





Philippine Eagle

that turns a chocolate colour in the dry season. For our Bohol birding, we concentrate on the Rajah Sikatuna National Park. The area we visit is not large and is criss-crossed with a series of trails. Here we look out for Amethyst Brown-Dove, Blue-crowned Racquet-tail, Black-faced Coucal, Pygmy Swiftlet, Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo, Rufous-lored Kingfisher, Philippine Trogon, Mindanao Hornbill, Visayan Wattled Broadbill, Steere's Pitta, Philippine Oriole, Streaked Ground-Babbler, Brown Tit-Babbler, Yellow-wattled Bulbul, Philippine Leaf-Warbler, Yellow-breasted Tailorbird, Rufous-tailed Jungle-Flycatcher, Blue Fantail, Coletto (a starling), Red-keeled Flowerpecker and Metallic-winged Sunbird.

#### Day 8

During a final morning in Rajah Sikatuna National Park, we may come across Black-chinned Fruit-Dove, Silvery Kingfisher, Red-bellied Pitta, Black-crowned Babbler, and Rufous-fronted Tailorbird, and we may catch up on species we missed yesterday. After lunch at the hotel, we head for Tagbilaran pier. On the way, we make a detour to the Philippine Tarsier Centre, where we have a chance of seeing one or two of these strange little primates in the semi-wild. In late afternoon, we catch the fast ferry to Cebu City, our starting point for tomorrow's flight. Here we check into a hotel for an overnight stay.

#### Days 9 to 11

This morning, we take a flight from Cebu City to Cagayan de Oro, in Mindanao, where we are met by our minibus and drive to Dalwangan in Bukidnon Province, at the foothills of the Kitanglad Mountains. Firstly we pay our respects to the village elders and attend a small ceremony to allow us to visit the mountain. Then we drive up to Damitan, where we are met by guides with horses for the luggage. An hour's walk takes us to the lodge, arriving in time for lunch and a full afternoon's birding. Our staff bring all bedding, food, drinks and ice up and serve excellent meals. During the next two days, we go in search of the Philippine Eagle and 25 or so Mindanao montane endemics. The walking is not difficult and much of area is open and under cultivation. The lodge is at an elevation of 1,350 metres and at least on one day, we will walk up to 1,800 metres in search of such birds as the Apo Sunbird and Apo Myna. Other birds to be found in this area include Bukidnon Woodcock, Giant Scops-Owl, Philippine Frogmouth, Philippine Swiftlet, Yellow-breasted Fruit-Dove, Mindanao Racquet-tail, Philippine Nightjar, Blue-capped

Wood-Kingfisher, McGregor's Cuckoo-shrike, Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis, Bagobo Babbler, Rufous-headed Tailorbird, Long-tailed Ground-Warbler, Black-and-cinnamon Fantail, Mountain Shrike, Grey-hooded Sunbird, Olive-capped and Flame-crowned Flowerpeckers, Black-masked White-eye, Cinnamon Ibon (a white-eye), Red-eared Parrotfinch and White-cheeked Bullfinch.

#### Day 12

After an early breakfast, we return to Damitan where the minibus will be waiting for us. We then proceed to Cagayan Airport where we catch the midday flight to Manila. Upon arrival, we transfer to the afternoon flight to Puerto Princesa, the main city of Palawan where we check into a hotel for an overnight stay.

#### Days 13 & 14

We visit the Iwahig Penal Farm and Balsahan trail, in search of many endemics, particularly Melodious Babbler, Falcated Ground-Babbler and Palawan Flycatcher. Later in the morning, we visit some ponds and wet paddies in search of various wetland birds. We then proceed to Sabang and St Pauls National Park. The last 20 miles of the drive is good for birds and we will take our time, arriving at Sabang in late afternoon, for a stay of two nights. In the evening, we can search for Palawan Scops-Owl and the Javan Frogmouth. The next day is spent in St Pauls National Park and the surrounding area around Sabang. The park is beautifully located between high limestone cliffs and white sandy beaches and is covered by pristine forest. We take a boat directly to the Underground River. Later in the morning, we continue by boat to another location, after which we walk back to Sabang. The area is rich in birds and we have good chance of seeing a majority of the following birds: Tabon Scrubfowl, Palawan Peacock-Pheasant, Blue-naped Parrot, Blue-headed Racquet-tail, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Palawan Swiftlet, Stork-billed and Ruddy Kingfishers, Palawan Hornbill, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Hooded Pitta, Yellow-throated Leafbird, Sulphur-bellied Bulbul, Palawan Tit, Ashy-headed Babbler, White-vented Shama, Palawan Blue Flycatcher, Blue Paradise-Flycatcher, Hill Myna, Lovely Sunbird, and Palawan Flowerpecker.

#### Days 15 & 16

We return to Puerto Princesa for the morning flight to Manila, where our onward flight departs in the afternoon. We arrive in London early the following morning.



Stripe-headed Rhabdornis

#### Outline Itinerary

<b>Day 1</b>	Depart London
<b>Day 2</b>	Manila (Luzon)
<b>Days 3-4</b>	Subic Bay (Luzon)
<b>Day 5</b>	Manila (Luzon)
<b>Days 6-7</b>	Chocolate Hills (Bohol)
<b>Day 8</b>	Cebu City (Cebu)
<b>Days 9-11</b>	Damitan (Mindanao)
<b>Day 12</b>	Puerto Princesa (Palawan)
<b>Days 13-14</b>	Sabang (Palawan)
<b>Day 15</b>	Depart Manila
<b>Day 16</b>	Arrive London

#### Party Size

Maximum of 12 clients (two leaders with more than six clients).

#### Accommodation

Comfortable accommodation in twin/double and single rooms with private facilities. At Damitan on Mindanao the accommodation is basic with a dormitory room with mats, sleeping bags, sheets and blankets. Up to five tents are also available at this site. There are basic toilet and shower facilities available here.

#### Transport

By minibus and boat.

#### Includes

All flights, meals, accommodation, transport, entry fees, services of the leaders, airport taxes and tips.


#### Gradings

 Good/Basic

 260


 Hot

 Low

 Special

 Moderate

 Good

 Moderate

 Scheduled



Slate-feathered Malkoha