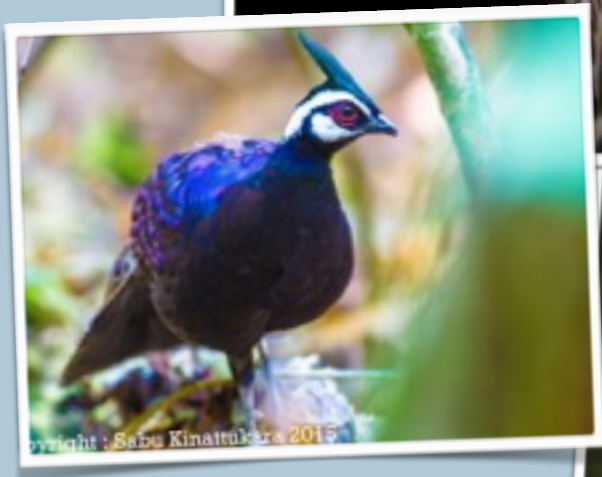
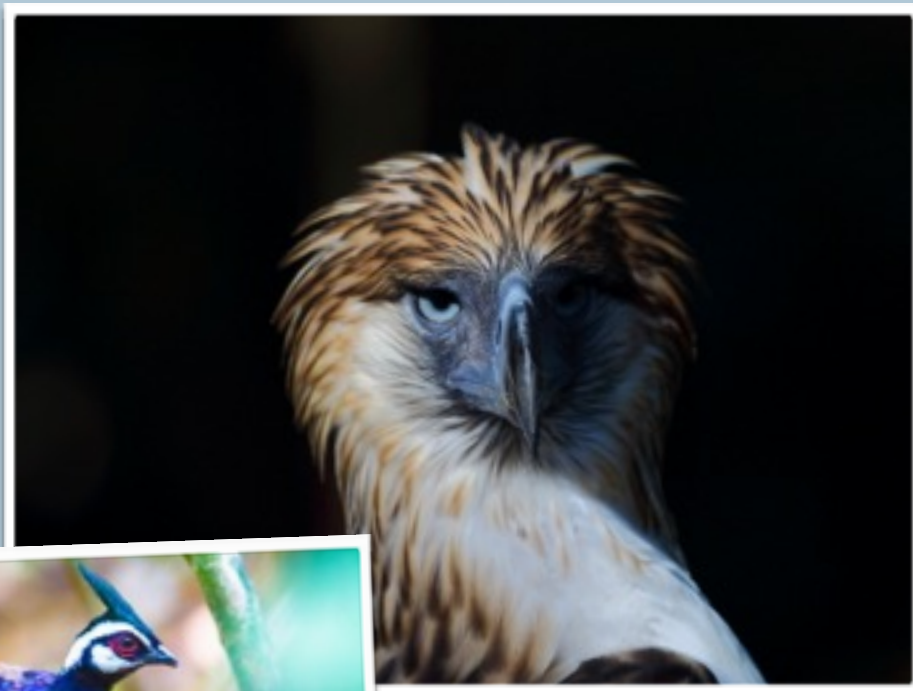


Philippine Endemics

Birding Expedition 2018

12 Days , April 2018



Best of Philippines :

AN EXPEDITION TO SEE ENDANGERED ENDEMICS

Mt. Kitangalad + PICOP + Palawan + DRT + Subic Bay + BK Valley

The Philippine Archipelago harbours an amazing collection of endangered endemics in the World . Composed of 7107 islands , the Philippines holds 150 endemics , many of them are in the verge of extinction. Our 12 days long birding tour will take you to many endemic infected and trouble free areas of Philippines to see and photograph many a avian wonders this beautiful region offers

Dates : April 10 - 21 , 2018

Group Size : 6

Excellent Photography Opportunities



Itinerary

Day 1 , April 10 : Intavas Ridge in Mt. Kitanglad, Bukidnon

4.30 AM : Travel to Cagayan de Oro International Airport Check from Manila in the first flight and then travel to our base in Malaybalay, Bukidnon on arrival for the Mt. Kitanglad birding sites. Travel time is about 3 to 4 hours in good roads so it's a comfortable ride.

We will go straight to the bird site before we check-in the hotel. We will look for the the following montane bird species like the **Apo Mynah, Apo Sunbird, Mountain Shrike, Island Thrush, Black and Cinnamon Fantail, Montane Racquet-tail, White-cheeked Bullfinch, Cinnamon Ibon, McGregor's Cuckooshrike, Mettalic Pigeon, Philippine Cuckoo Dove, Amethyst Brown Dove, Yellow Breasted Fruit Dove, Mindanao Hornbill, Grey-hooded Sunbird, Short-tailed Starling, Mindanao Hornbill, Rufous-headed Tailorbird, Sulphur-billed Nuthatch, Mountain White-eye, Red-eared Parrotfinch, Olive-capped Flowerpecker, Mountain Verditer (Turquoise) Flycatcher, Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Mindanao Ibon (Black-masked White-eye), Philippine Honey-Buzzard and Pinsker's Hawk-Eagle** and others



Check-in Hotel, dinner and stay overnight

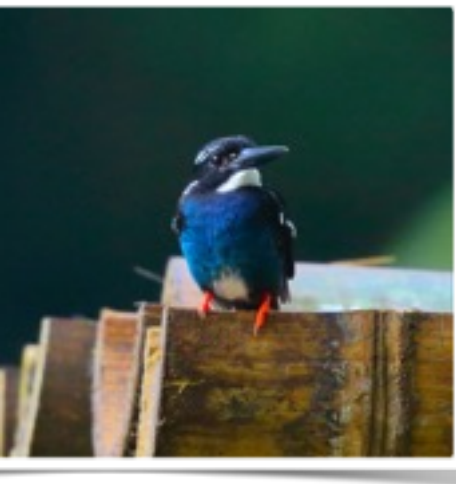
Day 2 , April 11 – Cinchona Forest Reserve

Breakfast and land travel to Cinchona Forest Reserve in Mt. Kitanglad which is the National Park where the Philippine Eagle is nesting for many years. We will look for the **Philippine Eagle** if recent sightings are reported. if no reports then we can start with the **Blue-capped Kingfisher** and then the montane species. At night we will look for the **Lesser Eagle Owl or Mindanao Eagle Owl** and **Mindanao Scops-owl**.

Travel back to hotel (Haus Malibu), dinner and stay overnight

Day 3, April 12 – Intavas Ridge Birding Site

Check-out and travel to Intavas Ridge in the early morning to look for the mixed feeding flocks. We were there on the first day but not in the early morning were it is the best time to see the feeding mixed flocks. Should be a good time also to go to the higher elevation of about 2000 plus meters asl the elevation where the **Apo Sunbird**, **Montane Racquet Tail**, **Mountain Shrike** can be seen. These are some of the highly sought after species in Mt. Kitanglad.



Travel to PICOP in Bislig for the next leg of the bird tour. Travel time is about six hours. It's a comfortable trip because the roads are good and well paved. Check-in at the Paper Country Inn for the overnight stay

Day 4 , April 13 - Road 42 Birding Site in PICOP

Breakfast and travel inside the forest area in

Whole-day Birding to target the following species: **Azure-breasted Pitta**, **Philippine Pitta**, **Celestial Monarch**, **Short-crested Monarch**, **Mindanao Wattled Broadbill**, **Striated wren babbler**, **Rufous Hornbill**, **Writhed or Mindanao Wrinkled Hornbill**, **Rufous Paradise Flycatcher**, **Philippine Falconet**, **Blue-crowned Racket-tail**, **Mindanao Pygmy Babbler**, **Metallic-winged Sunbird**, **Handsome Sunbird**, **Black-faced Coucal**, **Yellowish Bulbul**, **Black-headed Tailorbird**, **Mindanao Blue Fantail**, **Philippine Leafbird**, **Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo**, **Naked-faced Spiderhunter**, **Rusty-crowned Babbler**, **Brown Tit-Babbler**, **Black-chinned Fruit Dove**, **Amethyst Brown Dove** and other endemics.

Back to hotel (Paper Country Inn) dinner and stay overnight.

Day 5, April 14 - Road 1-4, Quarry Trail and Cemetery Forest Area

Go to the pond area to see the Silvery Kingfisher, Plain Bush Hen and other birds in the pond area.

Travel to Quarry Trail and Cemetery Forest area to get the **Steere's Pitta**, **Wattled Broadbill**, **Guaiabero**, **Blue-crowned Racket-tail**, **Philippine Hanging Parrot**, **Writhed Hornbill**, **Mindanao Hornbill**, **Philippine Falconet**, **Blue-backed Parrot**, **Crested Honey Buzzard**, **Common Emerald Dove**, **White-eared Brown Dove**, **Amethyst Brown Dove**, **Philippine Green Pigeon**, **Black-chinned Fruit Dove**, **Pink-bellied Imperial Pigeon**, **Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo**, **Black-faced Coucal** **Philippine Coucal**, **Mindanao Blue Fantail**, **Short-crested Monarch**, **Black-naped Monarch**, **Celestial Monarch**, **Rufous Paradise Flycatcher**, **Philippine Leaf Warbler**, **Tawny Grassbird**, **Black-headed Tailorbird**, **Mindanao Pygmy Babbler**, **Brown Tit-Babbler**, **Asian Glossy Starling**, **Coletto (Sarcops calvus)**, **Philippine Leafbird**, **Red-keeled Flowerpecker**, **Orange-bellied Flowerpecker**,

Handsome Sunbird, Metallic-winged Sunbird, Orange-tufted Spiderhunter, Everett's Scops Owl, Great Eared Nightjar and other birds in the area

Dinner, overnight (PCI) and check-out the in the morning,

Day 6, April 15 - Tinuy-an Falls Birding Site in PICOP



This area is rich with the following target birds : **Rufous-lored Kingfisher, Brown-tit Babbler, Pygmy Babbler, Black-headed Tailorbird, Mindanao Hornbill, White-eared Brown Dove, Amethyst Brown Dove, Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove, Black-chinned Fruit Dove, Yellow-bellied Whistler, Olive-backed Flowerpecker, Rufous Paradise Flycatcher** and other endemic birds in the area.

Check-out and travel to the airport for the 1 hour flight to Cebu at 9:00PM, check-in at Red Planet Cebu for the overnight stay.

Day 7 , April 16 – Puerto Princesa, Palawan: Iwahig and Irawan Birding Sites

Travel to the airport for the 8AM Flight to Puerto Princesa, Palawan. Travel time is only one hour and twenty minutes.

pon arrival in the Puerto Princesa, we will travel for one hour directly to the birding site where we can find the critically endangered Philippine Cockatoo also called Red-vented Cockatoo and the Blue-headed Raquet Tail and other birds in the area.

Transfer to Irawan Forest Reserve to look for the more Palawan endemics like the **Melodious Babbler, Palawan Flycatcher**. We will also target other endemics like the **Yellow-throated Leafbird, Blue Paradise Flycatcher, and Palawan Blue Flycatcher, Crested Serpent Eagle, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Black-headed Bulbul and Rufous-tailed Tailorbird**.

Travel back to the city for night birding site of the Palawan Frogmouth

Check-in Go Hotels Puerto Princesa, dinner and stay overnight



Day 8, April 17 – Puerto Princesa Underground River in Sabang

Travel to Sabang for about two hours by van and then a short boat trip for 20 minutes to PPUR to see the most sought after bird in Palawan, the **Palawan Peacock Pheasant**. Other target birds in this place are the following: **Philippine Megapode** other endemics like the **White-vented Shama**, **Ashy-headed Babbler**, **Spot-throated Flameback**, **Palawan Blue Flycatcher**, and **Hooded Pitta**.

Travel to Buenavista View Deck and then to Baruang Bridge which is one of the best birding sites in the area on the way back to the city. There's a nice stream in this place where we always see the **Lovely Sunbirds and the Copper-throated Sunbirds**. **Black-headed Bulbuls**, **Brown Tit Babblers**, **Ashy Headed Babblers**. There's a chance to see the Hooded Pitta in this area too. There's also good birding in these roads which we will check as we travel on a low pace to see the other birds in the Sabang road network. We often see the **Palawan Hornbills**, **Pigeons and dove** along these roads on the way back to the city. Buffet Lunch at 11:00 AM by the shorelines of Sabang Beach.



Magarwak Birding site for the difficult to see **Palawan Flycatcher** which is not difficult in this site. Other endemics are also present in the site like the **Dark-throated Oriole**, **Drongo-Cuckoo**, **Chestnut-breasted Malkoha**, **Pale Spider Hunter**, **Palawan Bulbul**, **Stripped and Pygmy Flowerpecker** and **Blue Paradise Flycatchers**

Travel back to the city in Badjao Restaurant to get the **Ashy-headed Babbler**, then dinner. This is also night birding where the **Spotted Wood Owl** can be seen.

Check-in hotel, dinner and stay overnight

Day 9, April 18 – Puerto Princesa, Palawan: Napsan and Zigzag Road Birding Site

Check-out from the hotel in the early morning

Travel to the newly discovered birding sites in Puerto Princesa which quickly became a favorite because of the rich variety of birds in this area. Target birds are **Palawan Tit**, **Asian Fairy Bluebird**, **Dark-throated Oriole**, **Spot-throated Flameback**, **Red-headed Flameback**, **White-bellied woodpecker**, **Green Imperial Pigeon**, **Hill**



Mynah, Palawan Hornbill, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Blue Paradise Flycatcher, Ashy-headed Babbler, Pin-stripe Tit Babbler, Pygmy Flowerpecker, Asian-fairy, Bluebird, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha and other birds in the area.

Travel to the airport for the 7PM flight back to Manila, stay overnight in Manila

Day 10, April 19 – Doña Trinidad Forest (DRT) Birding Site

Check-out hotel and then travel to DRT Birding Site



Birding the whole day in this forest birding site. This is the best site to see the following birds like the ***Indigo-banded Kingfisher, Brown-breasted Kingfisher, Red-crested Malkoha, Scale-feathered Malkoha. Also the Rufous Coucal and White-browed Shama (difficult to see in other sites), Philippine Hanging Parrot, Guaiabero, Sooty Woodpecker, Philippine Serpent Eagle, Bar-bellied Cuckoo Shrike, Elegant Tit, Coletto, Philippine Bulbul and Philippine Tailor Bird***

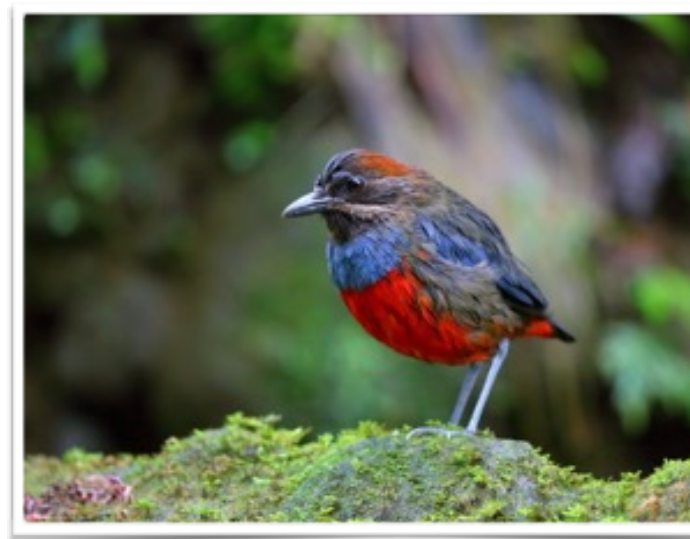
overnight

Travel to Subic for one and a half hour, check-in hotel, stay

Day 11 , April 20 – Subic Bay Rainforest, Nabasan Trail Birding Site

Birding the whole day in different sites inside the Subic Rainforest to see the following birds: ***Luzon Parrot also called Philippine Green Parrot, Philippine Hanging Parrot, Green Racket Tail, Guaiabero, Luzon Flameback Woodpecker, Sooty Woodpecker, White-bellied Woodpecker, Guaiabero, Rufous Coucal, Philippine Hawk Eagle, Philippine Serpent Eagle, Luzon Tarictic Hornbill, Philippine Green Pigeon, Bar-bellied Cuckoo Shrike, Blackish Cuckoo Shrike, Elegant Tit, White-fronted Tit, Philippine Falconet, Coletto, Brown-breasted Kingfisher, Philippine Bulbul*** and others

Travel back to Manila, check-in Red Planet Quezon City



Day 12 , April 21 - BK Valley Bird Sanctuary

Trek to the nesting site of the **Whiskered Pitta**, the rare and most sought after Pitta species in the Philippines. After the Pitta look for the other montane endemics and other lowland species like the **Blue-headed Fantail**, **Tarictic Luzon Hornbill**, **Chestnut-faced Babbler**, **Citrine Canary Flycatcher (Near Endemic)**, **Brown-breasted Kingfisher**, **Mountain White-eye**, **Yellowish White Eye**, **Red-crested Malkoha**, **Scale-feathered Malkoha**, **Philippine Coucal**, **Elegant Tit**, **Bi-colored Flowerpecker**, **Buzzing Flowerpecker**, **Ballicasao**, **Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker**, **Turquoise Flycatcher**, **Philippine Serpent Eagle**, **Luzon Sunbird**, **Green-backed Whistler**, **White-browed Shortwing (future endemic split)**, **Philippine Hawk Owl**. *If a nesting pair is found, good chance to see the Luzon Bleeding Heart Pigeon and the Flame-breasted Fruit Dove* if their favorite trees are fruiting at that time.

Travel back to hotel in Manila. End-of-Tour.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Tour Starting Date & Place	: April 10, 4.30 Am at Manila Airport
Tour Ending Date	: April 21, 8.00 PM at Manila Airport
No of Participants	: 6
Accommodation	: Basic to Modern
Food	: Local & Continental
Photography	: Welcome and excellent opportunities
Tour Difficulty	: Easy involves few long drives and one hike

TOUR FEE IN USD

Group of Six	: USD 2,750 per
pax (Twin-share)	
Single Supplement	: USD 30

Prices quoted are inclusive of domestic flights



Tour Inclusions: This is a **Worry free Bird Tour** as the price includes all the expenses such as local airfares and land transportation cost using new 4x4 SUV's, Park Fees, Bird Guide Fees, Porter Fees, Twin Sharing Room Accommodations and three full meals a day.

Tour Exclusions : International flights, airport taxes, tour alteration, travel insurance, excess baggage charges, optional excursions, billable telephone calls, extra drinks, laundry service, snacks and anything of a purely personal nature.

Photo Courtesy : Rey Sta Ana , Sabu Kinattukara

Notes :

Tour Alterations : While every effort is made to make the tour descriptions as accurate as possible, participants should be aware that, factors beyond our control may result in changes to the itinerary. Should a major change of itinerary be forced upon us while the tour is in progress as, like an airline strike, weather delay or political crisis, the additional costs, if any, are the responsibility of the tour participant.

Disclaimer

We recommend travel insurance. While we always exercise all reasonable precautions, we are not responsible for any injury, damage and additional charges or other irregularities either intentionally or by negligence by firms providing our tours transport, accommodations and other services. Participants hold harmless our organization, as well as employees of the organizations from any and all liability for any injuries, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with this tour.

TOUR MAP

