

South India - The Western Ghats

A week trip in late March 2007 with [The Bird ID Company](#)

Species list

Grey Francolin	Several Masinagudi area
Small Buttonquail	One seen very well on the ground at Chinnar
Yellow Legged Buttonquail	Seen in flight at Chinnar Wildlife sanctuary
Red Spurfowl	3 at Chinnar and one at Sighur river
Grey Junglefowl	Fairly numerous in forest around Thattekad, forest patch at Munnar and Chinnar
Indian Peafowl	2 on road near Chinnar
Lesser Whistling Duck	30+ Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Cotton Pygmy Goose	Coimbatore lake and Koele wetland
Garganey	Coimbatore lake and Koele wetland
Heart Spotted Woodpecker	2 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Brown Capped Pygmy Woodpecker	Chinnar and from the road below Ooty
Yellow Crowned Woodpecker	Chinnar & Sighur river
Lesser Yellownap	2 Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Streak Throated Woodpecker	Outside sanctuary in Thattekad and Chinnar
Common Flameback	♂♀ Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Black Rumped Flameback	Seen at the bird Sanctuary and Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad,
Greater Flameback	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad and Chinnar
White Naped Woodpecker	Fabulous ♂♀ at the Sighur river
Brown Headed Barbet	Chinnar
<u>White Cheeked barbet</u>	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, from the road below Ooty and Cairnhill forest in Ooty
<u>Crimson Fronted Barbet</u>	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Coppersmith Barbet	Chinnar
<u>Malabar Grey Hornbill</u>	Seen in the Bird Sanctuary and Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Indian Grey Hornbill	2 along Sighur river
Common Hoopoe	Only seen at Chinnar
Malabar Trogon	♂ seen at the bird Sanctuary and another Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Indian Roller	Between Chinnar & Coimbatore lake
Dollarbird	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Common Kingfisher	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, Chinnar and Koele wetland
Oriental Dwarf kingfisher	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Stork Billed Kingfisher	Seen in the Bird Sanctuary and Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad and Koele wetland
White Throated Kingfisher	Fairly common near water
Pied Kingfisher	Koele wetland
Blue Bearded Bee Eater	Only seen briefly at Chinnar
Green Bee Eater	Outside sanctuary in Thattekad, Chinnar and Cheruthrutty river
Blue tailed Bee Eater	Outside sanctuary in Thattekad & Koele wetland
Chestnut Headed Bee Eater	Seen at the Bird Sanctuary & reservoir, Thattekad, Chinnar, from road below Ooty and Sighur Ghat
Common Hawk Cuckoo	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad

Indian Cuckoo	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Grey Bellied Cuckoo	One at Chinnar and one Jain resort, Masinagudi
Asian Koel	Thattekad area and Chinnar
Blue Faced Malkoha	Only seen at Chinnar, 2 birds, one seen very well
Greater Coucal	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, Chinnar & Koele wetland
Vernal hanging Parrot	♂♀ Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad and Sighur Ghat
Rose Ringed Parakeet	Only seen at Chinnar wildlife sanctuary
Plum Headed Parakeet	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
<u>Malabar Parakeet</u>	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Chinnar and from the road below Ooty
Indian Swiftlet	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, munnar and Chinnar
White Rumped Needletail	2 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Brown Backed Needletail	6 birds at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
House Swift	Seen around Munnar
Crested Treeswift	Thattekad-munnar road, Chinnar & Sighur river
Mottled Wood Owl	Roosting outside sanctuary in Thattekad
Jungle Owlet	2 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Sri Lanka Frogmouth	♂ seen roosting at close quarters in the Bird Sanctuary at Thattekad
Jerdon's Nightjar	Seen well at dusk in village near Thattekad
<i>[Savannah Nightjar]</i>	Heard at Jungle Hut, Masinagudi
Rock Pigeon	Common around human habitation
<u>Nilgiri Woodpigeon</u>	Only seen in forest patch near munnar but seen well on both days we were there
Green Imperial Pigeon	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad and Chinnar
Laughing Dove	Chinnar
Spotted Dove	Outside sanctuary in Thattekad and Chinnar
Eurasian Collared Dove	Chinnar
Emerald Dove	5 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad also at Munnar
Pompadour Green Pigeon	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
White Breasted Waterhen	Hornbill camp, Thattekad, Chinnar and Koele wetland
Watercock	♀ Koele wetland
Purple Swamphen	Thattekad area, Coimbatore lake & Koele wetland
Common Moorhen	Thattekad area and Koele wetland
Common Coot	Coimbatore lake
Pintail Snipe	Koele wetland
Common Greenshank	Cheruthrutty river
Green Sandpiper	Munnar
Wood Sandpiper	Koele wetland
Common Sandpiper	Cheruthrutty river and Koele wetland
Pheasant Tailed Jacana	Coimbatore lake
Bronze Winged Jacana	Hornbill camp, Thattekad
Oriental Pratincole	Koele wetland
Pacific Golden Plover	Koele wetland
Little Ringed Plover	Cheruthrutty river
Yellow Wattled Lapwing	Several near Jain resort, Masinagudi
Red Wattled lapwing	Outside sanctuary in Thattekad, Cheruthrutty river and Koele wetland
Gull Billed Tern	Koele wetland
River Tern	4 along the river at Hornbill camp, Thattekad also at the Idamalayar reservoir
Whiskered Tern	Seen along the river at Hornbill camp, Thattekad, Cheruthrutty river and Koele wetland.
White Winged Black Tern	Koele wetland

Black Shouldered Kite	Chinnar and 3 at Koele wetland
Black Kite	Below Munnar and Cheruthrutty river
Brahminy Kite	Hornbill camp & Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad. Also Cheruthrutty river and Koele wetland
Grey Headed Fish Eagle	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Crested Serpant Eagle	2 in the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Black Eagle	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Chinnar
Marsh Harrier	Koele wetland
Crested goshawk	pair seen at the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Shikra	♂ from road below Ooty and 1 at Cheruthrutty river
Besra	Seen well in village near Thattekad also Between Chinnar & Coimbatore lake
Oriental Honey Buzzard	2 at the Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad & Chinnar
Indian Tawny Eagle	Seen perched near Jungle Hut, Masinagudi
Bonelli's Eagle	Only seen at Chinnar
Booted Eagle	2 seen at Chinnar
Rufous Bellied Eagle	3 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Common Kestrel	Below Munnar
Peregrine Falcon	Jungle Hut, Masinagudi
Little Grebe	Munnar, Coimbatore lake & Koele wetland
Darter	Hornbill camp & Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, Coimbatore lake and Koele wetland
Little Cormorant	Coimbatore lake, Cheruthrutty river and Koele wetland
Indian Cormorant	Koele wetland
Little Egret	Fairly common in the wetlands
Great Egret	Present in most wetland areas though less numerous than little egret
Intermediate Egret	same as species above
Cattle Egret	Fairly common in wetland areas
Indian Pond Heron	Fairly common in wetland areas
Grey Heron	Coimbatore lake & Koele wetland
Purple Heron	Hornbill camp, Thattekad, Coimbatore lake & Koele wetland
Little Heron	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Yellow Bittern	Koele wetland
Cinnamon Bittern	Koele wetland
Glossy Ibis	11 in flight at Koele wetland
Black Headed Ibis	4 at Koele wetland
Asian Openbill	Seen over Bird Sanctuary and Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Cheruthrutty river & Koele wetland
Wooly Necked Stork	4 on the Cheruthrutty river
White Stork	Koele wetland
Indian Pitta	Seen well in village near Thattekad and Chinnar
Asian Fairy Bluebird	Idamalayar reservoir and from road below Ooty
Blue Winged Leafbird	Chinnar
Golden Fronted Leafbird	4 seen on first morning at Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, and from the road below Ooty
Brown Shrike	Seen in forest patch at Munnar and Chinnar
Bay Backed Shrike	Chinnar
Long Tailed Shrike	Munnar and Sighur river
Rufous Treepie	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
<u>White Bellied Treepie</u>	2-4 birds seen on first morning at Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad also Sighur river
House Crow	Common around human habitation

Large Billed Crow	Hornbill camp Thattekad, Chinnar and Koele wetland
Ashy Woodswallow	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Eurasian Golden Oriole	All 3 species of oriole often in the same tree at the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad also a nice male Eurasian outside the sanctuary and from the road below Ooty also at the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Black Naped Oriole	also at the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad and Chinnar
Black hooded Oriole	♂ Chinnar and ♀ Jain resort, Masinagudi
Black Headed Cuckooshrike	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, from the road below Ooty and at the Jain resort, Masinagudi
Small Minivet	Chinnar
Scarlet Minivet	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad and Chinnar
Bar Winged Flycatcher Shrike	Sighur river
White Throated Fantail	Chinnar and Sighur Ghat
White Browed fantail	Near Kochi airport & Koele wetland
Black Drongo	Seen in village near Thattekad and Sighur river
Ashy Drongo	Chinnar and Sighur river
White Bellied Drongo	Seen at Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, also Sighur River
Bronzed Drongo	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Greater Racket Tailed Drongo	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Black Naped Monarch	White phase seen at the Bird Sanctuary & another at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad & ♂♀ Sighur river
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	Chinnar
Common Iora	Sighur river
Large Woodshrike	Chinnar
Common Woodshrike	Munnar
Blue Capped Rock Thrush	♀ at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad also seen on Thattekad-munnar road
Blue Rock Thrush	4 at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Malabar Whistling Thrush	One of the shocks of the trip a pair showed well in forest patch at Munnar on both days we were there.
Pied Thrush	3+ birds of the white throated striped phase form at the Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad, also Sighur River
Orange Headed Thrush	Forest patch at Munnar & Cairnhill forest Ooty
Eurasian Blackbird	White bellied blue form seen well in scrubby forest near Munnar on both days often singing. Also 2-3 of the orange flanked form at Cairnhill forest Ooty.
<u>White Bellied Shortwing</u>	Chinnar, from the road below Ooty and Sighur Ghat
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 seen at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad also seen on Thattekad-munnar road and Sighur Ghat
Rusty Tailed Flycatcher	♂♂♀ Seen in forest patch at Munnar on both days
<u>Black and Orange Flycatcher</u>	♂♀ Seen in forest patch at Munnar and at Doddabetta in Ooty
<u>Nilgiri Flycatcher</u>	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
<u>White Bellied Blue Flycatcher</u>	♀ seen on Thattekad-munnar road
Blue Throated Flycatcher	From the road below Ooty and ♂♀ at Sighur River
Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	♂'s at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Cairnhill forest and Doddabetta in Ooty and Sighur river
Indian Blue Robin	Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad & forest patch at Munnar
Oriental Magpie Robin	Sighur river
White Rumped Shama	Chinnar
Indian Robin	Several seen around Munnar and Ooty.
Pied Bushchat	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Chestnut Tailed Starling	Sighur River
Brahminy Starling	

Common Myna	Common around human habitation
Jungle Myna	Chinnar, Ooty and Koele wetland
Lesser Hill Myna	Chinnar
Chestnut Bellied Nuthatch	Jungle Hut, Masinagudi
Velvet Fronted Nuthatch	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Below Munnar and Sighur Ghat
Great Tit	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Chinnar and Doddabetta, Ooty
Dusky Crag Martin	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad and below Munnar
Barn Swallow	Coimbatore lake & Koele wetland
Hill Swallow	Seen around Munnar
Red Rumped Swallow	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Chinnar and Koele wetland
<u>Grey Headed Bulbul</u>	Thattekad-munnar road
<u>Ruby Throated Bulbul</u>	This newly split from the Black Crested bulbul was seen at Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
Red Whiskered Bulbul	Common
Red Vented Bulbul	Fairly common
White Browed Bulbul	Chinnar and Sighur River
Yellow Browed Bulbul	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad, Sighur Ghat
Square Tailed Black Bulbul	Seen in forest patch at Munnar
Grey Breasted Prinia	Sighur Ghat
Plain Prinia	Munnar area and Koele wetland
Ashy Prinia	Seen at Sighur river and Koele wetland
Zitting Cisticola	Koele wetland
Oriental White Eye	Forest patch near Munnar and Sighur Ghat
Rama Booted Warbler	Sighur River, one seen well showing supercillium behind the eye, unlike blyth's reed warbler
Booted Warbler	2 birds seen hopping on the ground at Jungle Hut, Masinagudi and at Koele wetland
Blyth's Reed Warbler	Fairly common
Clamorous Reed Warbler	Koele wetland
Common Tailorbird	Thattekad-munnar road and Jain resort, Masinagudi
Tickell's Leaf Warbler	Seen at Cairnhill forest and Doddabetta, Ooty.
Greenish Warbler	Fairly common
Large Billed Leaf Warbler	Seen in forest patch at Munnar
<u>Nilgiri Laughingthrush</u>	Seen at Cairnhill forest and Doddabetta, Ooty.
<u>Grey Breasted Laughingthrush</u>	Seen well in scrubby forest near Munnar
<i>[Wynaad Laughingthrush]</i>	only probable see at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Indian Scimitar Babbler	Cairnhill forest Ooty
Tawny Bellied Babbler	Chinnar
Dark Fronted Babbler	Quite numerous at Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Large Grey Babbler	4 at Chinnar
<u>Rufous Babbler</u>	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
Jungle Babbler	Hornbill camp, Chinnar
Yellow Billed Babbler	6+ Outside sanctuary in Thattekad, Chinnar
Brown Cheeked Fulvetta	Idamalayar reservoir, Thatteka and, Sighur River
Pale Billed Flowerpecker	Chinnar
Plain Flowerpecker	Idamalayar reservoir and from the road below Ooty
Purple Rumped Sunbird	♀ Outside sanctuary in Thattekad, Thattekad-munnar road, Chinnar and Sighur Ghat & river
<u>Crimson Backed Sunbird</u>	Idamalayar reservoir and Thattekad-munnar road
Purple Sunbird	Thattekad area, Chinnar, Sighur Ghat & river
Little Spiderhunter	Idamalayar reservoir, Thattekad
House Sparrow	Munnar and Chinnar

Chestnut Shouldered Petronia
White Browed Wagtail

Yellow Wagtail
Grey Wagtail
Paddyfield Pipit

Nilgiri Pipit

Baya Weaver
White Rumped Munia
Black Throated Munia

Outside sanctuary in Thattekad and Chinnar
2 Hornbill camp, Thattekad, forest patch at Munnar
and Cheruthrutty river

Grey headed race seen at Koele wetland
Munnar area, Chinnar and Sighur River
Munnar

Below Munnar on the Periyar road
small colony at Koele wetland

Bird Sanctuary, Thattekad
5 from the road below Ooty