Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Indonesia

Wilson's Bird-of-paradise Extension

28th June to 4th July 2022 (7 days)

West Papua

5th July to 24th July 2022 (20 days)



Red Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

New Guinea is one of the world's largest tropical islands, surpassed in size only by Greenland, and is blessed with an incredible avifauna, including some of the planet's most outlandish birds. The Indonesian half of the island, the province of West Papua (Irian Jaya), is a destination few birders have visited, with large expanses of pristine habitat, from towering snow-capped peaks to huge tracts of humid

lowland forest. Of particular importance to birders are several distinct mountain ranges, some of them quite isolated. This isolation has led to the evolution of a diverse and unusually interesting avifauna with numerous endemics, a significant number of which being restricted to West Papua and its offshore islands; our pioneering tour is designed to see as many of these restricted-range and endemic species as possible.

The attraction of West Papua for many is the fact that it remains relatively under-developed and primitive, and affords the intrepid birder a glance into cultures from a bygone era, having barely emerged beyond the stone-age! This does mean however that this tour is not for the faint-hearted and we will be using fairly rustic, camping accommodation during much of the tour. This is a small price to pay for the opportunity to see some of the most spectacular and mythical birds on the planet, including Collared Brushturkey (Brown-collared Talegalla), Snow Mountain Quail, Forest Bittern, Papuan Eagle, Claret-breasted Fruit Dove, Victoria and Western Crowned Pigeon, Spice Imperial Pigeon, Palm Cockatoo, Pesquet's Parrot, Salvadori's Fig Parrot, Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot, Modest Tiger Parrot, Black Lory, New Guinea Woodcock, Archbold's Nightjar, Large, Mountain Owlet-Nightjar, Crested and Tit Berrypecker, Greater Ground Robin, Smoky and Green-backed Robin, Papuan Logrunner, Vogelkop Scrubwren, Spotted and Blue Jewel-babbler, Arfak Honeyeater, Belford's, Short-bearded and Vogelkop Melidectes, Lorentz's Whistler, Pale-billed, Black-billed, Black and Brown Sicklebill, King of Saxony, Red, Wilson's, Magnificent and Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise, Loria's and Crested Satinbird, Splendid and Arfak Astrapia, Western Parotia, Long-tailed Paradigalla, Vogelkop and MacGregor's Bowerbird and Western Alpine Mannikin (Snow Mountain Mannikin) to name but a few!

To see this suite of incredible birds you will journey with us to the spectacular Arfak Mountains; the northern lowlands bordering the Cyclops Mountains, the mysterious Snow Mountains including the upper Ibele Valley and finally the island of Biak, brimming with endemics. For those dedicated birders with a sense of adventure and a desire to see birds that few birders have ever seen, this remains one of the most incredible destinations on the planet. This strange land, is sure to expose you to the avian wonders of remote West Papua, and we greatly look forward to having you aboard what is sure to be an incredible adventure!

WILSON'S BIRD-OF-PARADISE EXTENSION

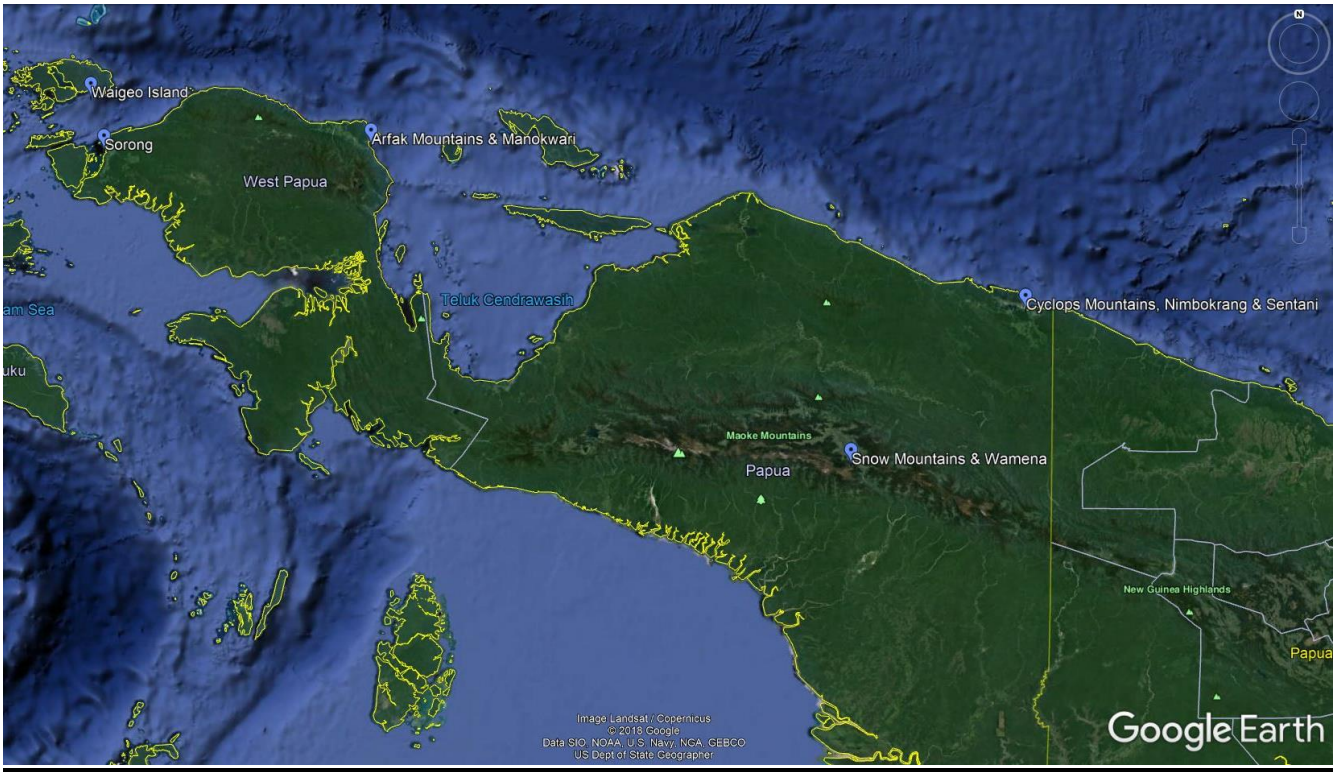
Day 1	**Arrive in Sorong, transfer to Waigeo (Raja Ampat Archipelago)**
Days 2 to 4	**Waigeo Island**
Day 5	**Waigeo Island to Sorong**
Day 6	**Sorong lowlands**
Day 7	**Final departure**

WEST PAPUA ITINERARY

Day 1	**Arrival in Biak Island**
Days 2 & 3	**Biak Island**
Day 4	**Biak Island to Wamena via Jayapura**

Day 5	**Wamena to Lake Habbema (Snow Mountains)**
Days 6 & 7	**Lake Habbema (Snow Mountains)**
Day 8	**Lake Habbema to Wamena**
Day 9	**Wamena to Nimbokrang via Sentani (Cyclops Mountains)**
Days 10 to 12	**Nimbokrang (Cyclops Mountains)**
Day 13	**Nimbokrang to Sentani**
Day 14	**Sentani to Arfak Mountains via Manokwari**
Days 15 to 18	**Arfak Mountains**
Day 19	**Arfak Mountains to Manokwari**
Day 20	**Manokwari and depart**

TOUR MAP:



Wilson's Bird-of-paradise Extension



Displaying Wilson's Bird-of-paradise by Dubi Shapiro

Our Wilson's Bird-of-paradise extension explore a completely different biological zone. We spend most of our tour on the Raja Ampat Island of Waigeo, famed for the best snorkelling in the world! Here our primary target of this tropical island paradise include perhaps the most attractive bird on the planet, Wilson's Bird-of-paradise, as well as Red Bird-of-paradise, the incredible Western Crowned Pigeon, Palm Cockatoo, Lowland Peltops and much besides. We also spend a day on the extreme western tip of New Guinea. Here we bird the famous Vogelkop, a veritable feast of incredible highlights may include up to seven birds-of-paradise including Magnificent, King, Lesser and Twelve-wired as well as numerous pigeons such as Wompoo, Superb and Pink-spotted Fruit Doves to name a few, the localized Black Lory and Moluccan King Parrot as well as the endemic Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher.

Day 1: Arrive in Sorong, transfer to Waigeo (Raja Ampat Archipelago). After arriving in Sorong, we set out on the ferry ride to the mouth of the Orobiai River on Waigeo. Here, water birds like Raja Shelduck, Little Pied Cormorant, Great-billed and Striated Heron, Australian Ibis and Little Kingfisher are regularly seen on tidal mudflats and in secondary mangroves. We will then head up to our camp for lunch.

After lunch we shall bird along the river where we will look for species such as Azure Kingfisher, Papuan Dwarf Kingfisher, Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot, New Guinea Bronzewing, Pink-spotted, Claret-breasted, Orange-bellied and Dwarf Fruit Dove, Red-necked Crake, Grey and Grey-headed Goshawk, Collared Sparrowhawk, White-eared Catbird, Red-throated Myzomela, Spotted, Brown-backed and Green-backed Honeyeater, Brown-headed Crow, Glossy-mantled Manucode, Red Bird-of- Paradise, and Yellow-eyed and New Guinea Cuckooshrike. Incubation mounds of the Dusky Megapode are scattered



Papuan Pitta by Stephan Lorenz

everywhere throughout the flat bottom-valley lowland forests here, and it should not take long before we feast our eyes on a couple of huge Western Crowned Pigeons as they break the relative silence with their clapping wing beats to alight in nearby tall forest trees. Papuan Boobook and Marbled Frogmouth are nocturnal possibilities here.

Days 2 to 4: Waigeo Island. We have the next three full days to explore the riches of this wonderful island. The dawn chorus in this area usually includes species that we will look for near camp including Hook-billed Kingfisher, Rusty Mouse-warbler, Olive Flyrobin, Black-sided Robin as well as Southern Variable and Rusty Pitohui amongst others. We shall watch one of several display courts of the fabulous Wilson's Bird-of-paradise from a hide, hoping to witness the remarkable display of this endemic species. This is mind-blowing enough, but we should still have time to observe the beautifully adorned males of another restricted-range endemic, the Red Bird-of-paradise. To boot, Cinnamon Ground Dove, Pheasant Pigeon and skulkers like the recently split North Moluccan Pitta (Red-bellied). are all possible in the vicinity of this court. Other specials in the area include Rufous-bellied Kookaburra, Hook-billed Kingfisher, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Double-eyed Fig Parrot, Moluccan King Parrot, Long-tailed Buzzard, White-eared Catbird, Red-throated Myzomela, Long-billed and Puff-backed Honeyeater, Fairy and Yellow-bellied Gerygone, Grey Whistler, Little Shrikethrush, Brown-headed Crow, Lowland Peltops, Black-shouldered Cicadabird, Sooty Thicket Fantail, Spot-winged, Golden and Frilled Monarch, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Olive-crowned Flowerpecker, Black Berrypecker as well as Green-crowned, Plumed and Pygmy Longbill. Time spent slightly higher up in the karst terrain above our camp will give us an opportunity to see the enigmatic Waigeo Brushturkey.

Day 5: Waigeo Island to Sorong. Following a pre-dawn breakfast, we shall bird all morning along the river toward its mouth again. After lunch here we shall transfer to a tiny islet in the Dampier Strait where we shall have a relaxed afternoon's birding in search of regional small island specialists like the *prasinorrhous* race of White-bibbed Fruit Dove, Olive Honeyeater, Island Whistler, Rufous Fantail, Island Monarch, Moluccan Starling and Lemon-bellied White-eye. Other noteworthy birds present here include Dusky Megapode, Beach Kingfisher, Violet-necked Lory, Spice and



Western Crowned Pigeon by Stephan Lorenz



Hook-billed Kingfisher by Rich Lindie

Bicolored Imperial Pigeon, Great-billed Heron, Varied Honeyeater, and Metallic Starling. In the mid-afternoon we shall catch the ferry back to Sorong.

Day 6: Sorong lowlands. This morning we will head out before dawn along the north coast, having an entire days birding exploration of the Vogelkop (Bird's Head) area. Here we will encounter a spectrum of wooded habitats ranging from scrub and secondary woodland to primary moist lowland and hill forest. Most of our birding will be from an easily drivable road that bisects the birding habitat, thus affording us an opportunity to encounter a fair selection of mainland New Guinea species. It should however be noted that large scale habitat degradation and high levels of trapping for the cage bird trade have resulted in a few species become quite rare. We will however still have excellent chances at finding a great selection of typical New Guinea species.

Some of the birds we may encounter include Pacific Baza, Grey-headed Goshawk, Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Dove, Red-billed Brushturkey (always tough!) and a wonderful range of fruit doves including Wompoo, Superb, Pink-spotted, Orange-fronted, Beautiful, Dwarf, Orange-bellied and perhaps even Coroneted, as well as Purple-tailed, Pinon's and Zoe's Imperial Pigeons, Blyth's Hornbill, Palm Cockatoo, Black Lory (virtually endemic to Vogelkop), Eclectus and Red-cheeked Parrots, Moluccan King Parrot, Red-flanked Lorikeet, Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot, Orange-breasted Fig Parrot, White-crowned Cuckoo, Papuan Spine-tailed Swift, perhaps Red-breasted Paradise and Yellow-billed Kingfishers, Sulawesi Pitta, Rusty Mouse-warbler and the sumptuous Emperor Fairywren.

Then there is also the very poorly-known Broad-billed Fairywren, Tawny Straightbill (most often seen as a very active member of mixed flocks), a wide range of honeyeaters, Black Berrypecker, the wonderfully vocal Hooded Butcherbird, Golden Cuckooshrike, the recently split Southern Variable Pitohui, Shining Flycatcher, Spot-winged Monarch, the rather elusive Rufous Monarch, Rufous-backed Fantail, Trumpet and Glossy-mantled Manucodes (birds-of-paradise indeed!), Grey Crow, Magnificent Riflebird, Lesser and King Bird-of-paradise and, if we are very fortunate, the bizarre swamp specialist, Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise, the localized



Wilson's Birds-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

Black-chinned Robin, Golden Myna and Streak-headed Mannikin.

Day 7: Final departure. This morning the tour will conclude at Sorong Airport.

West Papua



Geelvink Pygmy Parrot by Stephan Lorenz

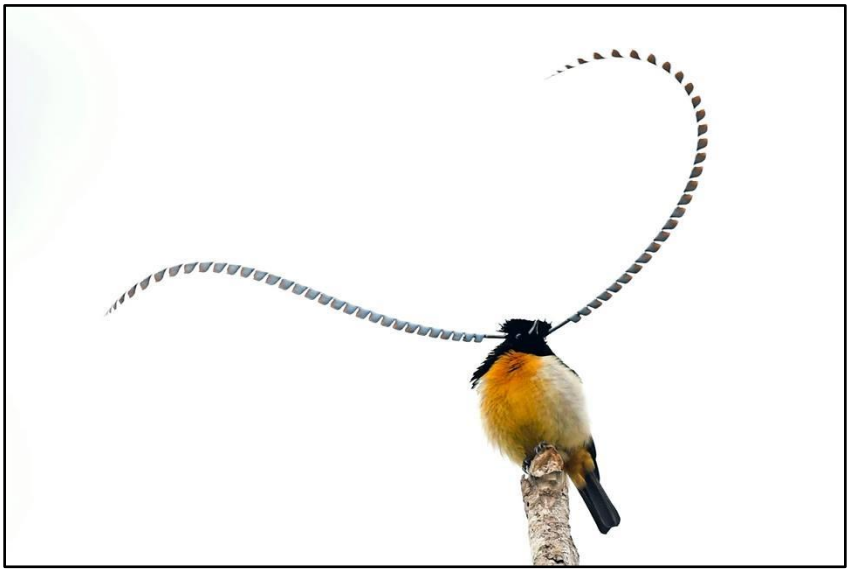
Day 1: Arrival in Biak Island. We expect to arrive in the early hours of the morning on Biak and will then transfer through to our jungle camp. Initial forays into the surrounding forest clearings could elicit Gurney's Eagle, Variable Goshawk, Sultan's and Great Cuckoo-Dove, Spice Imperial Pigeon, Claret-breasted Fruit Dove, Moustached Treeswift, Biak Lorikeet, Eclectus Parrot and Emperor Fairywren.

Days 2 & 3: Biak Island. We will spend two full days in this area birding a mixture of secondary growth and tall primary forest where a number of interesting species are found. Red-fronted Lorikeet, Spice Imperial Pigeon, Emperor Fairywren, Dusky Myzomela, Biak and Shining Flycatcher, Biak White-eye, Biak Paradise Kingfisher and Hooded Pitta are all possible while more challenging species, that will require luck and patience to see, include Biak Megapode, Biak Coucal, Geelvink Pygmy Parrot, Biak Gerygone and Biak Monarch. During the hottest part of the day we will spend our time along a nearby creek where we have a chance to see the world's largest pigeon, the glorious Victoria Crowned Pigeon! In the evenings, after dinner, there will be optional nocturnal forays, which could produce the rarely seen Biak Scops Owl as well as Papuan Frogmouth and Large-tailed Nightjar.



Blue-capped Ifrit by Glen Valentine

Day 4: Biak Island to Wamena via Jayapura. After our early arrival at Sentani Airport in Jayapura, we will bird the grasslands and patchy secondary forest hemming Lake Sentani where we hope to find two localized grassland species, Great-billed and Hooded Mannikin. After an early lunch we shall take the one-hour flight to Wamena, the principal town in the 80 km-long Grand Balim Valley. If the weather is good, the flight itself offers spectacular views of a vast expanse of lowland forest with its numerous meandering rivers, the precipitous



King of Saxony Bird-of-paradise by Rich Lindie

northern scarp of the Snow Mountains and the beautifully landscaped Grand Balim upland valley. We will spend the afternoon birding the Balim Valley primarily in search of another localized finch, the endemic Black-breasted Mannikin. Other birds we hope to find in the open country here include Blue-breasted Quail, Brown Falcon, Superb Bird-of-paradise, White-shouldered Fairywren, Pied Bushchat, Golden-headed Cisticola, Capped White-eye, Papuan Grassbird and Red-capped Flowerpecker.

Day 5: Wamena to Lake Habbema. After breakfast we will journey to Lake Habbema passing the tree line to reach the alpine plateau where the lake is situated. The scenery here, at 3,200m elevation, is spectacular with the third highest mountain in Indonesia, Mt Wilhelmina, towering above us. Here we shall start our exploration of the Snow Mountains with a gentle walk through the alpine meadows as we slowly adjust to the altitude. One of our primary target species is the secretive Snow Mountain Quail, a species that freezes when approached and relies on its amazing camouflage to remain undetected. The grasslands and scattered scrubs of course supports many other interesting species, and we hope to see such species as Alpine Pipit, Western Alpine (Snow Mountain) Mannikin, Orange-billed Lorikeet, Papuan Harrier, Short-bearded Melidectes and Papuan Grassbird. In the late afternoon we will search the lake for the endemic Salvadori's Teal and other waterbirds such as Grey Teal and Pacific Black Duck, while Spotless Crake is common along the marshy lake shore. After dinner a nocturnal foray could produce Archbold's Nightjar and, with luck, roding New Guinea Woodcock. If the sky is clear, we can expect breath-taking views of the night sky from our camp.



Western Alpine Mannikin by Stephan Lorenz

Days 6 & 7: Lake Habbema & the Upper Ibele Valley (Snow Mountains). After a pre-dawn breakfast, we shall focus our birding efforts on the heathlands of the Habbema plateau. Here, amongst the stands of Libocedrus pines and associated shrubberies, we will search for the famous MacGregor's Honeyeater, a spectacular species that is only found in West Papua. Looking for this species, in such wonderful scenery, is a truly unforgettable experience! Other noteworthy species in this area include Whiskered and Orange-billed Lorikeet, Brehm's and Painted Tiger Parrot, Black-throated,



Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

Orange-cheeked, Grey-streaked and Smoky Honeyeater, Mountain Mouse-Warbler, Large Scrubwren, Papuan Thornbill, Garnet and White-winged Robin, Lorentz's Whistler, Great Woodswallow and Mountain Firetail. After lunch we'll have the entire afternoon to bird through grasslands and shrubbery toward a camp near the 3,225m pass into the Ibele Valley. After dinner a nocturnal foray could produce Archbold's Nightjar as well as New Guinea Woodcock.

We will spend a day exploring the extensive cloud forest of the upper Ibele Valley for the wonderful selection of high-altitude avian delights found here. Such specials include Splendid Astrapia, Brown Sicklebill, King-of-Saxony Bird-of-paradise, Loria's and Crested Satinbird, Rufous-throated Bronze Cuckoo, Papuan and Yellow-billed Lorikeet, Brehm's and Modest Tiger Parrot, Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove, White-bibbed Fruit Dove, Rufescent Imperial Pigeon, Papuan Mountain Pigeon, Chestnut Forest Rail, Black-mantled Goshawk, Papuan Treecreeper, Orange-crowned Fairywren, Red-collared Myzomela, Olive-streaked and Black-backed Honeyeater, Belford's Melidectes, Smoky Honeyeater, Papuan Scrubwren, Mountain Gerygone, Greater and Lesser Ground Robin, Canary Flyrobin, Garnet and Black-throated Robin, Torrent-lark, Blue-capped Ifrit, Varied and Black Sittella, Lesser Melampitta, Rufous-naped and Regent Whistler, Great Woodswallow, Mountain Peltops, Hooded Cuckooshrike, Dimorphic Fantail, Wattled Ploughbill, Black-breasted Boatbill, Fan-tailed, Tit and Crested Berrypecker and Mountain Firetail.

Day 8: Lake Habbema to Wamena. We shall further spend time in the mossy forest on the other side of the pass primarily in search of the shy and retiring Archbold's Bowerbird and the skulking White-winged and Alpine Robin, Lorentz's Whistler, while Torrent-lark is regular along the stream below the pass. In the late afternoon, we will drive back to Wamena for dinner and a good night's rest.



Brown Sicklebill by Markus Lilje

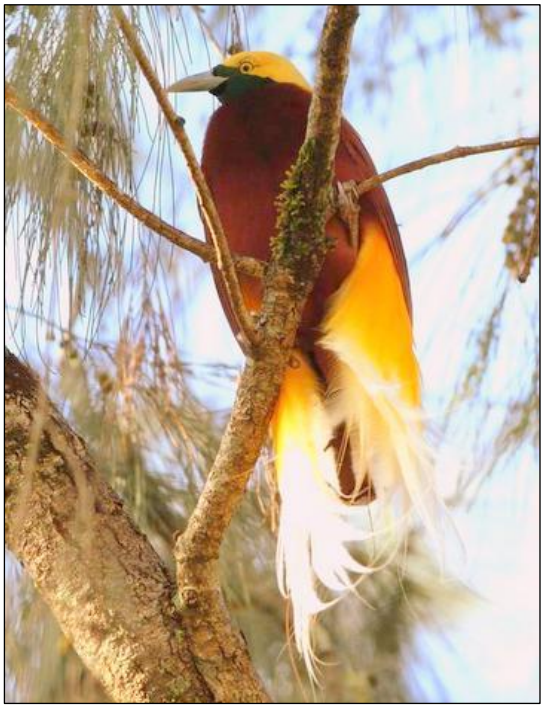
Day 9: Wamena to Nimbokrang via Sentani. Once our flight from Wamena arrives in Sentani, we will transfer to 4WD-vehicles and make our way to an area west of the Cyclops Mountains. After lunch here, we shall use the remainder of the afternoon to slowly bird toward our secluded jungle camp situated in pristine alluvial primary forest. On the walk we hope to see the majestic Palm



King Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

and Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, noisy Blyth's Hornbill, Brown, Dusky and Black-capped Lory and Rainbow Lorikeet. The walk will also give us an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with some of the commoner or more conspicuous forest interior birds such as Rufous-bellied Kookaburra, Yellow-billed Kingfisher, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo, Great Cuckoo-Dove, Stephan's Dove, Wompoo, Superb, Coroneted, Beautiful and Orange-bellied Fruit Dove, Purple-tailed, Pinon and Banded Imperial Pigeon, Mimic and Tawny-breasted Honeyeater, New Guinea Friarbird, Fairy and Yellow-bellied Gerygone, Rufous Babbler, Little Shrikethrush, Variable and Rusty Pitohui, Grey Crow, Glossy-mantled Manucode, Hooded and Black Butcherbird, Brown Oriole, Northern Fantail, Spangled Drongo, Spot-winged, Golden and Rufous-collared Monarch, Yellow-faced Myna, Red-capped Flowerpecker, Black Berrypecker as well as Green-crowned, Plumed and Pygmy Longbill. After dinner at camp, a nocturnal walk in the vicinity could produce Marbled Frogmouth and the little-known Papuan Nightjar.

Days 10 to 12: Nimbokrang (Cyclops Mountains). This morning we shall enjoy breakfast as the dawn chorus unfolds. The camp is situated close to known display sites of various birds-of-paradise and we hope to see Twelve-wired, Lesser and King Bird-of-paradise, and the more mobile Pale-billed Sicklebill. While sitting quietly in the forest, admiring the full displays of these incredible birds, we also stand a good chance of finding New Guinea Megapode, Cinnamon Ground Dove, both Hooded and Papuan Pitta while we would need all our luck to align in order to have a chance of seeing such mega species as Northern Cassowary, New Guinea Bronzewing and Thick-billed Ground Pigeon.



Lesser Bird-of-paradise by Markus Lilje

After lunch, we shall bird in the vicinity of camp in search of these ground-dwelling species and other less common species such as like Azure, Papuan Dwarf, Blue-black and Hook-billed Kingfisher, Little Bronze Cuckoo, Ivory-billed Coucal, Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot, Double-eyed and Salvadori's Fig Parrot, Pink-spotted and Orange-fronted Fruit Dove, Collared Imperial Pigeon, Long-tailed Buzzard, White-eared Catbird, Yellow-gaped, Plain and Streak-headed Honeyeater, Meyer's Friarbird, Rusty Mouse-Warbler, Large-billed Gerygone, Black-sided Robin, Blue Jewel-babbler, Brown-headed Crow, Jobi Manucode, Lowland Peltops, Boyer's, New Guinea and Golden



Papuan Eagle by Markus Lilje

Cuckooshrike, Sooty and White-bellied Thicket Fantail, Rufous-backed Fantail, Hooded Monarch, Yellow-breasted Boatbill and Golden Myna. In the evening we could return to the Lesser Bird-of-paradise display tree for another observation session, or we could bird along one of the broader rivers which could produce Three-toed Swiftlet among abundant Glossy and Uniform Swiftlet, as well as Papuan Spinetail and Moustached Treeswift. After dinner we have the chance of another nocturnal excursion.

We will begin the morning once again looking for birds-of-paradise, and will visit the display site of Magnificent Bird-of-paradise in slightly more undulating terrain. Here too we also stand a chance to see the Magnificent Riflebird. Other goodies that occur here include the rare Shovel-billed Kookaburra, highly sought-after Pesquet's (Vulturine) Parrot, Papuan King Parrot, and Papuan Eagle. If the frustratingly shy Collared Brushturkey has eluded us so far, we may have an option to wait in a hide near a nest mound of this species and also to spend some time near fruiting trees in the hope of obtaining good views of Northern Cassowary. We can also work stretches of small forest streams for the very rare Forest Bittern, or just sit quietly at the edge of sago-swamp where the much sought-after New Guinea Flightless Rail is thought to occur.

Day 13: Nimbokrang to Sentani. After a final morning's birding and lunch at camp we shall slowly bird back to our vehicles and transfer to Sentani.

Day 14: Sentani to Arfak Mountains via Manokwari. We shall take the earliest flight to Manokwari before setting out early for the two-hour drive to Siyoubrig in the Arfak Mountains. Here we will spend the late morning looking for some of the more conspicuous species of the clearings and secondary forests, including Fan-tailed Cuckoo, White-eared Bronze Cuckoo, Slender-billed and Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove, Red-collared Myzomela, Rufous-sided and Western Smoky Honeyeater, Brown-breasted Gerygone, Sclater's Whistler, Black Fantail, Capped White-eye and Olive-crowned Flowerpecker. After lunch we shall search forest in the vicinity for Vogelkop Melidectes, Green-backed Robin, Spotted Catbird, Superb Bird-of-Paradise, Western Parotia and Long-tailed Paradigalla, while a nocturnal excursion



Mountain Owlet-Nightjar by David Shackelford



Black Sicklebill by Stephan Lorenz

could produce Sooty Owl, Papuan Hawk-Owl, Feline and Mountain Owlet-Nightjar and Papuan Frogmouth.

Days 15 to 18: Arfak Mountains. This morning we will bird the nearby secondary forests that are inhabited by such species as Long-billed, Marbled, Rufous-sided and Western Smoky Honeyeater, Perplexing, Vogelkop and Pale-billed Scrubwren, Blue-grey Robin, Mountain Peltops, Black-shouldered Cicadabird, Black Monarch, Black-breasted Boatbill and Island Leaf Warbler. Several display courts of the Magnificent Bird-of- Paradise are located nearby and we have the option of watching these from a hide in the hope of witnessing this beautiful species' full array of display postures. After lunch we shall slowly ascend to 1,815m where we will camp at the edge of primary forest. As we gradually shift to higher ground and enter primary forest we will encounter birds like Vogelkop Bowerbird, Mountain Gerygone, Canary Flyrobin, Spotted Jewel-babbler, Rufous-naped Whistler, Black Pitohui and Dimorphic Fantail. From our camp we will visit nearby display courts of the endemic Western Parotia and watch these from comfortable hides. The weird dance of the male has to be witnessed to be believed, and invariably ranks as a highlight of any birding trip to the Arfaks. Having fully absorbed this, we shall spend the late afternoon birding around the garden clearing near camp where we may be rewarded with sightings of White-eared Bronze Cuckoo, Pygmy Lorikeet, Red-breasted Pygmy Parrot, Blue-collared Parrot, Long-tailed Buzzard, Vogelkop Melidectes, Mountain Peltops, and the restricted-range Long-tailed Paradigalla. After dinner we could attempt some night birding in the vicinity of the camp, where Feline and Mountain Owlet-Nightjar occur, and there is always a good chance of roding New Guinea Woodcock here.

We will bird the first hour of light around the clearing near camp where we hope to attract Long-tailed Paradigalla if we have not managed to connect with it thus far. We shall then spend some time again in the vicinity of the parotia display courts as they also attract otherwise highly retiring species such as Wattled Brushturkey and Bronze Ground Dove; these occasionally walk across the display courts in search of the undigested fruit items found in parotia faeces. We will bird the primary forests the rest of the morning in search of birds we still need, including such specials as Vogelkop Bowerbird and Spotted Jewel-babbler. After lunch we will slowly ascend to a camp at 2,130m elevation, birding en route. Along the way we may spot Rufous-throated Bronze Cuckoo, Papuan Lorikeet, Red-breasted Pygmy Parrot, Pesquet's Parrot, Papuan Mountain Pigeon, Varied



Mountain Firetail by Stephan Lorenz



Magnificent Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

Sittella, Regent Whistler, Black Pitohui, Black Sicklebill and Black-bellied Cuckooshrike. If the weather is dry, we should be able to watch the evening display of the impressive male Black Sicklebill near our camp.

New Guinea Woodcock, Sooty Owl, Papuan Hawk-Owl, and Feline and Mountain Owlet-Nightjar all occur near camp, and we may look for these pre-dawn if we still need any of these species. We'll enjoy our breakfast at camp whilst listening to a dawn chorus. Wattled Brushturkey, which reaches the upper limit of its altitudinal distribution here, may deliver its striking display call from an incubation mound near camp. We shall then bird all morning along a loop descending to 1,920 m elevation, primarily in search of the elusive Arfak Astrapia and Black-billed Sicklebill, while also seeking good views of skulkers such as Chestnut Forest Rail, Lesser Ground Robin, Smoky and Ashy Robin and Spotted Jewel-babbler. In good weather, New Guinea Eagle may be heard calling persistently and can sometimes be tracked down with moderate effort. After lunch at camp we could try other known haunts of the Arfak Astrapia higher up the mountain in the afternoon. Other goodies that occur here include Black-mantled Goshawk, Orange-crowned Fairywren, Olive Straightbill, Cinnamon-browed Melidectes, Black-throated Robin, Mottled Berryhunter, Black Pitohui, Tit Berrypecker and Vogelkop Bowerbird. At dusk we can try for New Guinea Woodcock in a tree-fall gap followed by dinner and optional nocturnal walk.

Our last day will be spent searching for any species that still be outstanding such as New Guinea Eagle, Black-billed Sicklebill and Arfak Astrapia. After lunch at camp we shall bird towards a new camp at 1,900 m, located near two forest clearings in primary ridgetop forest. Along the way here, we'll look primarily for the beautiful Papuan Logrunner. Dusk shall see us gathered at the edge of one of the clearings in the hope of seeing the little-known Archbold's Nightjar hawking low over the heathy vegetation.

Day 19: Arfak Mountains to Manokwari. We will have one last chance to try for Archbold's Nightjar prior to breakfast and then for the remainder of the morning we shall bird around the clearings enjoying species like Modest and Brehm's Tiger Parrot, Blue-collared Parrot, Mountain Swiftlet, Black-throated Honeyeater, Vogelkop Melidectes and Great Wood-swallow. We'll then have most of the morning to slowly bird down through pristine forests to



Tit Berrypecker by Markus Lilje

the Mokwam road at 1,600m elevation. From here we will return to Manokwari for the evening and enjoy a celebratory dinner.

Day 20: Manokwari and depart. This morning we head to Manokwari for a flight to Sorong where the tour will conclude.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Tour dates, prices, single supplement rates, approximate flight costs and spaces available for this tour are displayed on our website. Please see under IMPORTANT NOTES below.

This includes:

- All meals from lunch on day 1 to breakfast on day 20 of the main tour, and from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 7 of the extension
- Bottled drinking water;
- All lodgings as per itinerary;
- Ground transportation and boat trips mentioned in the itinerary;
- Reserve entrance fees;
- Guiding services of a Rockjumper leader and local guides; and
- Tips for local guides and services.

The tour fee does not include:

- Visa fees;
- **ANY** flights;
- Any beverages (including mini-bar charges at hotels);
- Special gratuities;
- Telephone calls and
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.

Single Supplement: The single supplement cost for this tour will be charged if you wish to have single accommodation. If RBL cannot provide you with a rooming partner for these nights although you choose to share, the single supplement will become applicable. We will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that a rooming partner is found if you do wish to share.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

a) Due to constantly fluctuating exchange rates, we quote our tours in 4 currencies. The tour price is however fixed only in the currency printed in bold, and the actual cost in the other currencies listed will be adjusted according to prevailing exchange rates at the time of final invoicing (usually 4 months before the tour.) The same applies to approximate flight and single supplement rates, which are also quoted in the respective fixed currency.

b) Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registration a small party supplement will have to be charged.

c) Furthermore, these costs are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result.

d) Lastly, we may be forced to change or alter the itinerary and / or the designated Rockjumper leader/s at short or no notice due to unforeseen circumstances; please be aware that we will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.

Tipping: As noted above, gratuities (drivers, hotel staff, restaurants etc.) are included on this tour. However, this does NOT include your Rockjumper leader/s. If, therefore, you feel that he/they have given you excellent service, it is entirely appropriate to tip them.

PLEASE NOTE:

- In some areas, it will be very hot, especially in the lowlands. We will thus make good use of the early mornings and will have a lot of early starts to avoid, as far as possible, birding in the middle of the day. Furthermore, in the rainforest areas the humidity will be very high and potentially uncomfortable.
- This West Papua tour is designed to be an intensive, fast paced birding experience and we will attempt to get good views of as many bird species as possible. At times we will experience physical difficulty when walking up steep, slippery trails (our pace will always be slow) or on bumpy drives over poor road conditions.
- It is important to note that for most of this tour we will be far from civilization and medical facilities and, as such, this tour is not suitable for people with physical or medical limitations; nor is this tour suitable for the casual birder. Please let us know in advance of the tour if you have any medical conditions.
- This tour requires a very good level of fitness and participants should be in good general health. Much of the forest birding will be done on foot and may require walking for several hours at a time. Should you have any physical limitations, please notify us in advance of departure.
- The Ibele Trail requires a very high level of fitness and capability to traverse this very steep, often muddy trail that also requires hiking through a rocky stream bed for part of the trail.
- Most of this tour will be spent camping and some campsites will be basic. This tour is thus not suitable for those who are sensitive to camping and basic outdoor facilities.
- West Papua is a challenging place to visit, and the likelihood is strong for things to go awry, so please do expect some hassles along the way - we will, however, do our utmost to make this as smooth as possible. Delays, sometimes significant, should be expected when taking the several internal flights that are necessary to access these remote locations; weather or airline problems, for example, might cause delays that are out of our control.
- On tour it is important to avoid taking photos of any military or police personnel, roadblocks or any government building.
- There will be a fair amount of time spent in vehicles, as we do have to cover long distances in order to get to the best areas for birds. The more luggage you pack the less room there is in the vehicle, so it is important for the comfort of your fellow travellers that you do not over-pack. Kindly stick to 20kgs for check in luggage and 8kg's for hand luggage.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS:

This tour **does not** include **any** international airfares. The main tour departs from Frans Kaisiepo International Airport (IATA: BIK) on day 1. You are advised to arrive in Jakarta the evening before the tour in order to catch the evening flight from Soekarno–Hatta International Airport (IATA: CGK) to Frans Kaisiepo International Airport (IATA: BIK), which typically arrives in the morning. The main tour will conclude after a flight from Manokwari to Sorong Airport, Sorong (IATA: SOQ) after breakfast on day 20.

The Wilson's Bird-of-paradise extension departs Sorong with a ferry crossing to Waigeo Island (Raja

Ampat Archipelago) on the morning of day 1. The extension will conclude after breakfast at Sorong Airport (IATA: SOQ) on day 7.

The above information in respect of arrivals and departures is a guide only. Precise arrival and departure information will be sent to you in your **Tour Confirmation** package once the tour has been officially confirmed. If you wish to arrive early and/or depart late and would like assistance in this regard, kindly contact the Rockjumper office.

FLIGHTS:

Soekarno–Hatta International Airport (IATA: CGK) is the main port of entry, while Sorong Airport, Sorong (IATA: SOQ) is the main port of exit for international flights on this tour. **Please DO NOT book any flights until you have consulted the Rockjumper office for confirmation on the status of the tour.**