



birdtour **ASIA**

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Lesser Sundas, Indonesia (Bali, Sumba, Timor, Flores and Komodo)

25th July – 12th August 2010

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Little Sumba Boobook, Sumba

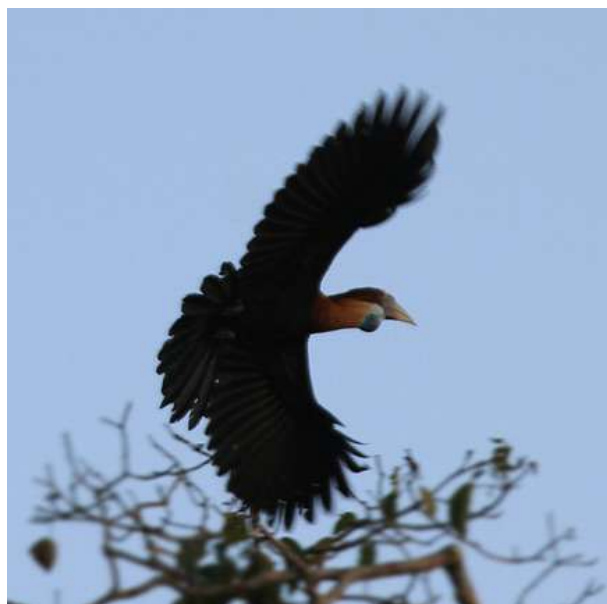
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The seldom-visited islands of the Lesser Sundas might produce a relatively small trip list of 246 species inside three weeks but this includes an impressive 68 endemics by exploring just four islands. Kicking off on Sumba we found all 12 island endemics with ease including both endemic boobooks, numerous Sumba Cockatoo and also Elegant Pitta and Chestnut-backed Thrush. Though many of Timor's endemics aren't quite so gaudy, Black-banded Flycatcher, Iris Lorikeet, Orange-banded Thrush and Timor Sparrow were all greatly admired. The long island of Flores proved the most exciting as Flores Monarch, Bare-throated Whistler, White-rumped Kingfisher and especially Flores Hawk Eagle showed exceptionally. The finale – a day trip to Komodo – lived up to expectations with a huge Komodo Dragon bounding towards us while Yellow-crested Cockatoo's screeched overhead. Elegant Pitta, Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher, Chestnut-backed and Chestnut-capped Thrushes and Black-backed Fruit Dove were just some of the other headliners. On top of all this, fine weather, tasty food and some interesting cultural diversions all added this to wonderful tour.

As usual there were some twists to the tours, our first beginning immediately as our scheduled Merpati 'Get the Feeling' flight to Sumba was cancelled. Fortunately an earlier flight was available for us, although it meant our only birding on Bali was restricted to the hotel gardens and a small group of Java Sparrow, here relatively secure from the intense trapping for the cage-bird trade that has blighted the species throughout its native range. As it happens, the earlier flight was, rather predictably, delayed by over an hour so by the time we reached Sumba, it was already getting late on we could muster just a single Lesser Sundas endemic for the day as a couple of Mees's Nightjars hawked around us at dusk.



Chestnut-backed Thrush and Sumba Cockatoo, Sumba © James Eaton



Sumba Hornbill and Sumba Cockatoo, Sumba © James Eaton

We allowed ourselves 2½ days of forest birding, which once again proved more than enough time as we scored with fine views of all 11 endemics (plus buttonquail) in a day and 30 minutes! Our first day in the forest was superb. Our first endemic was a roadside Sumba Boobook trapped in the spotlight, peering down at us from an exposed perch. As daylight began to break the birds quickly ticked over; Yellow-spectacled and Ashy-bellied White-eyes buzzed around us (both shared with other nearby islands), a small flock of Sumba Green Pigeon flew in though we needn't have rushed for this species as a nearby fruiting tree held over 50. Apricot-breasted Sunbird soon appeared, Sumba's most widespread endemic, and would keep on popping up. Marigold Lorikeets, surprisingly scarce this year, raucously whizzed over in pairs. A random walk into the forest couldn't have been better planned as we stumbled up on a huge fruiting tree, full of green pigeons and Black-naped Fruit Doves, easily numbering over 30 of both. Here, our first Chestnut-backed Thrush appeared, sat just above eye-level for several minutes, flushing a pair of

Sumba Jungle Flycatchers out for us too. Back on the road the endemics kept popping up, the stunningly beautifully Red-naped Fruit Dove flew up into a dead tree, surprisingly everyone as it looks like a kid was given a packet of crayola and a blank canvas. A dazzling male Sumba Myzomela enjoyed the roadside nectar with sunbirds and the common 'Sumba' Flowerpecker – if ever there was an obvious split it is this, from the montane Blood-breasted Flowerpecker of nearby islands with its different song, striking underpart pattern (dusky flanks, thick black markings, large red breast and throat patch). Frustratingly just as a pair of the tricky Sumba Brown Flycatcher appeared in the canopy a pair of Lesser Wallacean Drongo chased them away before a Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher shot into view to pose – it was all happening this morning!

Another Chestnut-backed Thrush appeared before an Elegant Pitta was called in by the roadside and began feeding below us, totally unconcerned by us, and the noisy grass-cutters nearby! Our afternoon was spent in the same area, though this time our fruiting tree held something rather larger in the form of a group of Sumba Hornbill. After a moment of panic making sure we didn't disturb them as we attempted to all get across in time to see them a pair decided to fly up and sit in the same exposed tree the Red-naped Fruit Dove had sat in so gloriously earlier. After admiring this, one of the world's rarest hornbills, for some time we moved in search of the pesky flycatchers, though we needed have worried too much as it didn't take long before a Sumba Flycatcher jumped out of the undergrowth and sat quietly close-by offering unusually nice looks, leaving us with just the canopy-loving *muscicapa* to go, it's the same every year! So, we waited patiently at a reliable spot for over an hour when finally, after watching countless flycatching sunbirds, myzomelas, flowerpeckers and white-eyes we finally found a Sumba Brown Flycatcher, which although a little distance, offered good enough scope views and smiles all round. Typically five minutes later we found another one at eye-level by the roadside! As dusk began to fall, we listened to the dusk-chorus of Elegant Pittas and the *hooting* of a pair of Little Sumba Boobook, a species described as recently as 2002 that took some time before eventually giving themselves up rather distantly, perched in the spotlight. We definitely deserved the delicious dinner and cold Bintangs waiting for us back at our guesthouse!



Barn Owl, Sumba

© James Eaton/Birdtour Asia

Waking up very early, a drive further afield to a different forest patch a couple of hours away in west Sumba was required the next day in order to continue our clean-sweep on the island. Viewing from our strategic viewpoint in the middle of a potato field we were greeted by several Great-billed Parrots flying from their roost-site, followed by the largest number of Eclectus Parrots I have seen on Sumba (just 19!) and finally one of the most unmistakable birds in the world – cockatoo! During the morning we were fortunate to witness a minimum of 7 Sumba Cockatoos flying back-and-forth in front of us (again, my largest number at a single site on Sumba!), one bird flew overhead while another pair sat and posed for over an hour in front of us. Sadly this species is on a fast, downward spiral towards extinction due to capture for the pet-trade and numbers have been estimated at just a few hundred birds (which I struggle to believe), and even the most optimistic of us would struggle to see much hope for it. With loads of time on our hands now we just spent time obtaining better and better views of the

endemics, particularly the Red-naped Fruit Dove as well as seeing Pale-shouldered and Wallacean Cuckooshrikes. Mees's Nightjars hawked all around us while a pair of Little Sumba Boobook and another Sumba Boobook were both watched at length, close-by, then while walking back to the vehicles we opportunistically found a Little Sumba Boobook perched literally just overhead, offering mind-blowing views that the leader has for many years longed for .

Other species during our stay in this area included Spectacled Monarch, Arafura Fantail, several gorgeous male Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Short-tailed Starling, Australian Koel, Barn Owl at its usual nest-hole, Rusty-breasted Cuckoo, Ashy-bellied and Yellow-spectacled White-eyes, Brown Goshawk, Black-naped Oriole, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, noisy Red-cheeked Parrots, Golden Whistler, and our post-lunch-time forays produced the usual pair of Spotted Harriers, some Short-toed Eagles and some good-sized flocks of Pale-headed Munia, sprinkled with a few Red Avadavats to add a splash of colour.



Black-backed Fruit Dove and Red-cheeked Parrot

© James Eaton

Spending an afternoon and early morning along the coast saw us scrambling through the coastal grasslands that brought us well over double figure counts of our remaining endemic, Sumba Buttonquail including several excellent flight views as we re-flushed several birds showing all their salient features. Plenty of Australasian Bushlarks were also flushed, as were Barred Dove (another Lesser Sunda near-endemic) while the nearby mangroves were full of Indonesian Honeyeaters and a single Broad-billed Flycatcher. A nearby lake held breeding Javan Plover as well as numerous other, predominately Australian species, Wandering Whistling Ducks, Pacific Black Duck, Sunda Teal, White-headed Stilts, breeding Australian Swamphean, a lone Glossy Ibis, migrating Long-toed Stints, Australasian Reed Warbler, and the scrubby perimeter provided shade for hundreds of Zebra Finch and roosting Savanna Nightjar, a great end to this wonderful island.

Departing Sumba, Australian Pratincoles welcomed us onto the Kupang Airfield in westernmost Timor. Our first birding destination was to be Bipolo, a (very) small patch of coastal monsoon forest, and we spent several sessions here pulling out the majority of the Timor and Wetar Endemic Bird Area endemics. Fawn-breasted Whistler, Plain Gerygone, Timor Friarbird, Timor Oriole, Timor Figbird, Black-chested Myzomela, Yellow-eared Honeyeater, Streak-breasted Honeyeater were all relatively conspicuous and easy to view at this enjoyable spot. A real bonus (!) about Timor is its lack of night-birds (a bit of a disappointment to me to be honest!), especially when it took us just six minutes after dusk for the 'Timor' Boobook to appear overhead in the spotlight. This taxon sounds and looks radically different from the Southern Boobook of Australia, and will soon be split.

During our forest forays a fruiting tree was literally dripping with Rose-crowned Fruit Doves, numbering over 40, along with much smaller numbers of the gorgeous, white-headed Black-backed Fruit Dove. Unfortunately, as with much of the Lesser Sundas, hunting is a huge problem and we failed to find one of our 'easy targets', Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon until the final morning when we came across a pair further along the coast along with one of the big surprises on the tour, a flock of Iris Lorikeet – one of Timor's trickiest specialities, especially given the complete lack of parrots this year as we struggled with all them though Marigold Lorikeet performed better than usual. Timor Chat was common and conspicuous in the scrubby areas, an oddly-shaped chat that resembles Jerdon's Bushchat from northern Indochina.

Other species of importance included regional endemics such as the dazzling Flame-breasted Sunbird, Red-chested Flowerpecker, Greater Wallacean Drongo, Gould's Bronze Cuckoo, Green-winged Pigeon, Rainbow Bee-eaters - an Australian migrant, while Pacific Baza and Brown Goshawk were conspicuous over the open forest. A Yellow-crested Cockatoo greeted us by flying overhead - this bird has present for nearly three years now and presumed to be an escape judging by its behaviour - flying in to the sound of our voices! Fortunately as we were visiting Komodo later in the tour we didn't have to trouble ourselves about the origins of this bird.

Coastal paddy-fields made you wonder whether you really are in Asia or Australia - plenty of Spotted Kestrel, Australian Hobby, Black-shouldered Kite, Short-toed Eagles and Black-faced Woodswallows filled the skies. The fields themselves were full of White-faced Herons, White-shouldered Trillers, Barred Doves and small flocks of Five-coloured Munia. Careful scanning finally revealed the occasional Timor Sparrow - another tough Timor endemic, although we mainly had to be content with immatures until we did find a cracking adult on the final morning. Moving to the salt-pans was a bit of fun as we sifted through for migrants from both the north and south. Long-toed Stints, Marsh Sandpipers and Greenshanks were moving through. Though Royal Spoonbill, Red-capped Plover, Pied Heron and a surprise group of Grey Teal among the resident Sunda Teal again made it feel more like Australia than Asia!



Timor Black Pigeon and Black-banded Flycatcher, Timor

© James Eaton

Inland we spent a morning birding at Camplong, a large mosaic of dry, relatively intact forest. Several of the endemics encountered at Bipolo were repeated here including Timor Chat, Plain Gerygone and Fawn-breasted Whistler, Streak-breasted and Yellow-eared Honeyeaters but with a few notable attractions. Perhaps the most striking of the endemics, Orange-banded Thrush proved straight-forward as we soon had lovely scope views of two birds. Just five minutes after entering a forest trail a clatter of wings and some quiet patience revealed one of the most-wanted birds of the tour - a fine adult Timor Black Pigeon. Though a little edgy and wary, it sat out in full view for a couple of minutes before escaping back into the forest. We would see an immature later in the morning, these two sightings separated by one of the tour's most exciting moments and distinctive endemics - a pair of minuet Black-banded Flycatcher, with the male whispering its sweet, subtle melody. As usual with this species, we had to sit down quietly and be a little patient for him to come to us so we could more than glimpse his pied plumage and striking chestnut mantle. Timor Stubtail, already being heard frequently, gave a stunning performance, perched at eye-level, giving its just about audible (to some!), high-pitched call. He may not have been the most colourful of birds but is full of character, more than could be said of the Sunda Bush Warbler sharing the same clump of bamboo.

Heading to a site with a similar habitat to Camplong a little further inland, , we had high expectation of finding a couple more new birds. As we looked over towards nearby Mount Mutisall we could see were dark, thick clouds and couple of times it lashed it down (contrary to the promises of fine weather from the locals!) as we attempted to see the always frustrating, annoying and down-right elusive Buff-banded Bushbird! A pair of Bar-necked Cuckoo Doves however almost instantly popped-up, sitting out for worrying long periods of time on exposed branches - do these pigeons never learn! Good to see as this race will soon be split off as 'Timor Cuckoo Dove'. Eventually the pair of bushbirds popped up a couple of times and showed themselves to all but two of us, which was a bit frustrating for those two, but all was not lost yet! Continuing our fine day we still had a couple more birds up our sleeves, first of all four Olive-headed Lorikeets flew over and into the scope. We admired them for a while, fortunately so, as we never

got a sniff of them at Mount Mutis the next day, where they are usually so common. Next up was a bird that can be sweated over as a pair of Spot-breasted Dark-eye flew into and flew around us for a while before calming down somewhat and began to have a bit of a preen – we were doing well! It was so gloomy after another rain shower a pair of Timor Boobook started calling (clearly fooled into thinking it was already night!) and we were given fine views as the pair came over to inspect us, wings drooped, peering down at us, and then it was time for dinner!

The following day was as bad as I feared. Arriving on Gunung Mutis, Timor's highest peak, shortly after dawn none of us wanted to leave the warmth and dry of the vehicles. Outside it couldn't have been worse – thick, dense mist swirling around the vehicles in gale-force winds, at least it wasn't raining... yet! After coffee and yet more banana pancakes we pulled ourselves together and hit the forest. Our one and only lifer of the day turned up early on – Timor Leaf Warbler. The rest of the day doesn't deserve much of a mention as the rain came pouring down and we all got completely soaked, though we did see a very showy Pygmy Wren Babbler and a few Island Thrushes!

With the afternoon looking like a wash-out we retreated from the mountain, tails stuck firmly between our legs and decided to wait till tomorrow. A return to yesterday's site brought about nice views of the Bushbird for those that missed it previously and once again the boobooks put on a nice show.



Timor Boobook and Timor Cuckoo Dove, Timor

© James Eaton

Dawn back on Mutis was the same as the previous day; fog, wind and rain, great! We did manage to pull out a bird or two, literally, when the weather cleared momentarily. Tricoloured Parrotfinches were located on four different occasions though it took all four occasions to get good views of them – not to actually see the bird, but to see any colours on them due to the fog, despite them being just metres away! Metallic Pigeon, usually such a conspicuous bird here, finally appeared during a brief clear moment in the canopy. With the parrotfinch under our belts it was time to head for the sun and back to the coast, ready for our next instalment of new birds.

One of the biggest surprises of the whole tour was our departure for Ruteng in western Flores the next morning actually went straight to Ruteng rather than routing us via another obscure town as often happens! We hit the birding straight-away and instantly hit a feeding flock, causing all kinds of commotion as we had to think quickly about which endemics we wanted to see first and most – Flores Leaf Warbler, Yellow-browed Dark-eye, Brown-capped Fantail, Scaly-crowned Honeyeater, Bare-throated Whistler, Golden-rumped Flowerpecker and a pair of Sunda Woodpecker all buzzed around us. We took a breather, but the birds had already gone! Over the course of the morning, birding along a not-so-quiet-anymore road in the mountains of Flores (a sign of increasing wealth!), we enjoyed the birding and the flurry of ticks coming our way. All the birds (and more) reappeared at some point in the morning. The grey-headed race of Black-backed Fruit Dove flew-in, a pair of fast-flying Flores Lorikeets, perched Rufous-bellied Eagle, a sweet-singing Flores Jungle Flycatcher and a Thick-billed Dark-eye all came into view at some point, and we got great views of a personal favourite, Bare-throated Whistler, belting out its car-alarm song! If you don't believe me, then check out Lars's stunning video taken during the tour http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVY-C1UwIGs&feature=player_embedded

After the tick-fest we wended our way down to the coastal lowlands at Kisol, residing for two nights at a seminary well situated for birding the nearby lowland forest patch. Afternoons here are usually tough-

going, and today would have been the same had it not been for one lucky spot where we clawed in two megas. A single, brief alarm call of a Chestnut-capped Thrush meant a long, long wait and plenty of quiet patience but this was more than rewarded as the thrush eventually flew by us and landed twice on open perches for us all to admire this beautiful *zosterops* and one of Asia's toughest species to get to grips with. Just as we settled down after the high of this bird a White-rumped Kingfisher came in to inspect us for a while, though a relatively common Flores and Sumbawa endemic of degraded and mature forest it isn't easy to get close views of this shy species. Typically, just after I had told everyone how lucky we were with the thrush, another appeared, even perching overhead at times! As dusk fell a couple of Moluccan Scops Owls came out to play as did a nicely perched Mess's Nightjar before we headed back, although sadly Wallace's Scops Owl was notable by its absence during our stay here.



Yellow-crested Cockatoo, Timor and Flores Minivet, Flores

© James Eaton

With a full day at our disposal here we spent the early part of the morning looking at more Thick-billed Dark-eyes, Golden Whistlers, Black-naped Fruit Dove, Red-cheeked Parrot and a pair of the ultra-skulking Flores Crow, a personal favourite, as they played hide-and-seek, *whooshing* around us. It was now time make our way down to our vantage-point and not long after making ourselves comfortable, a huge silhouette broke the horizon to our left and a swift view through the binoculars confirmed it was our target, the critically endangered Flores Hawk Eagle. Great views for the next 10 minutes of this huge, distinctive species, left us quite amazed that it was ever considered just a subspecies of the Changeable Hawk Eagle, before promptly landing in a tree next to her mate. The pair then flew down, and around, and proceeded to show off their presumably recently fledged off-spring, much to our surprise and delight for the next hour or so, and even a Bonelli's Eagle put in an appearance. The afternoon was rather poor in comparison to the morning, an Elegant Pitta popped up, as did a White-rumped Kingfisher, a pair of Russet-capped Tesia bounced around us in the undergrowth, belting out their impressively powerful song for such a tiny bird and a family of Flores Minivet made a welcome appearance.

Thanks to our success at Kisol we headed back to the mountains early where a pre-dawn vigil for Flores Scops Owl proved worryingly quiet so we had to make the most of the day-time birding instead. Bare-throated Whistlers were out in force this morning, belting out their wonderful song all around us. All of the expected montane endemics seen previously made repeat appearances as did a Sunda Cuckoo sunning itself, more Flores Minivets, Flores Jungle Flycatcher again though Dark-backed Imperial Pigeons did little more than flash-by on a couple of occasions. A repeat visit for Flores Scops Owl proved frustrating as our usual pairs were completely silent meaning we had to find a new pair, which we did, but as often happens, though we had them calling just over our heads, the mid-storey proved totally impenetrable, no matter where we stood.

Dropping in elevation, we spend some time birding sub-montane forest over the next day or so. Close to Ruteng Ruddy Cuckoo Doves and Flores Lorikeet both showed how we wanted them to, particularly the lorikeet – quite amazing how it was ever lumped with Rainbow given its small size and total lack of any colour other than green! To the north of Ruteng a particularly enjoyable time was had along the roadside; Black-chested and (un-)Golden-rumped Flowerpeckers were anywhere with Bottlebush, along with Flame-breasted Sunbirds and a few Crested and Thick-billed Dark-eyes. Pale-shouldered Cuckooshrike and Russet-capped Tesia both made more appearances, as did Red-cheeked Parrots, Black-naped Fruit Dove, Yellow-spectacled and Oriental White-eyes, a surprise Rufous-chested Flycatcher and a cracking White-rumped Kingfisher called continuously in the scope, much to amusement of the locals as they dried their

coffee beans along the road.. A real bonus came in the form of a huge, roadside fruiting tree brimming with the nomadic and rarely-seen Flores Green Pigeon, over 30 of them at one point along with more Black-backed Fruit Doves. Lower down the road a Flores Hawk Eagle circled overhead and we were to find another one later that day – 5 in just a matter of days, superb!



Mees's Nightjar and Flores Hawk Eagle, Flores

© James Eaton

Heading west to the picturesque port of Labuanbajo we made an early morning stop at Puarlolo, home to one of Flores most desired endemics, Flores Monarch. The monarch was new to science in 1971 and is still only known from a handful of localities. Though it took some time and hearing a couple, we eventually found one of these striking birds as it came in to inspect us at close range. During our searches we found a few other nice species to keep us occupied, a pair of noisy Flores Crows finally allowed a decent perched look, we stopped a Rufous-backed Kingfisher dead in its tracks as it flew straight for us along a trail and another spanking Chestnut-backed Thrush flashed some colour in the undergrowth every time it turned around. We reached the port-town of Labuanbajo for lunch, relaxing into our plush, four-star accommodation and even enjoyed a short dip in the pool before it was back to work! We still had Wallace's Hanging Parrot to find though we would have to sweat it out a bit longer as the closest we came this afternoon was hearing one fly over at only time during the whole afternoon we were under the canopy!

We saved the best until last with a day dedicated to the trip to Komodo island, home of the Komodo Dragon. We were taken briskly across the Flores Sea in just over an hour by our speedboat, that lacked the James Bond look, but still felt great, the occasional Black-naped Tern and Lesser Frigatebird sailing past. After a brief introduction to the history of the island and its dragons we were off into the bush. A thoroughly enjoyable morning was spent casually walking along the trails with all the species being noticeably habituated and tame – a notable contrast to the last 3 weeks. Lemon-bellied White-eye, Indonesian Collared Dove, loads of Green Junglefowl and a pair of Orange-footed Scrubfowl were new for the trip along with a whole host of other species we had previously seen, including great views of Yellow-crested Cockatoo, which contrary to the rangers comments, is definitely on the decline here, a sad tale for this critically endangered species at its only stronghold in Indonesia (they are also clinging on in Timor-Leste). A quiet shout and point by the ranger revealed a huge male Komodo Dragon just ahead of us, walking towards us, tongue slivering in and out of his gape, giving plenty of poses for the constantly clicking cameras, as he occasionally sat to enjoy the mid-morning sun, a truly wild experience with one of mother nature's best-known creatures. We did see two more later on in the day, but these were sat underneath the rangers kitchen so definitely didn't count, along with a few Timor Deer at arm's length! Our cruise back was almost as enjoyable as we anchored up offshore for a spot of snorkelling over a beautiful coral reef, peering down looking into the world of Nemo.

After our 'day-off' the previous day we were super-keen to clear up the remaining daytime endemics. More Flores Crows, Great-billed Parrots, Black-naped Orioles and endemic flowerpeckers just wasn't cutting the mustard. By mid-morning it wasn't looking too hopeful so a slight change in tactics took us to another spot that has held hanging parrots in the past, I assured everyone. Our timing could not have been better – within 30 seconds of jumping out of the cars a single hanging parrot flew-by, alerting everyone's attention as then 3 more Wallace's Hanging Parrots flew out of the same tree, headed straight

for us, then banked around giving great views under the sun. Result!

Indonesian Air Transport surprised us with an almost on-schedule flight back to Bali (an hour late is nothing here!) and back to civilisation. A fine last dinner was followed by a bit of early morning birding along the coast, adding a few new species to the tour, including Javan Myna (sorry Richard!), Wilson's Storm Petrels, Bridled Tern, Brown Boobies, Scarlet-headed Flowerpeckers and a brief White-tailed Tropicbird. A pleasant way to finish off a highly successful, endemic-packed tour.



Flores Green Pigeon and Bare-throated Whistler, Flores

© James Eaton



Green Imperial Pigeon and Komodo Dragon, Komodo

© James Eaton

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To see even more, high-quality photographs from the tour, please [click here](#) to view the photos of tour participant Lars Petersson. His website is <http://www.larsfoto.se/>

Systematic Bird List

PROCELLARIIFORMES: Procellariidae

Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas*
Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*

PROCELLARIIFORMES: Hydrobatidae

Wilson's Storm Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

PELECANIFORMES: Phaethontidae

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus*

PELECANIFORMES: Sulidae

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

PELECANIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*
Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

PELECANIFORMES: Fregatidae

Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

CICONIIFORMES: Ardeidae

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
Pied Heron *Ardea picata*
'Eastern' Great Egret *Ardea [alba] modesta*
Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*
White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*
Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
Pacific Reef Heron *Egretta sacra sacra*
Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa*
Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*
Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

CICONIIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

CICONIIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

Wandering Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*
Sunda Teal *Anas gibberifrons*
Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*
Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

FALCONIFORMES: Pandionidae

Australian Osprey *Pandion [haliaetus] cristatus*

FALCONIFORMES: Accipitridae

Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata timorloaensis*
Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*
Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*
Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*
Black Kite *Milvus migrans affinis*
Brahminy Kite *Haliastur itro intermedius*
White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*
Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*
Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*
Variable Goshawk *Accipiter hiogaster sylvestris*
Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus tjendanea*
Accipiter fasciatus hellmayri
Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata renschi*
Rufous-bellied Eagle *Aquila kienerii formosus*
Flores Hawk Eagle *Nisaetus floris*

FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae

Spotted Kestrel *Falco moluccensis microbalia*
 Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis hanieli*
 Peregrine Falcon *Falco itronella ernesti*

GALLIFORMES: Megapodiidae

Orange-footed Scrubfowl *Megapodius reinwardt reinwardt*

GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora pallidior*
Coturnix ypsilophora raaltenii
 Blue-breasted Quail *Coturnix chinensis lineata*
 Green Junglefowl *Gallus varius*

GRUIFORMES: Turnicidae

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator powelli*
 Sumba Buttonquail *Turnix everetti* e

GRUIFORMES: Rallidae

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis philippensis*
 White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus* heard only
 White-browed Crake *Porzana cinerea cinerea*
 Australian Swampphen *Porphyrio melanotus*
 Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus orientalis*

CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae

White-headed Stilt *Himantopus leucocephalus*

CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*
 Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
 Javan Plover *Charadrius javanicus*

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus variegatus*
 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
 Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*
 Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*
 Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
 Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*
 Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

CHARADRIIFORMES: Sternidae

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*
 Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*
 Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana*
 Great Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*

COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae

Metallic Pigeon *Columba metallica*
 Indonesian Collared Dove *Streptopelia [bitorquata] bitorquata*
 Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*
 Barred Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia unchall unchall*
 Barred-necked Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia magna magna* e
 Ruddy Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia emiliana emiliana*
 Little Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia ruficeps orientalis*
 Timor Black Pigeon *Turacoena modesta* e
 Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica indica*
 Green-winged Pigeon *Chalcophaps chrysochlora timorensis*
 Barred Dove *Geopelia maugei*
 Sumba Green Pigeon *Treron teysmannii* e
 Flores Green Pigeon *Treron floris* e
 Pink-necked Green Pigeon *Treron vernans*
 Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon *Treron griseicauda*
 Black-backed Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus cinctus albocinctus* e
Ptilinopus cinctus conctus
 Red-naped Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus doherlyi* e

Rose-crowned Fruit Dove	<i>Ptilinopus regina flavicollis</i>	
Black-naped Fruit Dove	<i>Ptilinopus melanospilus melanauchen</i>	
Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea polia</i>	
Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula rosacea</i>	
Dark-backed Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula lacernulata sasakensis</i>	

PSITTACIFORMES: Cacatuidae

Yellow-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua sulphurea parvula</i>	
Sumba Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua [sulphurea] citrinocristata</i>	e

PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae

Marigold Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus capistratus capistratus</i>	
	<i>Trichoglossus capistratus fortis</i>	
Flores Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus weberi</i>	e
Olive-headed Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus euteles</i>	e
Iris Lorikeet	<i>Psitteuteles iris iris</i>	e
Red-cheeked Parrot	<i>Geoffroyus geoffroyi floresianus</i>	
	<i>Geoffroyus geoffroyi geoffroyi</i>	
Great-billed Parrot	<i>Tanygnathus m. megalorynchos</i>	
	<i>Tanygnathus megalorynchos sumbensis</i>	
Eclectus Parrot	<i>Eclectus roratus cornelia</i>	
Wallace's Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus flosculus</i>	e

CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae

Sunda Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus lepidus</i>	
Rusty-breasted Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sepulcralis sepulcralis</i>	
Brush Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis variolosus whitei</i>	
Shining Bronze Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus plagosus</i>	heard only
Gould's Bronze Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx russatus</i>	
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus malayana</i>	heard only
Australian Koel	<i>Eudynamys cyanocephalus everetti</i>	
Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis javanensis</i>	

STRIGIFORMES: Tytonidae

Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba sumbaensis</i>	
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STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae

Flores Scops Owl	<i>Otus alfredi</i>	e	heard only
Wallace's Scops Owl	<i>Otus silvicola</i>	e	heard only
Moluccan Scops Owl	<i>Otus magicus albiventris</i>		
Sumba Boobook	<i>Ninox rudolfi</i>	e	
Timor Boobook	<i>Ninox [novaeseelandiae] fuscus</i>	e	
Little Sumba Boobook	<i>Ninox sumbaensis</i>	e	

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae

Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>		heard only
Mees's Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus meesi</i>	e	
Savanna Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>		

APODIFORMES: Apodidae

Timor Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia [esculenta] neglecta</i>	e	
Cave Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia linchi linchi</i>		
	<i>Collocalia [linchi] sumbawae</i>		
Edible-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphagus</i>		
House Swift	<i>Apus [affinis] nipalensis</i>		

CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae

Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis floresiana</i>	
Rufous-backed Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx rufidorsa</i>	
Collared Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chloris chloris</i>	
Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Halcyonsanctus santus</i>	
Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon itronella australasia</i>	e
White-rumped Kingfisher	<i>Caridonax fulgidus</i>	e

CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae

Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	
Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	

CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae

Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis pacificus</i>	
CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae		
Sumba Hornbill	<i>Aceros everetti</i>	e
PICIFORMES: Picidae		
Sunda Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis grandis</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Pittidae		
Elegant Pitta	<i>Pitta elegans concinna</i> <i>Pitta elegans maria</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae		
Australasian Bushlark	<i>Mirafra javanica parva</i> <i>Mirafra javanica timorensis</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae		
Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica javanica</i>	
Striated Swallow	<i>Cecropis striolata striolata</i>	
Tree Martin	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans timoriensis</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae		
Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus albidus</i> <i>Anthus rufulus medius</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae		
Wallacean Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina personata floris</i> <i>Coracina personata sumbensis</i>	
Pale-shouldered Cicadabird	<i>Coracina dohertyi</i>	e
White-shouldered Triller	<i>Lalage sueurii</i>	
Flores Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus lansbergei</i>	e
PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae		
Sooty-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus aurigaster</i>	
Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae		
Greater Wallacean Drongo	<i>Dicrurus densus densus</i>	e
Lesser Wallacean Drongo	<i>Dicrurus bimaensis bimaensis</i> <i>Dicrurus bimaensis sumbae</i>	e
PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae		
Chestnut-capped Thrush	<i>Zoothera interpres</i>	
Chestnut-backed Thrush	<i>Zoothera dohertyi</i>	e
Orange-banded Thrush	<i>Zoothera peronii peronii</i>	e
Island Thrush	<i>Turdus poliocephalus schlegelii</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae		
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis fuscicapilla</i>	
Golden-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis lineocapilla</i>	
Bar-winged Prinia	<i>Prinia familiaris</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae		
Russet-capped Tesia	<i>Tesia everetti everetti</i>	e
Timor Stubtail	<i>Urosphena subulata subulata</i>	e
Sunda Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia vulcania everetti</i>	
Australian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus australis sumbae</i>	
Mountain Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus cuculatus everetti</i>	
Timor Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus presbytes</i>	e
Flores Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus [presbytes] floris</i>	e
Yellow-breasted Warbler	<i>Seicercus montis floris</i>	heard only
Buff-banded Bushbird	<i>Buettikoferella bivittata</i>	e
PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae		
Flores Jungle Flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias oscillans</i>	e
Sumba Jungle Flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias [oscillans] stresemanni</i>	e
Sumba Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa segregata</i>	e
Snowy-browed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hyperythra clarae</i>	
Sumba Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula harterti</i>	e
Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>	

Rufous-chested Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula dumetoria</i>	
Black-banded Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula timorensis</i>	e
Timor Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis hyacinthinus hyacinthinus</i>	e
Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis sejuncta</i>	
	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis connectens</i>	
Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata pyrrhonota</i>	
	<i>Saxicola caprata francki</i>	
	<i>Saxicola caprata fruticola</i>	
Timor Bushchat	<i>Saxicola gutturalis gutturalis</i>	e
PASSERIFORMES: Rhipiduridae		
Northern Fantail	<i>Rhipidura rufiventris rufiventris</i>	
Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	
Brown-capped Fantail	<i>Rhipidura diluta</i>	e
Arafura Fantail	<i>Rhipidura dryas semicollaris</i>	
	<i>Rhipidura dryas sumbensis</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae		
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea prohata</i>	
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone itronel floris</i>	
	<i>Terpsiphone itronel sumbaensis</i>	
Spectacled Monarch	<i>Monarcha trivirgatus trivirgatus</i>	
Flores Monarch	<i>Monarcha sacerdotum</i>	e
Broad-billed Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra ruficollis ruficollis</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Pachycephalidae		
Fawn-breasted Whistler	<i>Pachycephala orpheus</i>	e
Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis fulvotincta</i>	
	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis fulviventris</i>	
	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis calliope</i>	
Bare-throated Whistler	<i>Pachycephala nudigula</i>	e
PASSERIFORMES: Timaliidae		
Pygmy Wren Babbler	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla timorensis</i>	
	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla everetti</i>	heard only
PASSERIFORMES: Acanthizidae		
Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea sulphurea</i>	
Plain Gerygone	<i>Gerygone inornata</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Paridae		
Grey Tit	<i>Parus [major] cinereus</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae		
Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis convergens</i>	
	<i>Anthreptes malacensis rubigena</i>	
Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis ornata</i>	
Apricot-breasted Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris buettikoferi</i>	e
Flame-breasted Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris solaris</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae		
Golden-rumped Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum annae</i>	e
Thick-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum agile tinctum</i>	
	<i>Dicaeum agile obsoletum</i>	
Black-fronted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum igniferum</i>	e
Red-chested Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum maugaei maugaei</i>	e
Blood-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum sanguinolentum hanieli</i>	heard only
Sumba Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum [sanguinolentum] wilhelminae</i>	e
Scarlet-headed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trochileum</i>	
PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae		
Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus unicus</i>	
Mountain White-eye	<i>Zosterops montanus montanus</i>	
Lemon-bellied White-eye	<i>Zosterops chloris intermedius</i>	
Ashy-bellied White-eye	<i>Zosterops itronella citrinella</i>	
Yellow-spectacled White-eye	<i>Zosterops wallacei</i>	e
Yellow-browed Dark-eye	<i>Lophozosterops superciliaris</i>	e
Crested Dark-eye	<i>Lophozosterops dohertyi subcristatus</i>	e
Thick-billed Dark-eye	<i>Heleia crassirostris</i>	e
Spot-breasted Dark-eye	<i>Heleia muelleri</i>	e

PASSERIFORMES: Meliphagidae

Scaly-crowned Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera lombokia</i>	e
Indonesian Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera limbata</i>	e
Yellow-eared Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera flavicans</i>	e
Sumba Myzomela	<i>Myzomela dammermani</i>	e
Black-chested Myzomela	<i>Myzomela vulnerata</i>	e
Streak-breasted Honeyeater	<i>Meliphaga reticulata</i>	e
Timor Friarbird	<i>Philemon inornatus</i>	e
Helmeted Friarbird	<i>Philemon buceroides buceroides</i>	
	<i>Philemon buceroides neglectus</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae

Timor Oriole	<i>Oriolus melanotis melanotis</i>	e
Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis broderipii</i>	
Timor Figbird	<i>Sphecotheres viridis</i>	e

PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae

Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach bentet</i>	
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PASSERIFORMES: Artamidae

White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus albiventer</i>	
Black-faced Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cinereus perspicillatus</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae

Flores Crow	<i>Corvus florensis</i>	e
Southern Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae

Short-tailed Starling	<i>Aplonis minor</i>	
Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>	
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	
Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus malaccensis</i>	
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PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae

Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava flaviventris</i>	
Zebra Finch	<i>Taeniopygia guttata guttata</i>	
Tricolored Parrotfinch	<i>Erythrura tricolor</i>	e
Javan Munia	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	
Black-faced Munia	<i>Lonchura molucca</i>	
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata nisoria</i>	
	<i>Lonchura punctulata sumbae</i>	
Five-coloured Munia	<i>Lonchura quinticolor</i>	e
Pale-headed Munia	<i>Lonchura pallida</i>	
White-headed Munia	<i>Lonchura maja</i>	
Java Sparrow	<i>Padda oryzivora</i>	
Timor Sparrow	<i>Padda fuscata</i>	e

MAMMALS

Plantain Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	
Black Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus alecto morio</i>	
sLong-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	
Rusa	<i>Cervus timorensis</i>	

REPTILES

Komodo Dragon	<i>Varanus komodoensis</i>	
Tockeh	<i>Gecko gecko</i>	

Bird-of-the-tour

- 1 Flores Hawk Eagle
- 2 Chestnut-backed Thrush
- 3 Bare-throated Whistler
- 3= Black-banded Flycatcher
- 5 Little Sumba Boobook



Komodo Dragon, Komodo

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To see even more, high-quality photographs from the tour, please [click here](#) to view the photos of tour participant Lars Petersson. His website is <http://www.larsfoto.se/>