



Thailand Bird Watching

Professional Bird Watching & Bird Photography Tours

Central Thailand Bird Watching 7 Days

Guest Name:

Tour Request: Central Thailand Bird Watching 7 Days

Tour Date:

Tour Code: CT-TBW#0007D

Duration: 7 Days

Destination: Khao Yai/Kaeng Krachan/Pak Thale

Expert Bird Leader: *One of our Professional Bird Leader.*

Vehicle Type:

Driver Name:

Room Type Request: **Twin share**

Deposit 30% After Trip Confirm.

Cash on Tours: 70% or Bank Transfer 2 Week, Before Trip Start.

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Overview

Central Thailand covering the broad alluvial plain of the Chao Phraya River, where the country largest rice production areas occur. There is also a mountain range appears at the northeastern rim of the region, the Phetchabun mountain range which is separated the central plain from the northeastern plateau. On the southwestern rim of the central, there is the Tenasserim mountain range in Phetchaburi Province which form the boarder line between Thailand and Myanmar. Below Bangkok, it encompasses with a shallow bay called “the Inner Gulf of Thailand”, where the intertidal mudflat occurs extensively from the east to the west of the inner gulf and it is the country single most critical habitat for migratory shorebirds and waterbirds.

Our 7 days tour in central Thailand focus mainly in 2 national parks, Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan National Park. Other birding sites that we will also explore comprise of Limestone mountain in Saraburi Province, Pak Thale salt-pans, Laem Phak Bia sand spit, rice fields and wetlands in Phetchaburi Province. Khao Yai National Park is the first established national park in Thailand. Khao Yai together with other adjacent national parks and forest reserves were declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005, which called Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex. Khao Yai NP is the most visited park in Thailand as its location is not far from Bangkok and the park contains very good facilities for tourists. It is also well-known for the great place for birds and wildlife watching. Kaeng Krachan National Park is the largest park in the country and declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021. It renowned for its high diversity of birds and wildlife, many birders named it “the capital of Thailand birdwatching”. Its location is a conjunction point between the upper and the lower part of the country. The high season for birding in this park extends longer than other parks in Thailand. However, tourist facility in this park is completely different from Khao Yai NP, it is very limited as the whole area is a very steep mountain and caught much less attention from tourists. There is only one road go through the park from the entrance to the top peak, a first half of the road is a good paved road but a second half is a rough and steep dirt road. Pak Thale salt-pans is situated along the shoreline of the Inner Gulf of Thailand, it is one of

the country largest traditional salt production area. These salt-pans are well-known as the international important site for migratory shorebirds in Southeast Asia, where it is a suitable wintering site for some of critically endangered species such as Spoon-billed Sandpiper and Nordmann's Greenshank (over 10% of global population of Nordmann's Greenshank wintering in the inner gulf of Thailand), as well as considerable numbers of many other shorebirds. Laem Phak Bia sand spit located nearby Pak Thale salt-pans, it holds other few species of rare shorebirds that restricted to a sand bar habitat. We must take a boat through mangroves to get to this sand spit, on the boat we can also connect with more species inhabit the mangroves too. Rice fields in Phetchaburi Province are also very interesting to explore, some of birds that spend their winter in rice paddies is a critically endangered species such as Yellow-breasted Bunting. Rice paddies are apparently a fabulous habitat that holds a high diversity of birds, hang around for few hours in this habitat can be very productive afternoon.

Please look at the itinerary for expected species that we stand a high chance to see at each destination.

Tour Facts

Top Birds : Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Tickell's Brown Hornbill, Austen's Brown Hornbill, Siamese Fireback, Silver Pheasant, Rufous Limestone Babbler, Red-headed Trogon, Orange-headed Trogon, Banded Kingfisher, Long-tailed Broadbill, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Black-and-Red Broadbill, Black-and-Yellow Broadbill, Banded Broadbill, Dusky Broadbill, Greater Flameback, Greater Yellownappe, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Crimson Sunbird, Kalij Pheasant, Grey Peacock-pheasant, Collared Babbler, White-browed Scimitar-babbler, Green-legged Partridge, Bar-backed Partridge, Ferruginous Partridge, Blue Pitta, Ratchet-tailed Treepie, Great Necklaced Laughingthrush, Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush, White-crowned Laughingthrush, Asian Barred Owlet, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Nordmann's Greenshank, Asian Dowitcher, Malaysian Plover, White-faced Plover, Chinese Egret, Yellow-breasted Bunting and many more.

Other Wildlife: Wild elephant, Sambar Deer, Barking Deer, Mouse Deer, White-handed Gibbon, Pig-tailed Macaque, Stump-tailed Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Dusky Langur, Black Giant Squirrel, Variable Squirrel, Burmese Striped Squirrel, Water Monitor Lizard, Land Monitor Lizard, Yellow-throated Marten, Malayan Sun Bear, Gaur, Leopard

Habitats Covered: Tropical rainforest, Montane rainforest, Mixed deciduous forest, Dry evergreen forest, limestone mountain, salt-pans, mangroves, sand spit, rice paddies and wetlands

Expected Climate: Cool in the morning on the mountain tops, hot and more humid lower down especially in the afternoon. Rain and mist is possible.

Group Size: 1-8

Tour Pace and Walking: Easy to moderate pace, undemanding walking on forest trail, mostly along paved roads and in national parks

Accommodation: Comfortable hotels and resorts

Ease of Birding: Easy to moderate. Most species provide good visuals in open conditions but get trickier within forested environments.

Number of Species Expected: 250+

Photographic Opportunities: Good to excellent

Itinerary

Day 1: Bangkok to Khao Yai National Park

Pick up from the hotel in Bangkok at early morning around 5.30 am. Travel to Khao Yai National Park, we will check in at the hotel before enter the park. Then, visit several birding spots that can be productive for Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Austen's Brown Hornbill, Red Junglefowl, Green-billed Malkoha, Black-crested Bulbul, Puff-throated Bulbul, Grey-eyed Bulbul, Black-headed Bulbul, Green-eared Barbet, Blue-throated Barbet, Blue-eared Barbet, Coppersmith Barbet, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Hair-crested Drongo, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Ashy Drongo, Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike, Scarlet Minivet, Ashy Minivet, Red-wattled Lapwing, Ashy Wood-swallow, Indochinese Roller, Crested Serpent Eagle, Golden-fronted Leafbird, Blue-winged Leafbird, White-rumped Shama, Verditer Flycatcher, Taiga Flycatcher, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Sulphur-breasted Warbler, Pin-striped Tit Babbler, Olive-backed Sunbird, Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, Cambodian Flowerpecker, Black-naped Oriole, Greater Flameback, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Paddyfield Pipit, Olive-backed Pipit, Grey Wagtail, Blue Rock Thrush, Brown Shrike, Spotted Dove, Zebra Dove and many more.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Fortune D2 Plus Khaoyai

Day 2: Khao Yai National Park

This morning we will heading to the top peak of the park and search for the top of the most wanted list of Khao Yai, the elegant Silver Pheasant and the Thai national bird Siamese Fireback. There is a well maintain board walk near the top peak that we can spend our time to find other species that we missed from yesterday, then we will birding down from the higher elevation to the lower areas.

Today can be very productive for Red-headed Trogon, Orange-breasted Trogon, Banded Kingfisher, Common Green Magpie, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Long-tailed Broadbill, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Black Eagle, Hill Blue Flycatcher, Mountain Bulbul, Ashy Bulbul, Vernal Hanging-parrot, Red-breasted Parakeet, Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, Common Iora, Sultan Tit, White-browed Scimitar-babbler, White-crested Laughingthrush, Black-throated Laughingthrush, Heart-spotted Woodpecker, Blue Whistling-thrush, Orange-headed Thrush, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Brown-backed Needletail and many more.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Fortune D2 Plus Khaoyai

Day 3: Limestone Mountain in Saraburi Province / Phetchaburi Province

Leave the hotel for limestone mountain in Saraburi Province, search for the country endemic species, Rufous Limestone Babbler. Other birds also can be found here such as White-rumped Shama, Coppersmith Barbet, Ashy Drongo, Black Drongo, Taiga Flycatcher, Asian Brown Flycatcher and so on. Then, travel to Phetchaburi Province. After check in at the hotel, around 4.00 pm. we will head off to the rice field. Spend 2 hours in the rice paddies we can connect with Yellow-breasted Bunting (Critically Endangered Species), Baya Weaver, Asian Golden Weaver, Amur Stonechat, Grey Wagtail, Pied Fantail, Greater Coucal, Asian Koel, Oriental Reed Warbler, Freckle-breasted Woodpecker, Asian Pied Starling, Black-collared Starling, White-breasted Kingfisher, Little Green Bee-eater, Zebra Dove, Spotted Dove, Red-turtle Dove, Asian Palm Swift, Germain's Swiftlet, Black Drongo, Brown Shrike, Plain Prinia, Yellow-bellied Prinia, Streak-eared Bulbul, Scaly-breasted Munia, White-rumped Munia, and Plain-backed Sparrow.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Sun Hotel

Day 4: Pak Thale Salt-pans

After breakfast at the hotel, strike out for Pak Thale salt-pans, the country best and the most well-known shorebirds habitat. This morning can be very productive for many shorebirds and waterbirds

include Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Nordmann's Greenshank, Asian Dowitcher, Eurasian Curlew, Eurasian Whimbrel, Bar-tailed Godwit, Black-tailed Godwit, Great Knot, Red Knot, Curlew Sandpiper, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Terek Sandpiper, Marsh Sandpiper, Greater Sand Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Red-necked Stint, Common Greenshank, Common Redshank, Spotted Redshank, Black-winged Stilt, Grey Plover, Pacific Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Brown-headed Gull, Caspian Tern, Whiskered Tern, Common Tern, Little Tern, Little Cormorant, Indian Cormorant, Painted Stork, Grey Heron, Great Egret, Intermediate Egret, Little Egret and so on.

After lunch, we will take a boat through mangrove to Laem Phak Bia sand spit to find special shorebirds that restricted to this tiny sand spit, the increasingly scarce Malaysian Plover and the recently elevated White-faced Plover. Other species in the mangroves and on the sand spit such as Collared Kingfisher, Black-capped Kingfisher, Brahminy Kite, Chinese Egret (a rare waterbird), Javan Pond Heron, Striated Heron, Sanderling and Lesser Crested Tern. More species that we might come across on the way from one spot to another such as Wood Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Long-toed Stint, Pied Avocet, Asian Openbill, Spotted Dove, Zebra Dove, Red Turtle Dove, Little Green Bee-eater, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Black Drongo and Oriental Magpie Robin. Late afternoon travel to our resort tonight, Baan Maka Nature Lodge.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Baan Maka Nature Lodge

Day 5: Kaeng Krachan National Park

Leave the lodge early morning around 5.30 am. with a packed breakfast to strike out for one of the country best birding site. We will ride 4WD truck straight up to the top peak of the park at km.30, Panoenthung Campground. The highlight on this peak is a Ratchet-tailed Treepie, a locally endemic to only this peak, you cannot find this bird in other place in Thailand. Stroll around the peak and down to km.27 might stand a chance to see at least one of them. Other birds that we can connect with around this area include Great Hornbill, Collared Babbler, White-browed Scimitar-babbler, Great Barbet, Blue-throated Barbet, Greater Green Leafbird, Banded Kingfisher, Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo, Hair-crested Drongo, Grey Treepie, Red-headed Trogon, Flavescent Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Mountain Bulbul, White-browed Shrike-babbler, Verditer Flycatcher, Dark-sided Flycatcher, Rufous-browed Flycatcher, Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike, Long-tailed Broadbill, Orange-bellied Flowerpecker, Streaked Spiderhunter, Rufous-fronted Babbler, Yellow-bellied Babbler, White-rumped Shama and many more.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Baan Maka Nature Lodge

Day 6: Kaeng Krachan NP

After light breakfast at the lodge head back to the park again, but today we will explore the low land section of the park. Birding along side the road can be very productive for Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Tickell's Brown Hornbill, Crested Serpent Eagle, Black-thighed Falconet, Greater

Flameback, Greater Yellownape, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Bronzed Drongo, Ashy Drongo, Asian Barred Owlet, Dollarbird, Indochinese Roller, Sultan Tit, Black-and-Red Broadbill, Black-and-Yellow Broadbill, Banded Broadbill, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Orange-headed Trogon, Golden-crested Myna, Hill Myna, Black-crested Bulbul, Black-headed Bulbul, Stripe-throated Bulbul, Ochraceous Bulbul, Vernal Hanging-parrot, Blue-winged Leafbird, Great Iora, Blue-eared Barbet, Green-eared Barbet, Coppersmith Barbet, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Common Flameback, Crimson Sunbird, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird and many more.

After lunch, we will spend our afternoon in a bird hide outside the park. Birds that can be seen in the hideout include Green-legged Partridge, Bar-backed Partridge, Ferruginous Partridge, Grey Peacock-pheasant, Blue Pitta, White-crested Laughingthrush, Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush, Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush, Emerald Dove, Racket-tailed Treepie, Siberian Blue Robin, Puff-throated Babbler, Brown-cheeked Fulvetta, Black-naped Monarch, Hill Blue Flycatcher, Indochinese Blue Flycatcher, Black-crested Bulbul, Black-headed Bulbul, Stripe-throated Bulbul and so on.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: [Baan Maka Nature Lodge](#)

Day 7: Kaeng Krachan NP to the airport

Last morning of the tour we will return to the lower section in the park again to hunt for more species that we still missing from yesterday. Head back to the lodge for lunch and set off for the airport.

Meals: B / L

Note: *The itinerary is indicative only, it is subject to change according to the situation. The main destinations might swap around and more extra birding spots can be added. The accommodation mentioned above can be changed in case of no room available by the time you are booking the tour. We are totally flexible to adjust any option in the program to deliver you a bespoke itinerary. Discuss with us to customize the itinerary that best suit you.*

Tour inclusions

- English-speaking birding guide
- Luxury van and petrol
- Park entrance fees
- All accommodation mentioned in the itinerary
- All meals mentioned in the itinerary
- Bottled drinking water, fruits and soft drinks
- Refreshments
- Insurance

Tour exclusions

- Any other services not mentioned in the itinerary such as Thai massage etc.
- Alcoholic drinks
- Mini-bar charges at hotels

- Souvenirs
- Telephone calls, laundry and other items of a personal nature
- Special gratuities; tips for guide, driver and services

Things to bring

- Personal medication
- Raincoat (or waterproof jacket) or umbrella
- Insect repellent
- Hat or cap
- Light sweater or fleece jacket
- Long-sleeves shirt and pants are recommended
- Trekking or Hiking boots are recommended