

Summer Wong Bird Tour

Sichuan , China

17 May - 23 May , 2016

Local bird guide, reported and photographed by : Summer Wong

Participants: Vesa Jouhki, Markku Vesterinen



Temminck's Tragopan at Balangshan © Summer Wong Bird Tour



This is a short 7 days tour covering Longcanggou and Balangshan.

Highlights of the tour: **Blackthroat, Firethroat, Temminck's Tragopan, Chinese Monal, Snow Partridge, Tibetan Snowcock, Chestnut-throated Partridge, White-eared Pheasant, Grandala, White-tailed Rubythroat, Streaked Rosefinch.**

Airport pick up then drive to Balang Shan, spent an afternoon and 2 full days birding there, on the first afternoon on the day we arrived there, we got our first view of **Chinese Monal**, Vesa and Markku's Top.1 target species, a male one high up near to the top of the mountain, can only see it clearly through the telescope, but in the second morning we got our best view of another male, it's my best view of it so far, it walked towards me until less than 5 meters away, too close for my camera, so excited, couldn't breath !! **Snow Partridge, Tibetan Snowcock** took us some time to spot them, not as active as in the very early May, during middle May they are not so interested in the call, wouldn't come down near to the roadside, can only see them high up on the top of the mountain, 2 **White-eared Pheasants** had been seen in the usual place, **Chestnut-throated Partridge** showed in the usual place too, a **Golden Pheasant** showed just 2 seconds to us then turn back to the bushes disappeared once it noticed us. 2 male **Blood Pheasants** running across the road in front us very close, nice view. 4-5 male **Sharpe's Rosefinch** showed very well in sunshine. **Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler, Sooty Tit, Pere David's Tit, Striped-throated Yuhina, Slaty Bunting, 2 Chinese Fulvetta** all showed well, but **White-browed Shortwing** very timid.

The most excited moment for Vesa was spotting the **Blackthroat**, it came straight to us stopped on the open branch, Vesa excitedly yell "Blackthroat, Blackthroat, Blackthroat..." we all had very good view of it, but a bit pity, no time to take a photo, it moved away too quickly! Got **Barred Laughingthrush** feeding on the dead leaves, **Giant Laughingthrush** easy to be seen, **Red-winged Laughingthrush** was very shy as usual, got some glimpse of it, a group of **Chinese Babax** feeding and chatting on bushes in Rilong side, and also got a **Sichuan Forest Thrush** in the middle of the day, it was feeling under pine trees but kept moving forward quickly. **White-tailed Rubythroat** was spotted at usual place, **Red-fronted Rosefinch** and **Streaked Rosefinch** showed in the same place. Sichuan Tit quite easy to been seen in Rilong side. **Grandala** both male and female were spotted a few times. At least 5 male Firethroat had been spotted. On the last morning when we headed to Longcanggou, we got a group of **Spot-winged Grosbeak** perched on big trees, at least 40 of them !

We got very bad weather and road in Longcanggou since we arrived at there until we left, raining all the way, on the beginning half and one day there, not many birds had been seen, birds were not active at all, but the second morning we start to meet our targets, guess they were too hungry, even in the rain they still have to go out and feeding in the rain, so we got a lot of our funny wet birds. 2 Three-toed Parrotbill showed well in the rain, poor birds no umbrella for them, got **Great Parrotbill, Golden Parrotbill, Brown Parrotbill**, but Grey-hooded didn't show us, missed it. **Emei Shan Liocichla** gave us good view in the bamboo. **Sichuan Bush Warbler, Spotted Bush**

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Warbler easily found in the usual place. A juvenile male **Temminck's Tragopan** was spotted crossing the road. Lady Amhert's Pheasant didn't even call until the last morning when we left, at least one responded to the tape from the bamboo area near the hostel, no rain in the last morning, but Vesa and Markku have to go as their flight was in the morning time.

Warblers been seen there : **Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler, Yellowish-bellied Bush Warbler, Brown Bush Warbler, Aberrant Bush Warbler, Bianchi's Warbler, Marten's Warbler, Kloss's Leaf Warbler, Claudia's Warbler, Emei Leaf Warbler, Sichuan Leaf Warbler, Buff-barred Warbler, Large-billed Leaf Warbler, Buff-throated Warbler, Ashy-throated Warbler, Chestnut-crowned Warbler.**



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Chinese Monal is eating flowers



Sharpe's Rosefinch (male) at Balangshan

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Snow Partridge & Tibetan Snowcock



Barred Laughingthrush & Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler

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Indian Blue Robin (male) & Slaty Bunting (male)



Stripe-throated Yuhina & Yellow-browed Tit

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Pere David's Tit & Hog Badger



Three-toed Parrotbill in rain

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Emei Shan Liocichla & Great Parrotbill



Streaked Rosefinch & White-tailed Rubythroat



Firethroat

Birds :

Snow Partridge -*Lerwa lerwa*

Chestnut-throated Monal Partridge -*Tetraophasis obscurus*

Tibetan Snowcock -*Tetraogallus tibetanus*

Chinese Bamboo Partridge -*Bambusicola thoracicus* heard only

Blood Pheasant -*Ithaginis cruentus*

Temminck's Tragopan -*Tragopan temminckii*

Koklass Pheasant -*Pucrasia macrolopha* - heard only

Chinese Monal -*Lophophorus lhuysii*

White Eared Pheasant -*Crossoptilon crossoptilon*

Golden Pheasant -*Chrysolophus pictus*

Lady Amherst's Pheasant -*Chrysolophus amherstiae* - heard only

Little Egret -*Egretta garzetta*

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Eastern Cattle Egret -*Bubulcus coromandus*

Lammergeier -*Gypaetus barbatus*

Himalayan Vulture / Griffon -*Gyps himalayensis*

Eurasian Sparrowhawk -*Accipiter nisus*

Golden Eagle -*Aquila chrysaetos*

Snow Pigeon - *Columba leuconota*

Oriental Turtle Dove -*Streptopelia orientalis*

Spotted Dove -*Spilopelia chinensis*

Large Hawk-Cuckoo - *Hierococcyx sparverioides* heard only

Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo- *Hierococcyx nisicolor* heard only

Lesser Cuckoo - *Cuculus poliocephalus*

Horsfield's / Oriental Cuckoo -*Cuculus optatus* heard only

Common Cuckoo -*Cuculus canorus*

Collared Owlet - *Glaucidium brodiei*

Himalayan Swift - *Aerodramus brevirostris*

White-throated Needletail -*Hirundapus caudacutus*

Pacific Swift sf Fork-tailed Swift - *Apus pacificus*

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker -*Dendrocopos cathpharius*

Darjeeling Woodpecker - *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

Long-tailed Minivet -*Pericrocotus ethologus*

Grey-backed Shrike -*Lanius tephronotus*

Black-naped Oriole -*Oriolus chinensis*

Hair-crested Drongo - *Dicrurus hottentottus*

Red-billed Blue Magpie -*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

Spotted Nutcracker - *Nucifraga caryocatactes*

Red-billed Chough -*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Alpine/ Yellow-billed Chough -*Pyrrhocorax graculus*

Large-billed Crow -*Corvus macrorhynchos*

Sichuan Tit -*Poecile weigoldicus*

Pere David's Tit -*Poecile davidi*

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Sooty Bushtit - *Aegithalos fuliginosus*
Rufous-vented Tit - *Periparus rubidiventris*
Coal Tit - *Periparus ater*
Yellow-bellied Tit - *Periparus venustulus*
Grey-crested Tit - *Lophophanes dichrous*
Green-backed Tit - *Parus monticolus*
Yellow-browed Tit - *Sylviparus modestus*
Fire-capped Tit - *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*

Collared Finchbill - *Spizixos semitorques*
Brown-breasted Bulbul - *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*
Chinese/ Light-vented Bulbul - *Pycnonotus sinensis*

Barn Swallow - *Hirundo rustica*
Red-rumped Swallow - *Cecropis daurica*
Asian House Martin - *Delichon dasypus*

Chestnut-headed Tesia - *Tesia castaneocoronata*
Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler - *Cettia fortipes*
Aberrant Bush Warbler - *Cettia flavolivacea*
Yellowish-bellied Bush Warbler - *Cettia acanthizoides*
Spotted Bush Warbler - *Locustella thoracica*
Sichuan Bush Warbler - *Locustella chengi*
Rufous-faced Warbler - *Abroscopus albogularis*
Alpine Leaf Warbler sf Tickell's - *Phylloscopus occisinensis*
Buff-throated Warbler - *Phylloscopus subaffinis*
Buff-barred Warbler - *Phylloscopus pulcher*
Ashy-throated Warbler - *Phylloscopus maculipennis*
Sichuan Leaf Warbler sf Lemon-rumped - *Phylloscopus forresti*
Hume's Leaf Warbler - *Phylloscopus humei*
Large-billed Leaf Warbler - *Phylloscopus magnirostris*
Claudia's Leaf Warbler - *Phylloscopus claudiae*
Emei Leaf Warbler - *Phylloscopus emeiensis*
Kloss's Leaf Warbler - *Phylloscopus ogilviegranti*
Bianchi's Warbler - *Seicercus valentini*
Martens's Warbler - *Seicercus omeiensis*
Chestnut-crowned Warbler - *Seicercus castaniceps*

Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler - *Pomatorhinus gravivox*
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler - *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*

Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler - *Pnoepyga albiventer* - heard only
Pygmy Wren Babbler - *Pnoepyga pusilla* - heard only

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Rufous-capped Babbler -*Stachyridopsis ruficeps*

Red-billed Leiothrix -*Leiothrix lutea*

Chinese Babax -*Babax lanceolatus*

White-browed Laughingthrush -*Pterorhinus sannio*

Barred Laughingthrush -*Ianthocincla lunulata*

Giant Laughingthrush -*Ianthocincla maxima*

Elliot's Laughingthrush -*Trochalopteron elliotii*

Red-winged Laughingthrush -*Trochalopteron formosum* - heard only

Emei Shan Liocichla -*Liocichla omeiensis*

Blue-winged Minla -*Minla cyanouroptera*

Golden-breasted Fulvetta -*Lioparus chrysotis*

Chinese Fulvetta -*Fulvetta striaticollis*

Grey-hooded Fulvetta -*Fulvetta cinereiceps*

Stripe-throated Yuhina -*Yuhina gularis*

White-collared Yuhina -*Yuhina diademata*

Great Parrotbill -*Conostoma oemodium*

Three-toed Parrotbill -*Cholornis paradoxa*

Brown Parrotbill -*Cholornis unicolor*

Ashy-throated Parrotbill -*Sinosuthora alphonsiana*

Golden Parrotbill -*Suthora verreauxi*

Chestnut-flanked White-eye -*Zosterops erythropleurus*

Japanese White-eye -*Zosterops japonicus*

Eurasian Nuthatch -*Sitta europaea*

Hodgson's Treecreeper - *Certhia hodgsoni*

Crested Myna -*Acridotheres cristatellus*

Blue Whistling Thrush -*Myophonus caeruleus*

Plain-backed Thrush / Sichuan Forest -*Zoothera mollissima*

Chinese Blackbird -*Turdus mandarinus*

Chestnut Thrush -*Turdus rubrocanus*

Kessler's Thrush -*Turdus kessleri*

Blue Rock Thrush -*Monticola solitarius*

White-browed Shortwing -*Brachypteryx montana*

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White-tailed Rubythroat -*Luscinia pectoralis*
Firethroat -*Luscinia pectardens*
Indian Blue Robin -*Luscinia brunnea*
White-browed Bush Robin - *Tarsier indicus*
Himalayan / Orange-flanked Bluetail -*Tarsiger rufilatus*
Golden Bush Robin -*Tarsiger chrysaeus* heard only
Blackthroat -*Luscinia obscura*

Daurian Redstart -*Phoenicurus aureus*
Blue-fronted Redstart -*Phoenicurus frontalis*
White-throated Redstart -*Phoenicurus schisticeps*
White-bellied Redstart -*Hodgsonius phaenicuroides*
Plumbeous Water Redstart -*Rhyacornis fuliginosa*
White-capped Water Redstart -*Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

Grandala -*Grandala coelicolor*

Grey Bushchat -*Saxicola ferreus*

Ferruginous Flycatcher -*Muscicapa ferruginea*
Slaty-backed Flycatcher -*Ficedula hodgsonii*
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher -*Ficedula strophiiata*
Verditer Flycatcher -*Eumyias thalassinus*
Chinese Blue Flycatcher -*Cyornis glaucicomans* - heard only

Brown Dipper -*Cinclus pallasii*

Mrs Gould's Sunbird -*Aethopyga gouldiae*

Russet Sparrow -*Passer rutilans*
Eurasian Tree Sparrow -*Passer montanus*
Plain Mountain Finch -*Leucosticte nemoricola*
Brandt's Mountain Finch -*Leucosticte brandti*

Alpine Accentor -*Prunella collaris*
Rufous-breasted Accentor -*Prunella strophiiata*
Maroon-backed Accentor -*Prunella immaculata*

Grey Wagtail -*Motacilla cinerea*
White Wagtail -*Motacilla alba*

Olive-backed Pipit -*Anthus hodgsoni*
Rosy Pipit -*Anthus roseatus*

Grey-capped Greenfinch -*Carduelis sinica*

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Dark-breasted Rosefinch -*Carpodacus nipalensis*
Common Rosefinch -*Carpodacus erythrinus*
Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch -*Carpodacus davidianus*
Pink-rumped Rosefinch -*Carpodacus eos*
Vinaceous Rosefinch -*Carpodacus vinaceus*
Sharpe's Rosefinch -*Carpodacus verreauxii*
Chinese White-browed Rosefinch -*Carpodacus dubius*
Streaked Rosefinch -*Carpodacus rubicilloides*
Red-fronted Rosefinch -*Carpodacus puniceus*

Grey-headed Bullfinch -*Pyrrhula erythaca*

Collared Grosbeak -*Mycerobas affinis*
Spot-winged Grosbeak -*Mycerobas melanozanthos*

Slaty Bunting -*Latoucheornis siemsseni*