings were also seen on the mudflats. We then arrived at Godkhali and boarded the waiting bus for Kolkata and the start of our return journey back to the UK...

Day 6

Monday 17th February

Since the flight back to UK was at 20.30 today some planned to do the city tour today with myself and a local guide who showed us Victoria Memorial which was built in 1921 in memory of Queen Victoria in similar way the Taj was built. After having lunch at the local restaurant we visited the St. Paul's Cathedral built in 1847, and thereafter we did the cemetery. We also spent time walking down the historical part of the Kolkata City before we had to head to the airport...

Summary

What a perfect way to spend ten days – lazing aboard a luxurious boat with our every need met; gazing out onto the great landscapes of the Brahmaputra, beer in hand; watching myriad birds and mammals along the river's shore; and visiting temples and villages where people competed with each other to be welcoming and kind. Simply delightful!

Thank you all for making such a fantastic trip – thank you for your sensitivity to the people and landscapes of Assam; for your tremendous enthusiasm for its charismatic wildlife, birds, mammals, butterflies and wild places; for your thousand questions about India's nature and culture; and for your constant smiles and frequent laughter.

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Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans	
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
1	Little Grebe	<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>				✓									
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Black-Necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>										✓			
4	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>							✓						
5	Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
6	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
7	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>								✓					✓
8	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
12	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
13	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>						✓	✓						✓
14	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Indian Pond-Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>				✓	✓	✓							✓
18	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓									
19	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
20	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓	✓		✓					✓	
21	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>						✓	✓	✓				✓	
22	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
23	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptotilos javanicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
24	Greater Adjutant	<i>Leptotilos dubius</i>							✓	✓					
25	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>			✓				✓	✓					
26	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓					✓					
27	Lesser Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>				✓					✓				
28	Fulvous Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>				✓									
29	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb
30	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
31	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
32	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>										✓	✓	
33	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>				✓	✓			✓	✓			
34	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
35	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
36	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
37	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
38	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
39	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Rhodonessa rufina</i>				✓						✓	✓	
40	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				✓								
41	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>										✓	✓	
42	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				✓		✓				✓		
43	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						✓				✓	✓	
44	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>										✓		
45	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>							✓	✓				✓
47	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		✓										
48	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	
49	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>												✓
50	Pallas' Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
51	White-bellied Sea eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>												✓
52	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>						✓	✓					
53	Grey-headed Fish-Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>					✓			✓	✓			
54	Slender-billed Vulture	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>							✓	✓				
55	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓				
56	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>								✓				
57	Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
58	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				✓								
59	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>				✓								
60	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>						✓		✓				
61	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivigatus</i>			✓									

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans	
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
62	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓		✓								
63	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>										✓			
64	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>				✓	✓								✓
65	Bonelli's eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>				✓									
66	Indian spotted eagle	<i>Pomarina hastata</i>								✓					
67	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalenses</i>					✓			✓					
68	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓												
69	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
70	Pied falconet	<i>Microhierax melanoleucus</i>								✓					
71	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				✓				✓	✓		✓		
72	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>					✓								
73	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
74	Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>								✓					
75	Barred-button quail	<i>Turnix susciator</i>							✓						
76	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
77	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>			✓		✓								
78	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓				✓
79	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			✓	✓									
80	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	✓									
81	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓	✓									
82	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>			✓	✓									
83	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			
84	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>										✓			
85	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								✓					
86	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>										✓			
87	Great Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus recurvirostris</i>					✓								
88	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>										✓	✓	✓	
89	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓	
90	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>			✓					✓	✓			✓	✓
91	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
93	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>													✓

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb
94	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
95	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓					
96	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>					✓							✓
97	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>												✓
98	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						✓	✓	✓				
99	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
100	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
101	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓				
102	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
103	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
104	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>						✓						
105	Little stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				✓								
106	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
107	Pallas' Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
108	Yellow-legged Gull					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
109	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
110	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>							✓					
111	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>									✓			
112	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>							✓	✓	✓			
114	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓	✓								
115	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>				✓			✓					
116	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
117	Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
118	Pin-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron apicauda</i>			✓									
119	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>							✓	✓				
120	Emerald Dove	<i>Chacophaps indicat</i>							✓					
121	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				
122	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>							✓					
124	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
125	Large Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx sparveroides</i>								✓				

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			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
126	Common Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus varius</i>	✓												
127	Indian cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>									✓				
128	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	✓												
129	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>								✓		✓			
130	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			
131	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>			✓					✓	✓	✓			
132	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓		✓					✓	✓				✓
133	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto Alba</i>			✓										
134	Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>								✓					
135	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>				✓									
136	Asian Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>	✓					✓			✓	✓			
137	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>													✓
138	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>collocaliabbrevirostris</i>										✓			
139	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
140	Brown-winged kingfisher	<i>Halcyon amauropterus</i>													✓
141	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓			
142	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Black-caped kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>													✓
144	Collard Kingfisher	<i>Todirhampus chloris</i>													✓
145	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
146	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>								✓		✓			
147	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓
148	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
149	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓	✓	✓								
150	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>							✓						
151	Wreathed hornbill	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>								✓	✓	✓			
152	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>							✓	✓					
153	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
154	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
155	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>									✓				
156	Great Barbet	<i>Meglaima virens</i>									✓				
157	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	✓								✓				

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			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
158	Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>								✓					
159	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>													✓
160	Lesser yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>			✓										
161	Grey-headed woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>								✓	✓				
162	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>			✓					✓					
163	Himalayan Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes</i>								✓	✓	✓		✓	
164	Bengal Bushlark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>				✓	✓	✓							
165	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>				✓									
166	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alda gulgula</i>				✓		✓							
167	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>				✓	✓								
168	Sand martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
169	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
170	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>				✓									
171	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>				✓									
172	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
173	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>				✓		✓	✓		✓				
174	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				✓	✓	✓							
175	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓				
176	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>				✓									
177	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>					✓								
178	Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>								✓	✓				
179	Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>			✓										
180	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>				✓									✓
181	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>				✓					✓				
182	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>									✓				
183	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>				✓					✓				
184	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>			✓										
185	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pyconotus melanicterus</i>			✓										
186	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pyconotus jocosus</i>			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			
187	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pyconotus cafer</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
188	White-throated Bulbul	<i>Alphoixus flaveolus</i>			✓										
189	Black bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>								✓	✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans	
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
190	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>									✓				
191	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>			✓		✓				✓	✓			
192	Blue Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>								✓					
193	Blue Whistling-Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>			✓						✓	✓			
194	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zosterops citrina</i>			✓										
195	Black-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus dissimilis</i>						✓							
196	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>									✓				
197	Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>			✓										
198	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>			✓										
199	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓				
200	Yellow browed warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>			✓										
201	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>			✓										
202	Tickell's leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>			✓		✓				✓				
203	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus uscatus</i>			✓					✓					
204	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>			✓						✓				
205	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			
206	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula</i>	✓				✓								
207	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>			✓						✓				
208	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>									✓	✓			
209	Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>				✓	✓								
210	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
211	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>									✓				
212	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochuros</i>			✓										
213	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>			✓				✓		✓				
214	Plumbeous Water-Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i>									✓				
215	White-capped Water-Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>							✓		✓				
216	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
217	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>									✓	✓			
218	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>							✓						
219	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>									✓				
220	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓										✓		
221	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓

	Common name	Scientific name	Januray/February											Sunderbans	
			31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13 to 17 Feb	
222	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Chalcoparia singalensis</i>			✓										
223	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>													✓
224	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>			✓	✓									
225	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>													✓
226	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>			✓	✓	✓								
227	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
228	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>			✓										
229	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>							✓	✓		✓			
230	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>		✓					✓						
231	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
232	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
233	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>							✓		✓		✓	✓	
234	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>			✓					✓			✓	✓	
235	Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentotus</i>						✓	✓	✓					
236	Lesser-racket Tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>							✓	✓					
237	Greater-racket Tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>			✓					✓	✓				
238	Crow-billed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus annectans</i>									✓				
239	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
240	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
241	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	
242	Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
243	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>						✓	✓						
244	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
245	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
246	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotherus grandis</i>			✓				✓	✓	✓				
247	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
248	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
249	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				
250	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>							✓		✓				
251	Streaked Weaver	<i>Ploceus manyar</i>								✓					
252	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>				✓	✓			✓					
253	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>					✓			✓					

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254	Little Bunting	<i>Embrezia pusilla</i>					✓								
255	Chestnut-eared Bunting	<i>Embrezia fucata</i>					✓								

Mammals

1	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>				✓									
2	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Pig-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca leonina</i>		✓											
4	Capped Langur	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>		✓							✓	✓			
5	Golden Langur	<i>Trachypithecus geei</i>										✓			
6	Hoolock Gibbon	<i>Bunopithecus hoolock</i>		✓							✓				
7	Smooth-coated Otter	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>					✓	✓	✓						
8	Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>													✓
9	Gangetic Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
10	Irrawaddy Dolphin	<i>Orcacella brevirostris</i>													✓
11	Asian Elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>							✓	✓					
12	Greater One-horned Rhino	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓					
13	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>													✓
14	Hog Deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓					
15	Barasingha	<i>Cervus duvaucelii</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓					
16	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>					✓	✓		✓					
17	Chital	<i>Axis axis</i>													✓
18	Wild Water Buffalo	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
19	Wild Pig	<i>Sus scorfa</i>						✓	✓		✓				
20	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>													✓
21	Five-striped Palm-Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓												✓
22	Hoary-bellied Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓				
23	Malayan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>		✓							✓				