

Report of a Birding Trip to

# Sumatra

The Quest for some Sumatran endemics

from 20<sup>th</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014

**Participants:**

Arjan Brenkman & Jan van der Laan



Sumatran Cochoa – *Cochoa beccarii*, 23 March 2014, Gunung Kerinci, Sumatra, Indonesia; © Jan van der Laan.



Map of Sumatra and Peninsular Malaysia. Used without permission from [SurfTrip.com](http://SurfTrip.com)



### Introduction

After our successful Whiskered Pitta tour in 2013 nearly a year ago, we thought it was time for an even more difficult challenge. One of the pitta species we would like to see for a long time was the legendary Schneider’s Pitta. At first we thought Danau Ranau in the south of Sumatra was our best bet, combined with a trip to Way Titas for the Sumatran Ground Cuckoo. However, several visiting birders in recent years had failed to see the Ground-Cuckoo, so we put our focus on Gunung Kerinci. This mountain has had a bad reputation and is called Mount Death or the Hell of Sumatra by some. Moreover several Dutch Birders - to say not the least - had failed to see any pitta. The best months seemed to be at the start of the dry season, that is July-August. This was based on the fact that there was a maximum of pittas, since they had fledged young in that period. On the other hand the pittas seemed to be very silent and unobtrusive, like every other bird after the breeding season. And who is going to look for Golden Orioles in Europe at the end of the breeding season? Could there be a better period? We started to look for trip reports other than July-September. In March 2012 [Richard Fuller](#) and in March 2013 [Con Foley](#) and in April 2013 [David Gandy](#) visited Kerinci with success. Perhaps this period coincided with the start of the breeding season for Schneider’s Pitta. Also a thing to keep in mind is that there would be less mountaineering groups as most groups seem to climb the summit of Kerinci between June and August. So after some discussion we agreed that March could be the time worth to try. We booked the tickets ourselves and contacted the owner of [Subandi’s Homestay](#) Pak Subandi directly and agreed we would stay for 8 nights Road for IDR 12.000.000 including meals, transfer from and to the airport plus all transportation to the mountain and to Tapan.

We knew that 21 endemics (we counted Sumatran Bulbul as full species already in 2014) were possible. We checked the reports on several sites and made the conclusion that only Rob Hutchinson managed to see all 21 endemics during a [Bird Tour Asia trip in 2006](#) and Sander Lagerveld and [Henk Hendriks](#) independently from each other saw 19 endemics and heard the other two in 2007. This is shown in the following table:

	Dave Sargeant 2005	Jon Hornbuckle 2005	Bird Tour Asia 2006	Bird Tour Asia 2007	Henk Hendriks 2007	Albert Low 2007	Simon Cockayne 2007	Sander Lagerveld 2007	Martin Wootton 2008	Bird Tour Asia 2008-1	Bird Tour Asia 2008-2	BirdQuest 2008	BirdQuest 2010	BirdQuest 2012	Oscar Campbell 2012	Richard Fuller 2012	Con Foley 2013	David Gandy 2013	Bird Tour Asia 2013	Arjan & Jan 2014
Red-billed Partridge		hK	K		hK		K	hK	K	K	K	K	K	K		K	K	K, hT	K	K
Salvadori’s Pheasant	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K			K		K	K	K	K	K	K		K
Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant	hK	hT	K		hK			K	hT	h	h	hT			hT	hT		T		K, T
Sumatran Frogmouth	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	hK	K	K	hK	K	K	K	K	K
Sumatran Trogon	T	T	T	T	K	K, T	K	K	K, T	T	K	K, T	K	T	K	K, T	K, T	K	K	K, T
Schneiders Pitta	K	K	K	K	K	K	hK	hK	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K
Graceful Pitta	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Sumatran Drongo		T	T	T	T	?	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	K, T	T	K, T			T
Sumatran Treepie	T	T	T	T	T	?	T	T	T	T	T	K, T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Spot-necked Bulbul	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Cream-striped Bulbul	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	K, T	K, T	T
Sumatran Bulbul	T	T	?	T	T	?		T	K	K	T	K, T	T	T	T	T		T	T	T
Rufous-breasted Wren-babbler	K	K	K	K	K	K	T	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K
Sumatran Wren-Babbler	K	K	K	K	K	K	hK	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	hK	K	K	hK	K	K
Sumatran Cochoa	K		K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K				K	K		hK	K	K	K
Sumatran Shortwing	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K
Sumatran Blue Robin	K	K	K	K	K	?	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K		K	K	K	K
Shiny Whistling-Thrush	K	K	K	K	K	?	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K
Brown-winged Whistling-thrush	K	K	K	K	K	?	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K		T	K	K
Sumatran Leafbird		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	K	T			T	T		T	T
Blue-faced Leafbird	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	K	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
K = Kerinci																				
T = Tapan Road																				
hK = heard only Kerinci																				
hT = heard only Tapan Road																				



Some overall picture became clear. Everyone had at least heard the Schneider's Pitta. The Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant is the most difficult to observe, followed by Sumatran Cochoa and Red-billed Partridge. The Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant was seen by a few only and is very rare now on Kerinci (although Dwi heard one a week before our visit at Kerinci). Salvadori's Pheasant and Sumatran Leafbird can be quite difficult too, although the Sumatran Leafbird is a recent split and therefore could be considered not to be very important to birders before the split was known.

Other endemic species on the Sumatran mainland are the following:

**Roll's Partridge** – *Arborophila rolli*; breeds in the northern Highlands. The best place seemed to be Gunung Leuser NP or the Telecom Relay Station Road at Berestagi. It has been [photographed](#) recently and there is even a [short footage](#) taken by a camera trap (ignore the Long-billed Partridge at 3:19...).

**Sumatran Partridge** - *Arborophila sumatrana*; breeds in the southern half of the Barisan Mountain chain. The species has been observed at the forest on the western shore of Danau Ranau, South Sumatra. Several pictures – on the [OBI](#) and [IBC](#) - had been wrongly labelled (now correctly). I could not find any photograph of birds in the wild or any sound recording in the usual sound libraries.

**Hoogerwerf's Pheasant** - *Lophura inornata hoogerwerfi*; the taxonomic status is still unclear and several authors (Eaton 2017, IOC 2020) are convinced this is actually a race of Salvadori's Pheasant. The female is uniform brown and lacks the oval spots of Salvadori's Pheasant. It has rarely been photographed. There is an internet site with several [tantalizing videos](#) taken in the Gunung Leuser NP where birds still roam.

**Sumatran Ground-Cuckoo** - *Carpococcyx viridis*; with Sumatran Cochoa and Schneider's Pitta the star bird of Sumatra. The best place is Way Titias in southern Sumatra, but seeing it is not guaranteed. In 2006 there was one bird [photographed](#) with a camera trap in Kerinci-Sablat NP. In recent years there is a location near Gunung Kerinci and Dwi could bring you to this very spot.

**Sumatran Babbler** - *Pellorneum buettikoferi*; recently found near Liwa and seemingly not rare around the house of Gamal, the guide who normally takes you to the Ground-Cuckoo.

**Sumatran Laughingthrush** - *Garrulax bicolor*; more easy to find in cages in the streets of Bali or Java than in the foothills and mountains of Sumatra. There are recent records in the Gunung Leuser NP where some [birders](#) were lucky to find it. The occurrence of this species at Danau Ranau has been questioned recently and there is no record of a photographed bird in that particular area.

**Rück's Blue-Flycatcher** - *Cyornis ruckii*; only two specimens have been collected in 1917 and 1918 at Tuntungan and Delitua in northern Sumatra.



## Itinerary

- 20 March** Departure at 20:50 hours with flight KL0809 with KLM to Kuala Lumpur (€ 720,05 each). Flight nice and quiet. I watched 12 Years A Slave, with a short but scary role of Paul Dano.
- 21 March** Arrival at **Kuala Lumpur** at 15:45 hours. We took the shuttle to the Concorde Inn, a nice transit hotel where I stayed in July 2013 (€ 71 for one night). We did some birding around the hotel with three species of Myna, Brown-throated Sunbird, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Black-naped Oriole, White-breasted Waterhen, Oriental Magpie Robin, Common Tailorbird and Asian Koel. After a good dinner we went to sleep at c 21:00 hours.
- 22 March** In the morning we took the Air Asia flight AK1370 of 7:50 hours to **Padang**, Sumatra (€ 116 each). We arrived at 8:00 hours (there is an hour time difference between Sumatra and Malaysia). We were picked up by our guide Dwi, the son-in-law of Pak Subandi and the brother of Dwi who drove us from Padang to **Kersik Tuo** (a long drive of c 6 hours). We arrived at around 15:30 hand after installing ourselves in our rooms, we decided we could pay a short visit to the mountain. Our first birds were Sunda Cuckoo, Shiny Whistling Thrush and Lesser Shortwing. On arrival at **Base Camp**, it started to rain. At dusk we walked to the **Dry Streambed** and heard Mountain Scops Owl and a distant Sumatran Frogmouth. Highlight was a Salvadori's Nightjar hawking over our heads and sometimes flying within a few meters.
- 23 March** We woke up at 4:00 hours and after breakfast we went back to the **Dry Streambed**. We heard a Barred Eagle Owl and again a Sumatran Frogmouth. At 6:20 the sun rose and several Sumatran Green Pigeons flew over. Dwi told us these pigeons were more common the past two years. Black-browed Barbets and Sunda Cuckoos began to call too. At 6:40 we started to walk the **Summit Trail** towards **Base Camp**. Brown-winged Whistling Thrush and Lesser Shortwing were the first birds we flushed from the trail. Every time when coming from some corner of the trail, we scanned the trail ahead of us. Then, at the end of the trail we saw a bird hopping away: a pitta. We whispered to each other what to do and decided to walk slowly ahead to see what was around the next corner. On the left side of the trail a bird came into view and there it was, a male Schneider's Pitta! It stood erect as pitta's do and suddenly another pitta hopped into view: a female! We both were flabbergasted, but took notes on the plumage. The male jumped gracefully towards a dead leaf and turned it around and disappeared to the left, the female jumped away further ahead on the trail. It was only just 6:55 hours and the trip was already a success! At **Base Camp** we drank some water and continued to walk the trail, but after 10 meters we had to stop again: two large birds were standing on the trail, a brown and a black one: a pair of Salvadori's Pheasants! The birds both left the trail and made themselves invisible again. Arjan had better views (he saw the lighter eye-ring) as I walked just behind him, but nevertheless for me it was clear enough. We walked towards **Air Minum** when suddenly we heard the whistling of another endemic on the left side of the trail at close range: a Rusty-breasted Wren-babbler was sitting on a branch, giving good views. A minute later Dwi warned us a pair of Sumatran Wren-babblers was calling. We played the tape shortly and I immediately saw one bird at close range with the curved bill in its full glory. Arjan had more trouble to see all of the bird, but finally managed to see all details of this very intriguing Sumatran endemic. Still there was no moment for joy as a Red-billed Partridge was calling nearby. We decided to hide ourselves and play the tape. We expected the bird to cross the trail, but instead it stayed on the same side of the trail and approached us very closely resulting in brief views: Arjan saw a partridge silhouette, I saw the bush moving and the black-and white flanks. Surely we would like to see more. At **Air Minum** (just 10 minutes away), we had some coffee and discussed the strategy for the coming hours. We went further to **Camp Cochoa** where only a few birds were seen due to the rain, Long-tailed Sibia only by me and most conspicuous were the Sumatran



Shortwings singing their [Sumatran version](#). It actually sounds like a story with a good ending. Next we went to **Burnt Tree** and eventually ended at the **First Shelter** where Orange-spotted Bulbul and a pair of Rufous-vented Niltava were quickly found. At c 15:30 hours we decided to descend again to get out of the forest before dark in order to have a good chance to find the Sumatran Frogmouth. At the **Burnt Tree**, Dwi (who forgot his binoculars at the homestay) suddenly shouted he had seen a bird that was for 95% the Cochoa and was in the same tree where he had seen it c five days ago. We ran back and quickly found the bird back! What a find. Now we had seen all of the so called Kerinci Trinity (Pitta, Pheasant, Cochoa) in a single day. I took several pictures and during the observation a female Pink-headed Pigeon flew by. At 16:35 we left the Cochoa in peace. About 15 minutes before **Air Minum** at 17:25 we found a female Schneider's Pitta feeding on the trail. We continued our descend and at 17:35 Arjan and Dwi saw three Salvadori's Pheasants at very close range. The male Salvadori's did not know how to escape and instead of running away, it walked straight to Arjan within a few meters! I was 5 meters behind, but I only saw one of the females. We realized we had seen in one single hour the Cochoa, the Pitta and the Pheasant. What incredible luck! Past **Base Camp** we heard two more Schneider's Pitta and Dwi managed to see one of them and (a female). We continued to the **Entrance** (Arjan saw the Barred Eagle-Owl passing by) and next to the **Dry Streambed**. The Sumatran Frogmouth was calling again, but did not come into view. Tired but happy we arrived at Subandi's Homestay. After a good dinner we went to sleep at around 21:30 hours.

**24 March** In the early morning we did another attempt for the Sumatran Frogmouth. We heard two in the **Dry Streambed**, but when a Barred Eagle-Owl started to call, the birds felt silent. We decided to try it again in the evening from the base of the Dry Streambed. Today we decided to bird the lower parts of the mountain and to put as much effort as possible on the birds we did not see yet. Around the Banana Clearing a Schneider's Pitta was calling. At **Base Camp** we heard a Sumatran Trogon and after some taping the bird showed itself quite well! We continued walking to Air Minum and just before **Air Minum** we heard the song of Sumatran Blue Robin. This bird was seen quickly and it appeared it was wearing a metal ring on the right leg. While drinking coffee at **Air Minum** we heard a feeding flock coming in with Sunda Minivets, Bar-winged Flycatchers-Shrike and Mountain Leaf Warblers. Dwi suggested to play the sound of the Sunda Collared Owlet, so we did. The birds came closer, but suddenly one of the birds materialized into a Sunda Owlet! We had quite good views and when discussing this success we were suddenly interrupted by two calling Red-billed Partridges at close range. We decided to go in and a small trail 10 meters into the forest was quickly found. We positioned ourselves while Dwi was whistling from the open place of Air Minum itself. After some random scanning I suddenly saw two red legs next to a tree trunk and black and white feathers above it. After some nervous explaining to Arjan and with the careful use of my laserpointer, Arjan saw the bird too. Suddenly the bird started to move towards us and after some minutes we could see two birds feeding at close range. The birds were scratching with their feet in the ground while moving forward, then stopped, walked backwards and next inspected what the result of this scratching was! With only Sumatran Frogmouth to go, we had seen all endemic species possible on Kerinci! We descended to the entrance and just before **Base Camp** we had good views of a Brown-winged Whistling-Thrush on the trail. For me a great find, since I had only unsatisfactory views of this endemic species. Around noon we went into the **Dry Streambed** to find out what the best position was to get good views of the frogmouth. We found a good spot, so we left for a short siesta between 14:00 and 16:00 hours (who had ever done a siesta on the second day on Kerinci?). After some snacks and tea we went back to the **Dry Streambed**. At around 19:00 hours the Frogmouth started to call and after playing the tape once, the bird came in and was quickly found by my infra-red monocular. The bird stayed put



and we even could take some pictures. Very happy we returned to the homestay, had a good meal and a beer and went to bed.

**25 March** We left early morning for a two-hour drive to **Tapan Road**. We arrived just after 6:30 and we went immediately to one of the trees around de Park Headquarters. The main target there was the Blue-masked Leafbird and two birds were quickly found. Along the road we heard two Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasants, but they were too deep down the road to get any views. Others birds new were Sumatran Treepies, Sumatran Drongo and the first Cream-striped Bulbuls. Two Sumatran Bulbuls were only seen by me properly. At the **first Graceful Pitta stake-out** there were too many people to get a proper seat, Arjan however saw one Graceful Pitta sneaking in the back, but I decided to resume birding along the way. At the **second Graceful Pitta stake-out** we had more success and we had very close views of one bird. Next we tried to see Marbled Wren-babblers and on arrival we heard two birds calling, but when entering the gully a bird flew away and after that the birds remained silent. A male White-tailed Flycatcher with food for his young healed the pain a little. We continued birding along the road and we saw our first Spot-necked Bulbul, Blyth's Hawk Eagle, Rhinoceros Hornbill and several groups of Giant Swiftlets. At a certain moment when watching a small feeding flock with Fairy Bluebird, Green-billed Malkoha and Sumatran Drongo, Arjan suddenly saw a Sumatran Leafbird in the canopy, but I could not get it into view. Other birds along the road were Blue Nuthatch, Sunda Forktail, Spectacled Spiderhunter, Blue Whistling-Thrush, Grey-bellied and Ochraceous Bulbul and Black-and-crimson Oriole. At 18:00 hours we stopped birding and we arrived at the homestay in **Kersik Tuo** at c 20:00 hours. With a quick dinner we went to sleep early.

**26 March** Again we went to the **Tapan Road**. Our main targets to find were Black Laughingthrush, Sumatran Bulbul (Arjan hadn't seen it satisfactory), Sumatran and Blue-winged Leafbird, Marbled Wren-Babbler and several other bulbul species. At first we tried for Black Laughingthrush at the **higher part** of Tapan Road, but nothing much happened. Sumatran Bulbul was quickly found however and a Greater Yellownappe found its way to the trip list. Other birds were Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant (heard only), Sumatran and Ashy Drongos, Cream-striped and Spot-necked Bulbuls, Sumatran Green Pigeon, Fire-tufted and Black-browed Barbets, Black-and-crimson Oriole, Sunda Forktail, Fulvous-chested Jungle-Flycatcher, Little Cuckoo-Dove, Wreathed Hornbill and Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush.

We decided next to go to **the Marbled Wren-Babbler's gully**. On arrival we heard two birds calling and after positioning ourselves we waited for the birds to arrive. After an hour or so Arjan saw the bird's head when it peeked around the corner to see what kind of intruders had entered its territory. Next we had several views of this notorious skulker when it moved from tree trunk to tree trunk. Very satisfied with this success we kept on looking for any leafbirds, but they seemed difficult to find. In the afternoon we decided to go down to 400 meters above sea level in order to find birds more confined to this level. Things stayed very quiet. At **the exit** of the reserve we found several bulbul species like Grey-bellied, Black-headed, Cream-vented, Sooty-headed, Hairy-backed and Asian Red-eyed. Unfortunately no trace of Ruby-throated Bulbul or any leafbirds. At 17:00 we drove back. It started to rain severely and after hearing a Long-tailed Broadbill and a group of unidentified munias (most probably White-headed), it was obvious we couldn't do any birding at all anymore. So we drove back to the homestay in **Kersik Tuo** where we arrived at around 19:30. We had dinner and went to bed after updating our notebooks.

**27 March** We rose early to before dawn at the **Banana Clearing** on **Gunung Kerinci**. Our main targets were Rufous Woodcock, Mountain Scops Owl and Rajah Scops Owl. We thought we heard a Rufous Woodcock, but in the end we heard the same sound as on [XC42307](#), according to James



Eaton a bat-species. Other birds we heard at dawn were Sumatran Frogmouth, Sunda Cuckoo, Salvadori's Nightjar and three calling Schneider's Pittas. Barred Cuckoo-Dove, Rufous-breasted Wren-Babblers, Lesser Shortwing and Black-browed and Fire-tufted Barbets joined the morning chorus too. Today we planned to go to First Shelter again, with our main target male Pink-headed Fruit-Dove. At **Camp Cochoa** we heard Red-billed Partridge again. Other birds here were Sumatran Shortwing, Indigo Flycatcher, Wreathed Hornbill, Cinereous Tit, Grey-throated Babbler, Sunda Bush Warbler, Warbling (Mountain) White-eye and Sunda Minivet. We continued to First Shelter and during the climb we saw Black-capped White-eye, Long-tailed Sibia and Sumatran Shortwing. At **First Shelter** the pair of Rufous-vented Niltavas was still present as was the same Orange-spotted Bulbul. Also a very confiding Sunda Bush Warbler, but when I had my camera ready a group of mountaineers appeared, chasing everything away. We had close observations of Eyebrowed Thrushes, but our main quarry was not found. We descended again and at **Camp Cochoa** we found a group of six Blue Nuthatches, Blyth's Shrike-Babbler and a Pygmy Cupwing on the trail. At **Base Camp** we observed a Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler digging in the ground. At 19:00 hours at the **Banana Clearing** we made a serious attempt to see Rajah Scops-Owl. One bird started to call just after sunset and it came very close, but just at the point we wanted to spotlight the bird, the bird moved away in the forest, only Arjan saw it flying close from a branch at c three meters distance! Other birds heard were Barred Eagle-Owl and again Sumatran Frogmouth. Around 21:00 we were back at the homestay in **Kersik Tuo** where we shared a beer and went to bed at around 22:00 hours.

**28 March** Today we went again to the **Tapan Road**. Our main targets were again both Leafbirds, Black Laughingthrush and Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant. From a Dutch birder (Maarten Wielstra) we knew there was a calling Peacock-Pheasant near the **Park Head Quarters**, so we positioned ourselves at that very spot. Indeed a Peacock-Pheasant was calling, so we played the tape and hid ourselves behind a tree. I was just saying Peacock-Pheasants like to be in the scrub, when suddenly a pheasant jumped upon a log 5 meters in front of us. While jumping the bird saw us and it immediately ran off from the log while making a wave in its long tail. The bird was dark brown and in the tail iridescent purple-violet feathers were visible! For a few seconds we were completely silent, but then we were overwhelmed with joy! Dwi said he saw it only one out of ten times and that we were very, very lucky! We continued our search for Black Laughingthrush and Blue-winged and Sumatran Leafbirds. We had good views of two Sumatran Green Pigeons, saw a Peregrine Falcon mobbing a Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle, a Banded Broadbill, a group of six Chestnut-capped Laughingthrushes, we heard more Peacock-Pheasants, I saw my first Yellow-bellied Warbler, two White-headed Munias flew close-by, Blyth's Hawk-Eagle, Black Eagle, more Long-tailed Broadbills, White-throated Fantails, Cream-striped, Sumatran and Spot-necked Bulbuls, Blue Whistling-Thrushes, lots of Whiskered Treeswifts and Ashy Drongos. We most probably heard a singing Sumatran Leafbird, but could not get it into view. We walked c 20 kilometers this day but especially after 12:00 only a few birds were seen. Best birds after noon were Sunda Forktail, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Temminck's Sunbird and Cinereous Bulbul. At 17:00 it started to rain so hard, we could search anymore for Blue-masked Leafbirds. After a wet drive home, we arrived at 19:30 hours at **Kersik Tuo** and after a welcome dinner and a shower (a bucket with hot water actually), we went to bed at 21:30 hours.

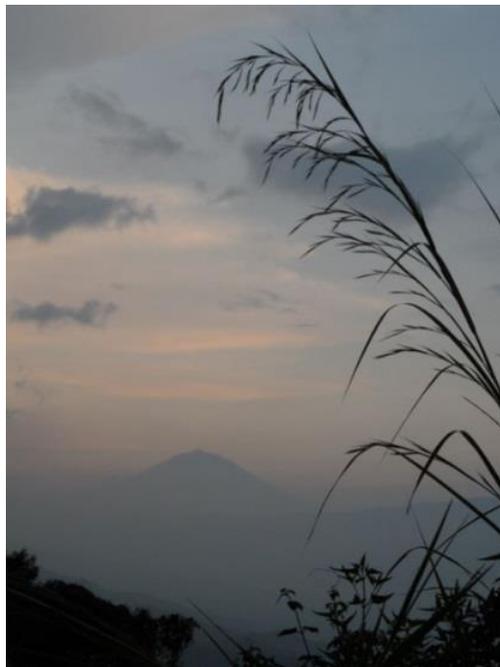
**29 March** On our last full birding day we went to the **Banana Clearing** at **Gunung Kerinci** to search for the Rufous Woodcock again and hopefully any of the two scops owls. Barred Eagle-Owl, Salvadori's Nightjar and Sumatran Frogmouth were heard calling. But no scops owl or woodcock. The usual birds as the days before we heard singing. At **Base Camp** we had close but short views of a Sunda Owlet. We decided to scan the trails between Base Camp and **Air Minum**, hoping to photograph a Schneider's Pitta or a Salvadori's Pheasant. The trails were crowded with



mountaineers – I counted at least 60 this day. Best bird we had along the trail was our second Sumatran Trogon and at the **Archway** a Black-winged Kite. We decided to have lunch at the Letter 'W' Waterfall at **Pelompek**, just 20 minutes away from **Kersik Tuo** to have some change. The waterfalls were very beautiful, but the only birds were Plume-toed Swiftlets and Hill Prinias. We returned at the homestay around 14:00 hours. We met a backpacker from the Netherlands who was doing a two year trip around Australia and Asia. We returned to **Gunung Kerinci** at 16:30 hours with the last birds a female Large Niltava and a Maroon Woodpecker. A lot of rain in the afternoon had hampered our birding and nothing was seen or heard at and after dusk. We stayed in the forest till 20:00 hours and only scared-off some returning mountaineers. At the homestay in **Kersik Tuo** we had our last dinner and celebrated our success with a cold beer. We said goodbye to Dwi and we couldn't thank him enough for his company and guiding. We went to bed around 22:30 hours.

**30 March** We rose at 3:30 and after saying goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Subandi we left **Kersik Tuo** at 4:05 hours. At a nearby village we picked up another brother of Dwi, so two brothers drove us to **Padang**. Around 10:00 we finally reached Padang Airport. The luggage drop-off was still closed, so we sat down for a few hours. After dropping our bags and a quick check-in we finally boarded and our flight AK 404 departed on time at 13:55 hours. We arrived at 16:15 hours (there is still a one hour time difference) at **LCCT Airport** in **Kuala Lumpur**, Malaysia. The airport was very crowded and it took us more than an hour to get past the customs. Again after a long wait for the shuttle bus to KLIA, we finally arrived at c 18:00 hours. During the transfer from LCCT to **KLIA** we noted why it was so crowded: the Formula One was bound to start, so thousands of people gathered at the nearby racetrack. We had dinner at a good food parlor and at 21:00 hours we checked-in and at 23:55 hours the KL808 departed in time for Amsterdam.

**31 March** After a 12 hours flight we arrived at 6:20 hours at **Amsterdam**. After picking up the luggage, Arjan took the train to **Culemborg**, I took the train to **Alkmaar**.



Kerinci as seen from the Tapan Road;  
© Arjan Brenkman.



## Species Accounts

Order and nomenclature follows [www.worldbirdnames.org](http://www.worldbirdnames.org), version 14.1.

**Update 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023:** the white-eyes follow version 9.2 of the IOC World Bird Names and as predicted the Sunda Owlet is split in version 10.1. In 11.1 (2021) Sumatran Blue Robin was split from Javan Blue Robin and in version 11.2 Sunda Bulbul was split into Sumatran and Javan Bulbul. In version 13.1 (2023) Sumatran Shortwing was split from White-browed Shortwing and Sunda Bush Warbler was re-lumped with Aberrant Bush Warbler. In version 14.1 (2024) Sumatran Flowerpecker was split from Fire-breasted Flowerpecker.

## Recommended Literature & Sound Recordings

For Sumatra there is actually one appropriate guide, *A Field Guide to the Birds of Borneo, Sumatra, Java, and Bali: The Greater Sunda Islands* by John MacKinnon & Karen Phillipps (Oxford 1993). We also used *The Field Guide to the Birds of Southeast Asia* by Craig Robson (New Holland 2000) for non-endemic birds.

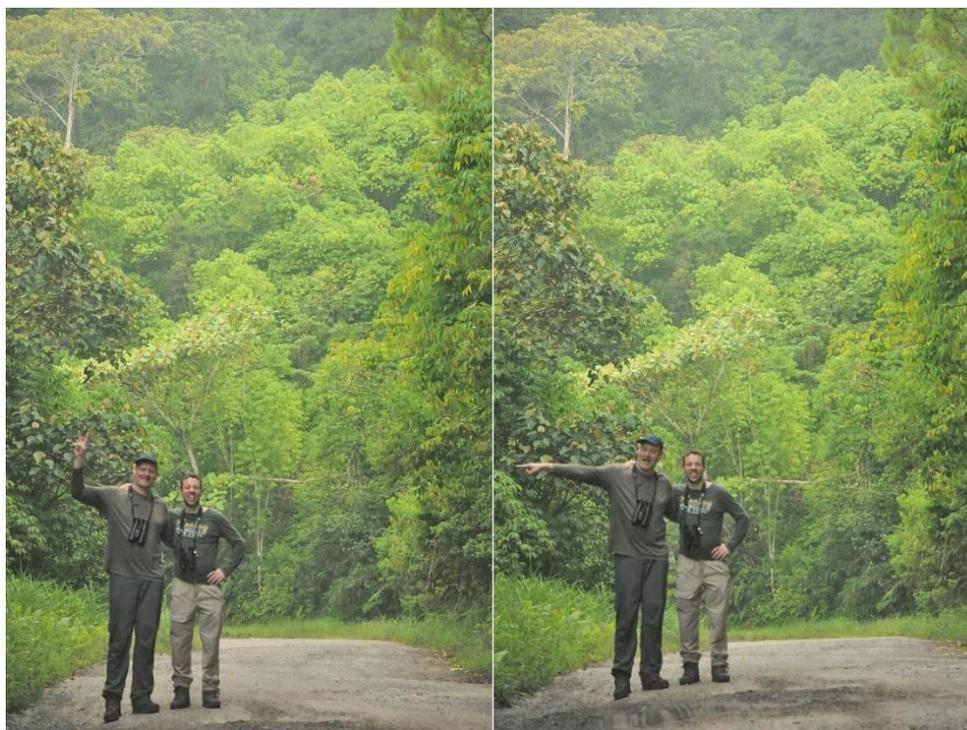
Several trip reports can be found at [www.cloudbirders.com](http://www.cloudbirders.com) and [www.birdtours.co.uk](http://www.birdtours.co.uk).

To get the best sound recordings we used Jelle Scharringa's [Birds op Tropical Asia 3](#) and several sound recordings from the well-known sites of [Xeno-Canto](#), [AVoCet](#) and the [Macaulay Library](#). A [short footage](#) of Schneider's Pitta on the Kerinci trail made by Mike Sutton in 2013 gives a good impression of how we saw our first bird.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Pak Subandi and his wife for taking care of us in their nice homestay. [Dwi Wahyudi](#) for guiding us the full seven days and being a great companion. Also several family members for transporting us on impossible early hours. James Eaton for the latest gen and on advice on ID of several observations. Henk Hendriks for advice and for making [another great report](#) and Maarten Wielstra, Eric Bos, Diederik Kok and Sander Lagerveld for other useful information, Arjan's parents-in-law for reconstruction works at his house and supporting Jantine in taking care of Lucas and Anne and finally our dear [Wags](#) for taking care of the homefront!

[Arjan Brenkman](#), Culemborg April 2014 & [Jan van der Laan](#), Alkmaar April 2014.



Jan (left) & Arjan at the Tapan Road, 28 March 2014; © Dwi. Suddenly a Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant started to call!



## Maps



Gunung Kerinci with the most important locations. From the entrance to Base Camp (1915 m asl) is a 20 minutes' walk. From Base Camp to Air Minum (2010 m asl) is a 25 minutes' walk. The steep walk between Air Minum and Camp Cochoa (2211 m asl) is around 35 minutes. Camp Cochoa to Burnt Tree is around 20 minutes and from Burnt Tree to First Shelter (2520 m asl) is around 30-40 minutes (quite steep, but not problematic). A [good map](#) is in Henk Hendriks' report from 2007.



Tapan road with most important locations and birds observed. The Park Headquarters is at 2.035°S, 101.327°E, where we observed e.g. Blue-masked Leafbird and Bronze-tailed Peacock-Pheasant. The First bridge is at 2.057345°S, 101.295316°E and the Second bridge is at 2.064°S, 101.284°E. The park exit is at 2.098°S, 101.241°E. The complete heat map of observado.org can be found [here](#).



Shiny Whistling-Thrush, the most easy to find endemic on Kerinci; © Jan van der Laan.



Sumatran Frogmouth after the fifth try on 24 March 2014 in the Dry Streambed, Kerinci; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Orange-spotted Bulbul. Right: Rufous-vented Niltava, both at First Shelter on 23 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Sumatran Trogon at Base Camp on 24 March 2014. Right: Sumatran (Sunda) Owlet at Air Minum on 24 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Sunda Warbler at Kerinci on 27 March. Right: Sumatran Blue Robin at Air Minum, Kerinci on 24 March; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Blyth's Hawk-Eagle and right: Crested Serpent-Eagle, both at the Tapan Road on 26 March; © Jan van der Laan.



Sumatran Cochoa at the Burnt Tree, Gunung Kerinci on 23 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan. Just visible is the blue crown. It has a broad eye-ring, almost naked skin; also the black cheeks and throat are visible, making this an adult male. Note the chin has some light feathers (inset), basically the same as the bird photographed by [Yann Muzika](#).



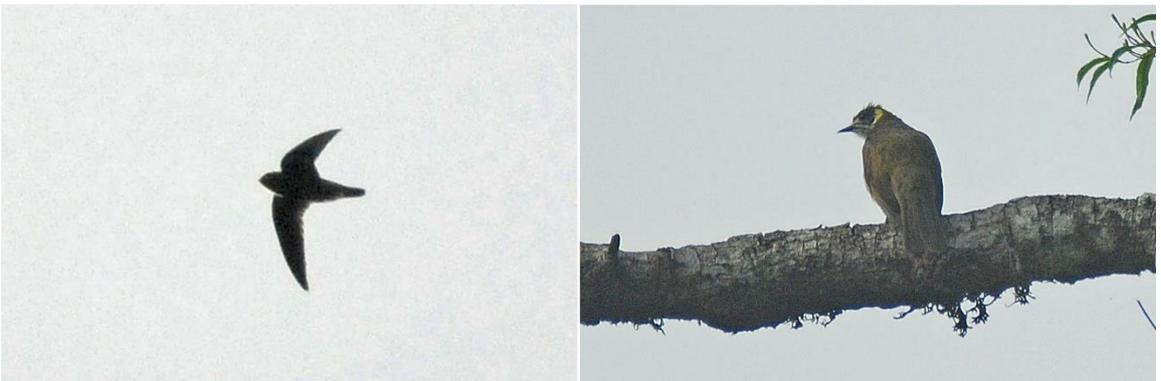
Graceful Pitta at the Tapan Road on 25 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan. Note the maroon-colored upperparts and the celestial blue 'horns'.



Left: Black Eagle at Tapan Road on 26 March 2014. Right: Rhinoceros Hornbill also at Tapan Road on 26 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Cream-striped-Bulbul, one of the endemic Bulbuls easily found at Tapan Road, 26 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Giant Swiftlet. Right: Spot-necked Bulbul, a bulbul more reminiscent of an honeyeater, both on 26 March 2014 at the Tapan Road; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Black-browed Barbet, one of the most common birds. Right: Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker, both seen at the Tapan Road on 28 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Sumatran Treepie, another Sumatran endemic easy to find at Tapan Road. Right: Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo (note the square ended tail!), both seen on the Tapan Road at 26 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Sunda Cuckoo-Shrike at Tapan Road. Right: Blue Whistling-Thrush, Tapan Road, both at 25 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: Green-billed Malkoha. Right: Whiskered Treeswift, both at the Tapan Road; © Jan van der Laan.



Tapan Road is also a great place for butterflies, in the forest and especially on the roads; © Jan van der Laan.



More butterflies at the Tapan Road; © Jan van der Laan.



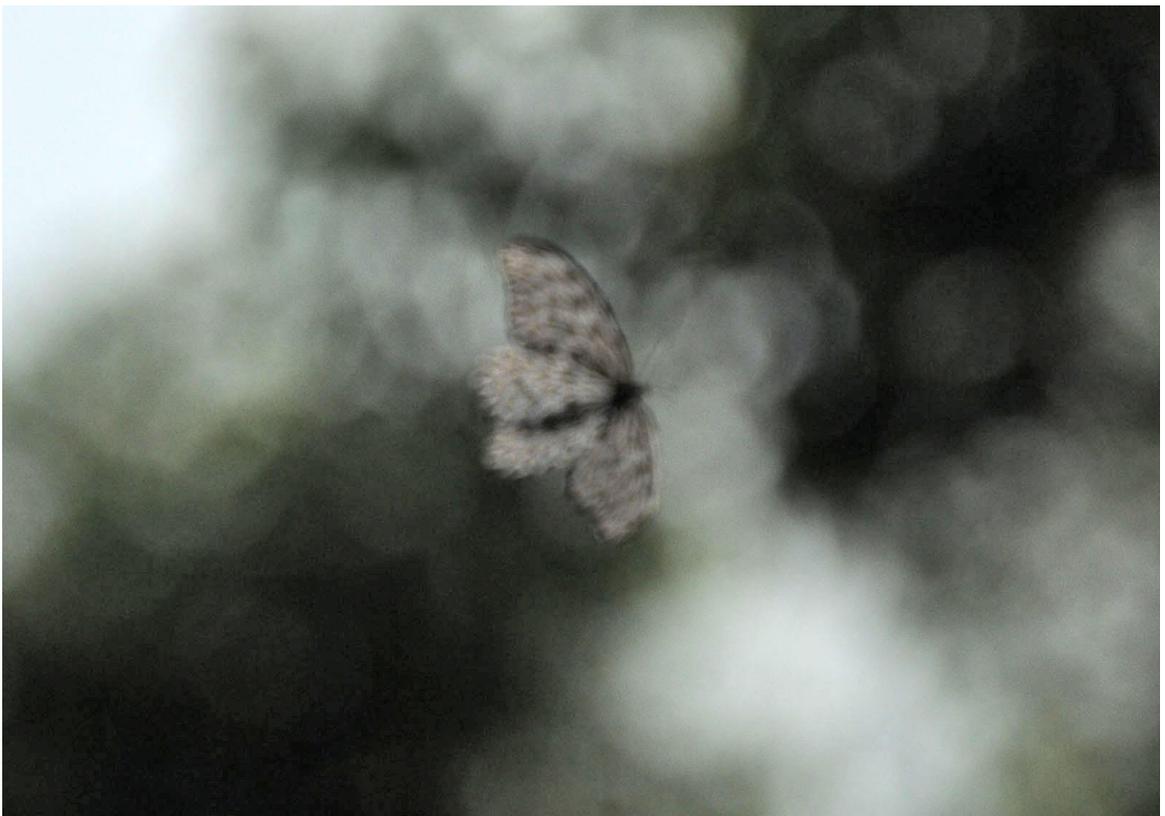
Left: dragon-fly at Kerinci on 24 March. Right: dragon-fly at the Tapan Road on 29 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Left: dragon-fly. Right: strange looking bee, both at the Tapan Road on 28 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Millipede at the Tapan Road on 28 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Large butterfly flying over at the Tapan Road on 28 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



001. **Pacific Black Duck** - *Anas superciliosa*  
 24-03                    1    (flying over) at [the clearing](#) above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.
002. **Ferruginous Partridge** - *Caloperdix oculeus*  
 25-03                    1    (heard only) highest point of Tapan Road.
003. **RED-BILLED PARTRIDGE** - *Arborophila rubrirostris*  
 23-03                    1    (vaguely seen) between Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    2    (beautifully seen) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    1    (heard only) [Camp Cochoa](#), Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    (heard only) between Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.
004. **SALVADORI'S PHEASANT** - *Lophura inornata inornata*  
 23-03                    2    (male and female) just above Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
                               3    (1 male, 2 females) c 5 minutes above Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.
005. **BRONZE-TAILED PEACOCK-PHEASANT** - *Polyplectron chalcurum*  
 25-03                    2    (heard only) [higher parts](#) of Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    1    (heard only) just [past the landslide](#), Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    5    (with one male seen at a short distance, [four heard-only](#)) Tapan Road.  
 One bird was heard on the same location on two different dates, so a total of 7 birds was observed!
006. **Red Junglefowl** - *Gallus gallus*  
 21-03                    1    (wild?) between LCCT and KLIA, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; also on 30-03.
007. **SALVADORI'S NIGHTJAR** - *Caprimulgus pulchellus pulchellus*  
 22-03                    1    seen well between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 23-03                    1    between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    1    between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    1    (heard) [between](#) the Entrance and Banana clearing, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.
008. **SUMATRAN FROGMOUTH** - *Batrachostomus poliophus*  
 22-03                    1    heard from the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 23-03                    2    (in morning and evening) heard from the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    2    (in morning) heard from the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
                               1    (in evening finally seen!) [Dry Streambed](#), Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    1    (heard) between the Entrance and the Banana Clearing, Gunung Kerinci.  
                               1    (in evening heard only) [Car drop-off](#), Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    (heard) between the Entrance and the Banana Clearing, Gunung Kerinci.
009. **Whiskered Treeswift** - *Hemiprocne comata comata*  
 Common on the Tapan Road with 20-30 birds seen daily on 25, 26 and 28 March.
010. **GIANT SWIFTLET** - *Hydrochous gigas*  
 25-03                    c 10    Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    c 10    Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    c 5    Tapan Road.



011. **Plume-toed Swiftlet** - *Collocalia affinis cyanoptila*  
Seen daily on Kerinci and along the Tapan Road with c 20 birds seen daily. [Split from Glossy Swiftlet](#).
012. **CAVE SWIFTLET** - *Collocalia linchi ripleyi*  
23-03 c 20 First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci, Sumatra.  
23-03 c 10 First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci, Sumatra.
013. **Black-nest Swiftlet** - *Aerodramus maximus lowi*  
22-03 c 10 Padang, Sumatra.
014. **Edible-nest Swiftlet** - *Aerodramus fuciphagus*  
21-03 c 10 KLIA, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
30-03 c 10 KLIA, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
015. **House Swift** – *Apus nipalensis subfurcatus*  
21-03 c 3 Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
22-03 c 5 Padang, Sumatra.
016. **Greater Coucal** - *Centropus sinensis bubutus*  
22-03 1 lower part of Gunung Kerinci.  
23-03 2-3 (all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.  
24-03 1-2 (all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.  
27-03 2-3 (all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.
017. **Green-billed Malkoha** - *Phaenicophaeus tristis tristis*  
25-03 2 [after](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.  
26-03 1 Tapan Road.  
28-03 2 [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.  
2 [after](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.
018. **Asian Koel** - *Eudynamys scolopaceus malayanus*  
21-03 2-3 Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
019. **Violet Cuckoo** - *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus xanthorhynchus*  
25-03 1 near the [second bridge](#), Tapan Road.
020. **Plaintive Cuckoo** - *Cacomantis merulinus threnodes*  
Several birds (1-5) heard daily on 25, 26 and 28 March along the Tapan Road.
021. **Rusty-breasted Cuckoo** - *Cacomantis sepulcralis sepulcralis*  
22-03 4 (one seen) between the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
23-03 1-2 (heard only) between the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.
022. **Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo** - *Surniculus lugubris brachyurus*  
25-03 c 5 (heard only) Tapan Road.  
26-03 2-3 (heard only) Tapan Road.  
28-03 c 5 ([1 seen](#), others heard only) Tapan Road.

023. **Sunda Cuckoo** - *Cuculus Lepidus*

22-03	c 5	(all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.
23-03	c 10	(all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.
24-03	c 10	(1 seen after some effort) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.
27-03	c 10	(all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.
29-03	c 5	(all heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.

024. **Spotted Dove** - *Spilopelia chinensis tigrina*

Regularly seen from Padang to Kerinci and back and several seen at the pass on the Tapan Road.

025. **Barred Cuckoo-Dove** - *Macropygia unchall unchall*

23-03	2	between Dry Streambed and the entrance, Gunung Kerinci.
24-03	3	between the Entrance and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.
25-03	5	Tapan Road.
27-03	1	near the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.
	1	(seen) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.
28-03	c 5	Tapan Road.
27-03	1	near the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.

026. **Little Cuckoo-Dove** - *Macropygia ruficeps sumatrana*

25-03	5	Tapan Road; also on 26-03
28-03	c 20	Tapan Road.

027. **Pink-necked Green Pigeon** - *Treron vernans*

21-03	2	Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
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028. **SUMATRAN GREEN PIGEON** - *Treron oxyurus*

22-03	4	between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.
23-03	1	between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.
24-03	4	<a href="#">between the Entrance and the Dry Streambed</a> , Gunung Kerinci.
25-03	1	Tapan Road.
26-03	2	<a href="#">before the landslide</a> , Tapan Road.
27-03	c 5	(in a fruiting tree) just after the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.
28-03	2	(seen well) <a href="#">higher part</a> of Tapan Road.

029. **Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** - *Treron sphenurus etorques*

23-03	1	(heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.
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030. **PINK-HEADED FRUIT DOVE** - *Ptilinopus porphyreus*

23-03	1	(female or immature) at the Burnt Tree, Gunung Kerinci.
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031. **White-breasted Waterhen** - *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

21-03	1	Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
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----. **Javan Woodcock** - *Scolopax saturata*

On 27 and 29 March we heard a sound and had short views of something we thought it was Javan Woodcock. However, James Eaton informed us that this sound on Xeno-canto [XC42307](#) is actually a bat. A good example (recorded on Java) can be found [here](#).



032. **Chinese Pond Heron** – *Ardeola bacchus*  
 21-03                    1    between KLIA and the Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
033. **Eastern Cattle Egret** - *Bubulcus coromandus*  
 22-03                    c 5    in paddyfields just south of Padang.
034. **Grey Heron** - *Ardea cinerea*  
 24-03                    1    (flying over) seen from Subandi's Homestay, Kersik Tuo.
035. **Medium Egret** - *Ardea intermedia*  
 21-03                    c 4    between KLIA and the Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
 The English name of Intermediate Egret is changed to Medium Egret after the split into three species.
036. **Little Egret** - *Egretta garzetta*  
 22-03                    3    in some paddyfields just south of Padang.
037. **Black-winged Kite** - *Elanus caeruleus hypoleucus*  
 29-03                    2    between the entrance of Gunung Kerinci and Kersik Tuo.
038. **Crested Honey Buzzard** - *Pernis ptilorhynchus torquatus*  
 21-03                    1    Basiran hills somewhere on our way from Padang to Kersik Tuo.  
 26-03                    2    (recently fledged juveniles) [lower part](#) of Tapan Road.
039. **Crested Serpent Eagle** - *Spilornis cheela malayensis/batus*  
 26-03                    1    Tapan Road.
040. **Blyth's Hawk-Eagle** - *Nisaetus alboniger*  
 25-03                    1    [near the landslide](#), Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    2    [between the first and second bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    2    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
041. **Rufous-bellied Eagle** - *Lophotriorchis kienerii formosus*  
 26-03                    2    [middle part](#) of Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
042. **Black Eagle** - *Ictinaetus malaiensis malaiensis*  
 23-03                    1    (heard only) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    1    at the clearing above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 26-03                    1    Tapan Road.  
 27-03                    1    (heard only) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 28-03                    1    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
043. **Eastern Barn Owl** - *Tyto javanica javanica*  
 23-03                    1    (heard only) at the car drop-off, Gunung Kerinci.
044. **SUNDA OWLET** - *Taeniopteryx sylvaticum sylvaticum*  
 24-03                    1    Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.



045. **Mountain Scops Owl** - *Otus spilocephalus vanderwateri*

- 22-03                    2    (heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.  
23-03                    1    (heard only) lower part of Gunung Kerinci.

046. **RAJAH SCOPS OWL** - *Otus brookii solokensis*

- 27-03                    1    Banana Clearing, Gunung Kerinci.

This bird was calling very closely and Arjan saw it fly just at a few meters. We could not get better views and a second attempt on 29 March produced nothing.

047. **Barred Eagle-Owl** - *Ketupa sumatrana sumatrana*

Every day (mornings and evenings) on Kerinci we heard 1-2 birds near the Entrance and in the Dry Streambed. On 23-03 Arjan saw a bird flying at the Banana Clearing. In the morning of 23-03 a calling bird in the Dry Streambed disturbed a pair of Sumatran Frogmouths who went silent immediately!

048. **SUMATRAN TROGON** - *Apalharpactes mackloti*

- 24-03                    1    (male) just [before Base Camp](#), Gunung Kerinci.  
29-03                    1    (female) just below Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.

Not a single bird was seen along the Tapan Road. Perhaps all birds there were breeding and silent.

049. **Rhinoceros Hornbill** - *Buceros rhinoceros rhinoceros*

- 25-03                    2    (heard only) [before the first bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
26-03                    2    (2 seen, 1 heard) [before the first bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
                                 1    (heard only) at the exit of the reserve, Tapan Road.  
28-03                    1    (heard only) Tapan Road.

050. **Wreathed Hornbill** - *Rhyticeros undulatus undulatus*

- 26-03                    1    [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.  
                                 3    at [the exit](#) of the reserve, Tapan Road.  
27-03                    3    2 at Camp Cochoa and 1 at Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
28-03                    1    near [the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.

051. **Fire-tufted Barbet** - *Psilopogon pyrolophus*

Quite common on all levels of Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road, mostly heard.

052. **Black-browed Barbet** - *Psilopogon oorti*

Common on all levels of Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road, mostly heard.

053. **Greater Yellownape** - *Chrysophlegma flavinucha korinchi*

- 26-03                    1    (female) [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.

054. **Maroon Woodpecker** - *Blythipicus rubiginosus*

- 22-03                    1    (heard only) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
23-03                    1    (heard only) just below Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
24-03                    1    (seen) just before Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
29-03                    1    (heard only) just below Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.

055. **Peregrine Falcon** - *Falco peregrinus ernesti*

- 28-03                    1    (mobbing a Rufous-bellied Eagle) [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.

056. **Long-tailed Broadbill** - *Psarisomus dalhousiae psittacinus*

- 26-03 1 (1 heard only) [near](#) the first bridge, Tapan Road.  
 28-03 8 (in total, including one bird building a nest) Tapan Road.

057. **Banded Broadbill** - *Eurylaimus javanicus harterti*

- 25-03 1 (seen!) [behind the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.

058. **SCHNEIDER'S PITTA** - *Hydrornis schneideri*

- 23-03 2 (male & female) [just before](#) the Banana Clearing, Gunung Kerinci.  
 1 (heard only) [between](#) Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 1 (female) [just above](#) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 2 ([heard only](#), 1 [female seen](#) by Dwi) between Base Camp and the Banana Clearing.  
 24-03 1 (heard only) [between](#) the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03 3 (heard only) [between](#) the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.

One of the first birds we encountered on the trail on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, a pair beautifully seen just before the banana clearing. On subsequent days we approached this spot always with care, but no luck.

059. **GRACEFUL PITTA** - *Erythropitta venusta*

- 25-03 1 First Pitta stake out, Tapan Road.  
 2 (1 adult seen, 1 juv. heard only) Second Pitta stake-out, Tapan Road.  
 26-03 2 (heard only) Second Pitta stake-out, Tapan Road.

The bird on the first stake was only seen by Arjan, since the place was already crowded with two photographers from China. We went to the second place and had very good views with better light.

060. **Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** - *Hemipus picatus intermedius*

- 24-03 2 Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 25-03 1 Tapan Road.  
 28-03 2 near the [second bridge](#), Tapan Road.

061. **Grey-chinned Minivet** - *Pericrocotus solaris montanus*

- 23-03 c 10 Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 26-03 2 [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.  
 27-03 3 Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.

062. **SUNDA MINIVET** - *Pericrocotus miniatus*

- 23-03 c 20 Between Camp Cochoa and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03 c 10 Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 25-03 3 [past the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
 27-03 3 Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.

063. **SUNDA CUCKOOSHRIKE** - *Coracina larvata melanocephala*

- 26-03 1 just before the [landslide](#), Tapan Road.  
 28-03 1 [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.

064. **Long-tailed Shrike** - *Lanius schach bentet*

Several seen on 22 March between Padang and Kersik Tuo. Also seen daily in the fields before the entrance of Gunung Kerinci. On 29 March an adult bird was seen feeding a recently fledged juvenile.

**065. Blyth's Shrike-babbler** - *Pteruthius aeralatus cameranoi*

23-03                    2    Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    2    Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 28-03                    2    [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.

**066. Black-and-crimson Oriole** - *Oriolus consanguineus consanguineus*

25-03                    1    ([male](#)) Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    1    ([immature](#)) Tapan Road.

According to several reports this species is in some years abundant in the period July to August.

**067. Black-naped Oriole** - *Oriolus chinensis maculatus*

21-03                    4    Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**068. SUMATRAN DRONGO** - *Dicrurus sumatranus*

25-03                    3    ([one single](#) bird and [one pair](#)), Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    2    [Tapan Road](#).

For a drongo, these are quite skulking birds, but with very conspicuous calls.

**069. Ashy Drongo** - *Dicrurus leucophaeus phaedrus*

25-03                    c 30    Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    c 40    Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    c 40    Tapan Road.

**070. White-throated Fantail** - *Rhipidura albicollis atrata*

23-03                    1    between Camp Cochoa and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    3    between Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
                               27-03    c 10    between Base Camp and First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 28-03                    3    Tapan Road.

**071. SUMATRAN TREEPIE** - *Dendrocitta occipitalis*

25-03                    c 5    Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    c 10    Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    c 5    Tapan Road.

This Sumatran endemic is quite conspicuous with its harsh calls.

**072. Slender-billed Crow** - *Corvus enca compiler*

26-03                    1-2    (calling) lower part of the Tapan Road.

**073. Large-billed Crow** - *Corvus macrorhynchos macrorhynchos*

Only seen on KLIA and LCCT Airport on 21-22 March and again on 30 March, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**074. Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** - *Culicicapa ceylonensis antioxantha*

A few birds (1-3) were observed daily on Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road.

**075. Cinereous Tit** - *Parus cinereus ambiguus*

25-03                    1    [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.  
 27-03                    4    between Burnt Tree and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.



076. **Hairy-backed Bulbul** - *Tricholestes criniger sericeus*  
 26-03                    2    [border](#) Jambi/Sumatera Barat, Tapan Road.
077. **Ochraceous Bulbul** - *Alophoixus ochraceus sumatranus*  
 25-03                    5    [past](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    2    [just before](#) the landslide, Tapan Road.
078. **Cinereous Bulbul** - *Hemixos cinereus cinereus*  
 25-03                    2    [near the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    2    [near the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.
079. **CREAM-STRIPED BULBUL** - *Ixos leucogrammicus*  
 25-03                    c 15    several groups along most parts of the Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    c 10    several groups along most parts of the Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    8    several groups along most parts of the Tapan Road.  
 A characteristic bird of the Tapan Road. Soon it will be upgraded into its own genus.
080. **SUMATRAN BULBUL** - *Ixos sumatranus*  
 25-03                    2    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    1    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.  
                                  1    [between the landslide and first bridge](#), Tapan Road.
081. **Black-headed Bulbul** - *Brachypodius melanocephalos melanocephalos*  
 26-03                    2    (twice one bird) [lower part](#) of the Tapan Road.
082. **Grey-bellied Bulbul** - *Ixodia cyaniventris cyaniventris*  
 25-03                    3    [near the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    2    [lower part](#) of the Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    [between](#) the first and the second bridge, Tapan Road.
083. **Cream-vented Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus simplex simplex*  
 26-03                    2    [lower part](#) (near the exit) of the Tapan Road.
084. **Asian Red-eyed Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus brunneus brunneus*  
 26-03                    3    lower part (near the exit) of the Tapan Road.
085. **SPOT-NECKED BULBUL** - *Pycnonotus tympanistrigus*  
 25-03                    1    [Tapan Road](#).  
 26-03                    5    Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    4    Tapan Road.  
 We observed one bird carrying nest material. A very beautiful honeyeater like bulbul!
086. **Orange-spotted Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus bimaculatus bimaculatus*  
 23-03                    1    First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    1    just before First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                  1    First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci (same bird as on 23 March).



087. **Yellow-vented Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus goiavier analis*  
 24-03                    2-3    Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 26-03                    2    lower part (near the exit) of the Tapan Road.
088. **Sooty-headed Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus aurigaster aurigaster*  
 26-03                    1    [lower part](#) of the Tapan Road.
089. **Pacific Swallow** - *Hirundo tahitica javanica*  
 The most common swallow with daily totals of up to c 20 birds a day, especially in human settlements.
090. **Barn Swallow** - *Hirundo rustica ssp*  
 Seen daily with 5-10 birds above the tea plantations of Kersik Tuo.
091. **Asian House Martin** - *Delichon dasypus dasypus*  
 26-03                    2    Tapan Road.
092. **Pygmy Cupwing** - *Pnoepyga pusilla lepida*  
 23-03                    c 5    (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                   1    between Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                   1    between Burnt Tree and First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    c 5    (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                   1    between Base Camp and the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    c 5    (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                   1    walking on the trail just before First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1-2    (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.
093. **Yellow-bellied Warbler** - *Abroscopus superciliaris papilio*  
 28-03                    2    (pair seen well) [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
094. **Mountain Tailorbird** - *Phyllergates cucullatus cucullatus*  
 24-03                    1-2    between Base Camp and the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    1    First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    (heard singing) near the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci.
095. **Aberrant Bush Warbler** - *Horornis flavolivacea flaviventris*  
 24-03                    2-3    (some well seen) between Burnt Tree and First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    4    between Camp Cochoa and the First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.
096. **Yellow-browed Warbler** - *Phylloscopus inornatus*  
 28-03                    2    (calling) [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
097. **SUNDA WARBLER** - *Phylloscopus grammiceps sumatrensis*  
 Common on Gunung Kerinci, with daily totals of up to 20-30 birds each day. Some in full song.
098. **Mountain Leaf Warbler** - *Phylloscopus trivirgatus trivirgatus*  
 Seen on Gunung Kerinci on most days, with up to 4-5 birds seen each day.



099. **Hill Prinia** - *Prinia superciliaris dysancrita*
- |       |     |                                 |
|-------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 24-03 | 1   | Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  |
| 25-03 | c 5 | Tapan Road.                     |
| 26-03 | c 8 | Tapan Road.                     |
| 28-03 | c 4 | Tapan Road.                     |
| 29-03 | 1   | Letter 'W' Waterfall, Pelompek. |
100. **Common Tailorbird** - *Orthotomus sutorius maculicollis*
- |       |   |                                       |
|-------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 21-03 | 3 | Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. |
|-------|---|---------------------------------------|
101. **Dark-necked Tailorbird** - *Orthotomus atrogularis atrogularis*
- |       |   |             |
|-------|---|-------------|
| 26-03 | 1 | Tapan Road. |
|-------|---|-------------|
102. **BLACK-CAPPED WHITE-EYE** - *Zosterops atricapilla viridicatus*
- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 23-03 | 6 | just before First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci. |
| 27-03 | 4 | just before First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci. |
103. **Swinhoe's White-eye** - *Zosterops simplex erwini*
- |       |      |   |
|-------|------|---|
| 25-03 | 6    | <a href="#">higher part</a> of the Tapan Road.  |
| 26-03 | c 10 | (total) along the Tapan Road.   |
| 28-03 | c 10 | (e.g. two at the <a href="#">higher</a> part and two at the <a href="#">landslide</a> ) Tapan Road. |
104. **Warbling White-eye** - *Zosterops japonicus montanus*
- |       |      |  |
|-------|------|--|
| 23-03 | 4    | First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.                         |
| 27-03 | c 10 | between Camp Cochoa and First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci. |
105. **Golden Babbler** - *Cyanoderma chrysaea frigida*
- Quite common on the lower part of Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road. Observed daily in small family groups with up to 1-5 birds daily and often together with Grey-throated Babblers.
106. **Grey-throated Babbler** - *Stachyris nigriceps larvata*
- Common on the lower part of Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road. Observed daily in small family groups with up to 10-15 birds daily.
107. **Spot-necked Babbler** - *Stachyris striolata striolata*
- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 24-03 | 1 | (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.                      |
|       | 2 | (seen well) between Base Camp and the Entrance, Gunung Kerinci. |
| 27-03 | 1 | (heard singing) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.                      |
108. **Marbled Wren-Babbler** - *Turdinus marmoratus marmoratus*
- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 25-03 | 2 | (heard, short sighting) between the first and second bridge, Tapan Road. |
| 26-03 | 2 | (1 seen quite well) between the first and second bridge, Tapan Road.     |
- On 26 March we finally got grips of this secretive skulker. Arjan saw the bird secretly peeking its head behind a leaf to inspect us. Then the bird moved from another tree trunk to another, revealing it's large body. Reminded me of an Ocellated Tapaculo. One of our favorite birds of the holiday!
109. **Horsfield's Babbler** - *Malacocincla sepiaria barussana*
- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 26-03 | 3 | (heard only) <a href="#">higher part</a> of the Tapan Road. |
|-------|---|---|



28-03 1 (heard only) around the [Park Headquarters](#), Tapan Road.

**110. RUSTY-BREASTED WREN-BABBLER** - *Gypsophila rufipectus*

Quite common on Gunung Kerinci (c 10-20 birds daily), with its two-version's song; sometimes seen sitting on a branch along the trail; on 27 March at Base Camp we observed one bird digging in the mud with its strong legs.

**111. Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler** - *Napothera epilepidota diluta*

23-03 1 between Air Minum and Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 1 on the way down on between Camp Cochoa and Air Minum  
 24-03 2 between Air Minum and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.

**112. SUMATRAN WREN-BABBLER** - *Napothera albostrata*

23-03 4 (2 seen well) [between](#) Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 1 (seen well) on the way down on between Camp Cochoa and Air Minum  
 24-03 2 (heard only) around Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03 1 (heard only) between Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03 1 (heard only) [between](#) Base Camp and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.

The song is distinct single whistle. When calling, the birds make a soft "prpp-prpp". Great birds!

**113. Long-tailed Sibia** - *Heterophasia picaoides simillima*

23-03 1 Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03 3 just before First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 7 Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.

**114. Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush** - *Pterorhinus mitratus mitratus*

25-03 c 5 (heard only) close to the Park HQ, Tapan Road.  
 26-03 2 [just before](#) the landslide, Tapan Road.  
 28-03 6 [Pine Trees](#) at the higher part of the Tapan Road.

We spent considerable time to find Black Laughingthrush as well, but none were found.

**115. Asian Fairy-bluebird** - *Irena puella crinigera*

25-03 c 5 [past](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.  
 26-03 1 Tapan Road.  
 28-03 1 (male) [lower part](#) of the Tapan Road.

**116. Blue Nuthatch** - *Sitta azurea expectata*

25-03 3 [past](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.  
 27-03 6 [Camp Cochoa](#), Gunung Kerinci.

**117. Asian Glossy Starling** - *Aplonis panayensis strigata*

21-03 2 Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**118. Javan Myna** - *Acridotheres javanicus*

21-03 c 20 Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
 24-03 2 above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.

This species is only native on Java and Bali. In other parts of Asia it is an exotic.



119. **Jungle Myna** - *Acridotheres fuscus torquatus*  
 21-03                    4    Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
120. **Common Myna** - *Acridotheres tristis tristis*  
 21-03                    c 20    around LCCT & KLIA Airport, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
 22-03                    c 10    around LCCT & KLIA Airport, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
 30-03                    c 10    around LCCT & KLIA Airport, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
121. **SUMATRAN COCHOA** - *Cochoa beccarii*  
 23-03                    1    (male) at the [Burnt Tree](#), Gunung Kerinci.  
 After studying the photographs, it was clear the bird had a blue crown, black chin and throat and some light feathers around the eye-ring. Dwi had seen the same bird in the same tree five days before! One of the highlights of the trip!
122. **Scaly (Horsfield's) Thrush** – *Zoothera dauma horsfieldi*  
 23-03                    1    (flushed by Arjan from the trail) just below First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.
123. **Eyebrowed Thrush** - *Turdus obscurus*  
 22-03                    c 10    at the clearing above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 23-03                    1    just below First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
                                   c 5    at the clearing above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    c 20    First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.
124. **Oriental Magpie-Robin** - *Copsychus saularis musicus*  
 21-03                    2    (pair) Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
125. **White-tailed Flycatcher** - *Leucoptilon concretum concretum*  
 25-03                    1    (male with food) between the first and second bridge, Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    1    (same male) between the first and second bridge, Tapan Road.
126. **Fulvous-chested Jungle Flycatcher** - *Cyornis olivaceus olivaceus*  
 26-03                    3    (1 [seen](#) quite well, other 2 heard only) at the [higher part](#) of Tapan Road.
127. **Rufous-vented Niltava** - *Niltava sumatrana*  
 23-03                    2    (pair) First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    2    (same pair) First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.
128. **Large Niltava** - *Niltava grandis decipiens*  
 23-03                    1    (female) between the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    1    (female, same?) between the Entrance and Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.
129. **Verditer Flycatcher** - *Eumyias thalassinus thalassoides*  
 25-03                    1    near [Park HQ](#), Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    2    (male and female) near [the second bridge](#), Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    (probably the same as on 26-03) near the [second bridge](#), Tapan Road.
130. **INDIGO FLYCATCHER** - *Eumyias indigo ruficrissa*  
 23-03                    3    [higher parts](#) of Gunung Kerinci.





- 26-03                    1    (male seen) higher part of Tapan Road.  
                               2    (males) between the first and second bridge, Tapan Road.
- 27-03                    1    (male) First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.
- 28-03                    1    [middle part](#) of Tapan Road.
139. **Snowy-browed Flycatcher** - *Ficedula hyperythra sumatrana*
- 22-03                    3    (pair feeding a young bird) Base Camp, Gunung Kerinci.  
 23-03                    c 10 between the Entrance and Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 24-03                    c 8    between the Entrance and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.  
 27-03                    c 5    between the Entrance and Camp Cochoa, Gunung Kerinci.  
 29-03                    c 5    between the Entrance and Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.
140. **SUMATRAN LEAFBIRD** - *Chloropsis media*
- 25-03                    1    (female) [after the second bridge](#).  
 28-03                    1    (singing, most probably this species) [after the second bridge](#).  
 The song of several caged birds can be found on this site of an [Indonesian bird club](#). We exactly heard this type of song (long, persistent with harsh notes) just beneath the road.
141. **BLUE-MASKED LEAFBIRD** - *Chloropsis venusta*
- 25-03                    2    (pair) in a [tree behind the Park HQ](#), Tapan Road.  
 This was the only record, as leafbirds seemed to be scarce in this time of year. On 28 March we tried to find the birds again, but they were not present at that time in the fruiting tree.
142. **Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker** - *Prionochilus percussus ignicapilla*
- 26-03                    1    [Exit](#) of the reserve, Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    past the second bridge, Tapan Road, Tapan Road.
143. **Orange-bellied Flowerpecker** - *Dicaeum trigonostigma trigonostigma*
- 25-03                    c 5    [past](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.  
 26-03                    c 5    past the second bridge (same as on 25-03), Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    c 5    past the second bridge (same as on 25-03), Tapan Road.
144. **SUMATRAN FLOWERPECKER** - *Dicaeum beccarii*
- 27-03                    1    First Shelter, Gunung Kerinci.  
 28-03                    1    [higher part](#) of the Tapan Road.
145. **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** - *Dicaeum cruentatum cruentatum*
- 21-03                    2    (pair) Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
146. **Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** - *Chalcoparia singalensis sumatrana*
- 25-03                    1    (female) Tapan Road.  
 28-03                    1    [near](#) the second bridge, Tapan Road.
147. **Plain Sunbird** - *Anthreptes simplex*
- 26-03                    1    Tapan Road.
148. **Brown-throated Sunbird** - *Anthreptes malacensis malacensis*
- 21-03                    4    Concorde Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



149. **Temminck's Sunbird** - *Aethopyga temminckii*
- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 24-03 | 2 | (pair mobbing the Sunda Collared Owlet) Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci. |
| 25-03 | 2 | Tapan Road.  |
| 28-03 | 1 | Tapan Road.  |
150. **Spectacled Spiderhunter** - *Arachnothera flavigaster*
- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 25-03 | 1 | <a href="#">near</a> the second bridge, Tapan Road. |
|-------|---|---|
151. **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** - *Passer montanus malaccensis*
- A common bird in human settlements, in some abundant in others absent.
152. **White-rumped Munia** - *Lonchura striata subsquamicollis*
- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 26-03 | 2 | Tapan Road.                                    |
| 28-03 | 1 | <a href="#">higher part</a> of the Tapan Road. |
|       | 1 | at the <a href="#">landslide</a> , Tapan Road. |
153. **White-headed Munia** - *Lonchura maja*
- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 26-03 | 6 | (flying by at quite a distance, most probably this species) Tapan Road.             |
| 28-03 | 2 | (flying by at close distance, seen well) <a href="#">higher part</a> of Tapan Road. |
154. **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** - *Motacilla tschutschensis*
- |       |     |  |
|-------|-----|--|
| 24-03 | c 8 | flying-by at the clearing above the Dry Streambed, Gunung Kerinci. |
|-------|-----|--|
-



## List of mammals

We recorded several mammals. We used other trip reports to see which mammals we saw since we didn't have any field guide with us. We have checked every mammal we mention below with pictures on Google. Suggestions are always welcome.

**Siamang** - *Hylobates syndactylus*

Seen and heard on all dates on Gunung Kerinci, with max totals of up to 10. Sometimes very noisy. Too noisy...

**Mitred Leaf Monkey** - *Presbytis melalophos*

Seen on all dates on Gunung Kerinci, with max totals of up to 6. Seen on 25 and 26 March along the Tapan Road.

**Tree Shrew** spec *Tupaia* spec

Common both on Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road.

**Black Giant-Squirrel** - *Ratufa bicolor*

On 24 March on at Air Minum, Gunung Kerinci.

**Three-striped Ground Squirrel** - *Lariscus insignis*

Seen daily at Base Camp and Camp Cochoa, with up to 3 or 4 max. Especially interested in your day pack.

**Low's Squirrel** - *Sundasciurus lowii*

Most smaller squirrels on Gunung Kerinci were thought to be this species.



Three-striped Ground Squirrel trying to steal food. The eyes look unreal, because I experimented with Photoshop..



Left: **Subandi's Homestay** with the car that transported us everywhere. Right: the **Tiger monument** at Kersik Tuo (opposite the Homestay); 29 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



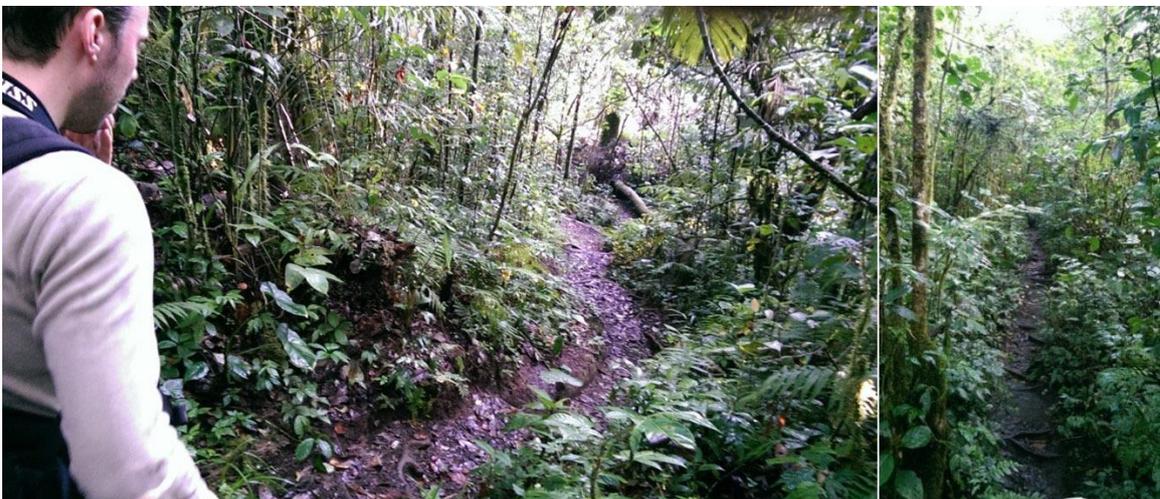
**Gunung Kerinci** with the top partly hidden in clouds; the road ends here and the place is mentioned in our report as the car drop-off at  $1.7515^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $101.2597^{\circ}\text{E}$ ; © Jan van der Laan.



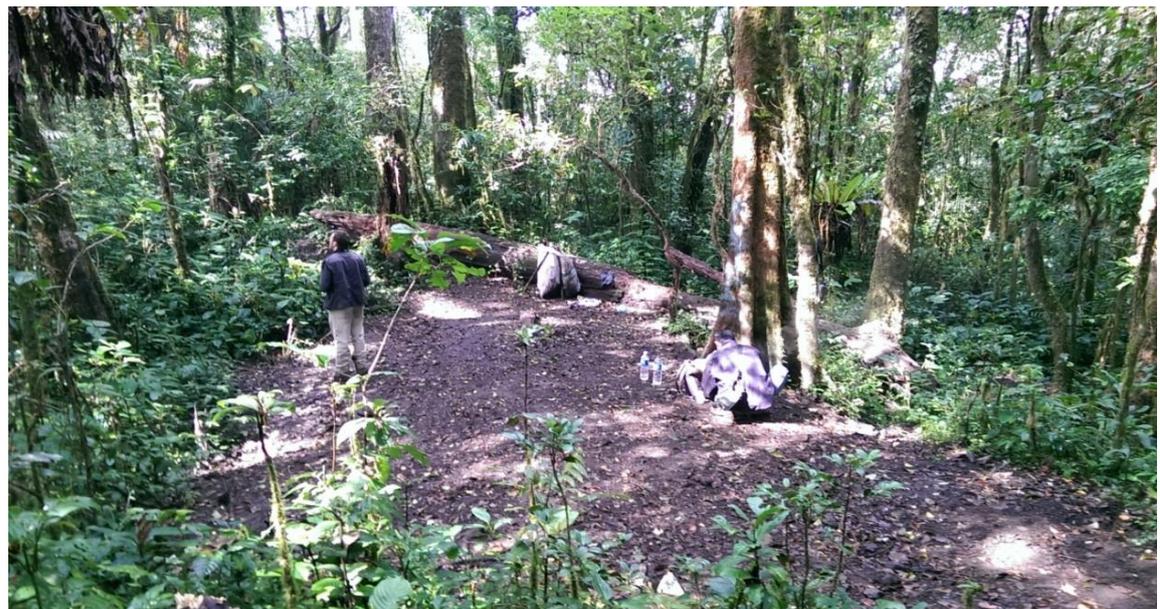
Arjan and Dwi at the **Arch Way** at  $1.7472^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $101.2592^{\circ}\text{E}$ ; the scrub tunnel has disappeared; © Jan van der Laan.



Arjan at Base Camp at 1.7407°S, 101.2602°E; © Jan van der Laan.



The trail at Kerinci: narrow, dark and wet and sometimes void of birds; © Jan van der Laan.



Sumber Air or Air Minum at 1.7349°S, 101.2602°E; the information board was shattered and was lying in the scrub on the right. Left of Arjan was the entrance of a small trail where we had mind-blowing views of two Red-legged Partridges; © Jan van der Laan.



**Camp Cochoa** or Pos 3 at [1.7285°S](#), [101.2637°E](#), the place where Sumatran Cochoa is seen frequently; note that some squirrels there can make the same whistle as the Cochoa! Other squirrels are attracted to your daypack, so take care! © Jan van der Laan.



Left: the famous **Burnt Tree** at [1.7248°S](#), [101.2637°E](#), halfway between Camp Cochoa and First Shelter. The tree is huge and certainly has the largest diameter of all trees around. Right: Misty forest at Camp Cochoa. © Jan van der Laan



**First Shelter** at 1.7203°S, 101.2636°E, or what is left of it. A pair of Rufous-vented Niltavas was seen feeding from the iron structure. Orange-spotted Bulbul was steady on the bushes on the right on 23 and 27 March 2014; © Jan van der Laan.



Birding at the **Tapan Road**. Beautiful forest, but sometimes a lot of traffic; © Jan van der Laan.



**Tapan Road** seen from the HQ; © Jan van der Laan.



Gully at the **Tapan Road** where the Marbled Wren-Babbler lives; and where Pak Subandi saw a Tiger in 2007; © Jan van der Laan.



Panoramic view of the **Tapan Road**; left Dwi, right Jan; © Arjan Brenkman.



Encroachment on the southern slopes of **Gunung Kerinci**. Will it ever stop? © Jan van der Laan.