Indonesia

Sulawesi & Halmahera: Wallacean Endemics



Purple-bearded Bee-eater by David Hoddinott

Nestled within the tropical waters of Wallacea, Sulawesi and Halmahera are among the most distinctive and rewarding birding destinations in the Indonesian archipelago. Their long isolation and position between the Asian and Australasian biogeographic regions have produced an extraordinary concentration of endemic and range-restricted birds, many of which occur nowhere else on Earth.

Our tour begins in the North Moluccan "Spice Islands", travelling from the spectacular volcanic island of Ternate across to Halmahera. Here, we explore the lowland forests and foothills around Foli, Gunung Uni-uni and Gunung Roni in search of the island's exceptional endemic avifauna. Foremost among our targets is the remarkable Standardwing, an extraordinary bird-of-paradise that we hope to watch displaying at its traditional lek. Other possibilities include Ivory-breasted and North Moluccan Pittas, Goliath Coucal, Azure Dollarbird, Purple-winged Roller and an impressive variety of parrots, fruit doves and kingfishers.

We then continue west to northern Sulawesi, where the forests of Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park, Tangkoko National Reserve and Gunung Mahawu provide access to a wide range of habitats, from luxuriant lowland rainforest to montane forest. These renowned birding areas support many of Sulawesi's most sought-

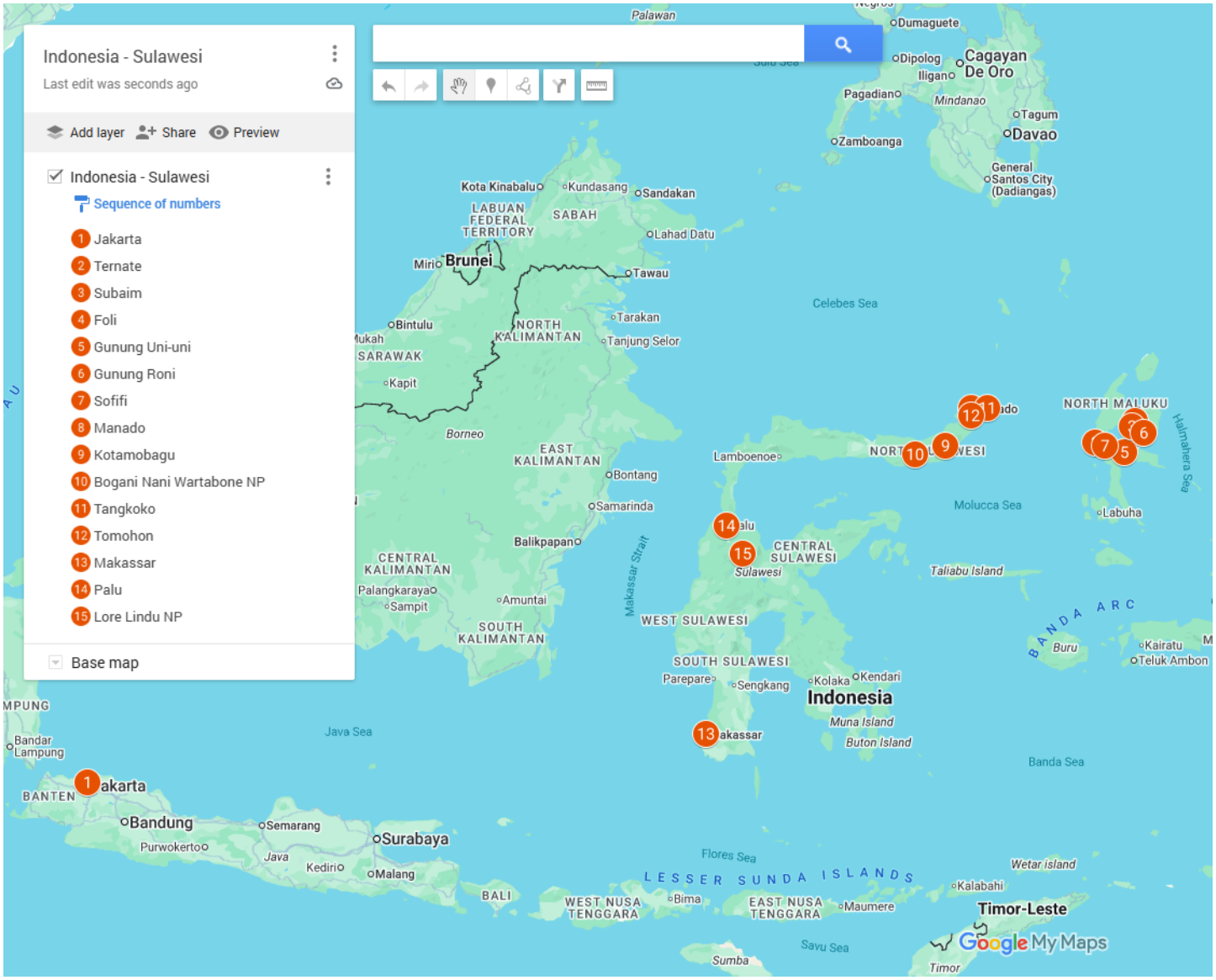
after species, including the extraordinary Maleo, Sulawesi Pitta, Purple-bearded Bee-eater, Knobbed and Sulawesi Hornbills, and numerous endemic kingfishers, owls, parrots and passerines.

After crossing to South Sulawesi, we visit the limestone forests of the Karaenta area before flying onward to Central Sulawesi and the highlands of Lore Lindu National Park. The tour concludes among Lore Lindu's cool montane forests, home to an entirely different suite of endemics, including the monotypic Hylocitrea and several highly localised species restricted to Sulawesi's central mountains.

Covering Halmahera and the northern, southern and central regions of Sulawesi, this comprehensive itinerary samples an exceptional diversity of landscapes and habitats. In doing so, it maximises our chances of encountering well over one hundred range-restricted species and offers an unforgettable introduction to the remarkable birds, forests, islands and volcanic scenery of Wallacea.

Itinerary & Map

Day 1	**Jakarta to Ternate, boat to Sidangoli, drive to Subaim**
Days 2 & 3	**Halmahera (Foli, Gunung Uni-uni & Gunung Roni areas)**
Day 4	**Drive to Sofifi, boat to Ternate**
Day 5	**Ternate, flight to Manado, drive to Kotamobagu**
Days 6 & 7	**Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park (Tambun, Toraut & Molibagu Road)**
Day 8	**Kotamobagu to Tangkoko National Reserve**
Days 9 & 10	**Tangkoko National Reserve**
Day 11	**Tangkoko National Reserve to Tomohon via Gunung Mahawu**
Day 12	**Tomohon to Manado, flight to Makassar**
Day 13	**Karaenta area, flight to Palu & drive to Lore Lindu National Park**
Days 14 & 15	**Lore Lindu National Park**
Day 16	**Lore Lindu to Palu, flight to Jakarta & final departure**


Indonesia - Sulawesi
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Indonesia - Sulawesi
Sequence of numbers
1 Jakarta
2 Ternate
3 Subaim
4 Foli
5 Gunung Uni-uni
6 Gunung Roni
7 Sofifi
8 Manado
9 Kotamobagu
10 Bogani Nani Wartabone NP
11 Tangkoko
12 Tomohon
13 Makassar
14 Palu
15 Lore Lindu NP
Base map
Palawan
Dumaguete
Dipolog
Cagayan De Oro
Iligan
Pagadian
Mindanao
Tagum
Davao
Zamboanga
General Santos City (Dadiangas)
Kota Kinabalu
Kundasang
Sandakan
LABUAN FEDERAL TERRITORY
SABAH
Lahad Datu
Mirio
Brunei
Tawau
Celebes Sea
Bintulu
NORTH KALIMANTAN
Tarakan
Tanjung Selor
SARAWAK
Kapit
Borneo
EAST KALIMANTAN
Bontang
Samarinda
Balikpapan
CENTRAL KALIMANTAN
Palangkaraya
Sampit
Amuntai
SOUTH KALIMANTAN
Makassar Strait
Lamboenoe
NORTH MALUKU
Halmahera Sea
Molucca Sea
Labuha
CENTRAL SULAWESI
Sulawesi
Taliabu Island
WEST SULAWESI
SOUTH SULAWESI
Parepare
Sengkang
Kolaka
Kendari
Indonesia
Muna Island
Buton Island
BANDA ARC
Buru
Kairatu
Teluk Ambon
Banda Sea
Java Sea
Bandar Lampung
BANTEN
Jakarta
Bandung
Semarang
Surabaya
Purwokerto
Java
Kediri
Malang
Flores Sea
LESSER SUNDA ISLANDS
Wetar Island
Kalabahi
BALI
WEST NUSA TENGGARA
Bima
EAST NUSA TENGGARA
Maumere
Timor-Leste
Savu Sea
Sumba
Timor
Google My Maps

Birding sites in detail

HALMAHERA



Standardwing by Glen Valentine

Ternate. We'll visit a local feeding station where we hope to achieve good, close views of the stunning and range-restricted North Moluccan Pitta. Whilst waiting for the pitta to show up, we may also be fortunate to see the scarce and shy Moluccan Dwarf Kingfisher, as well Sultan's Cuckoo-Dove, Shining Flycatcher and possibly Barking Owl at a day roost.

Ternate to Sidangoli. Although the speed-boat shuttle between Ternate and Sidangoli is less than ideal for birding and neither are the conditions, we might still encounter Lesser Frigatebirds overhead, as well as Beach Kingfisher and Moluccan Starling when we reach the shore at the small, coastal fishing village of Sidangoli.

Foli. Halmahera lies further to the east of Wallace's Line than Sulawesi, and consequently its avifauna contains a higher proportion of Australasian elements such as the sprightly Willie Wagtail, Shining Flycatcher and (Halmahera) Spangled Drongo. Parrots occur in abundance, with possibilities including Violet-necked and Chattering Lory, Red-flanked Lorikeet, Red-cheeked and the extremely handsome Great-billed Parrots, Moluccan Eclectus and White (Umbrella) Cockatoo, which has decreased rapidly in numbers but is still available with some dedicated searching. Pigeons are in close competition, and we will be searching for Scarlet-breasted, Blue-capped and Grey-headed Fruit Doves, Spectacled and Pied Imperial Pigeons and the impressive Great and Sultan's Cuckoo-Doves.



Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove by David Hoddinott

Perhaps the most remarkable bird on Halmahera is the magnificent Standardwing, an exceptional bird-of-paradise that performs a whimsical canopy display in the early morning. Setting out well before dawn, we will be in position under the display tree by first light and will likely hear the harsh calls of this species even before it becomes completely visible. As the



Goliath Coucal by Glen Valentine

light improves, the male's flamboyant white standards and metallic green epaulettes become brighter, and if a female arrives to check out the lek site we will be in for a real exhibition of spectacular leaps and wing folding!

Another very exciting species we will be targeting in the surroundings is the sensational Ivory-breasted Pitta that is encountered in these forests. Its distinctive call will hopefully allow us to track down this most impressive species that together with the Giant Pitta is the largest extant pitta on Earth! They are often heard and seen high up in the canopy, decorated with red, black, white, and turquoise, certainly a sight to behold! Rustling in the undergrowth might reveal the presence of the scarce Dusky Megapode and, with luck, we may bump into the rare Moluccan Goshawk.

Pre-dawn, before heading into the Standardwing lek, we'll try and track down the scarce Halmahera Boobook and often-tricky Moluccan Owlet-nightjar.

Gunung Uni-uni. The air whooshing through the mighty wings of Blyth's Hornbill will be a regular sound as we continue searching through the intact hill forest for Dusky-brown Oriole, Moluccan and scarce White-naped Monarchs, Moluccan Flycatcher, and the furtive Halmahera Paradise-crow, which, despite its English name, is actually a bird-of-paradise! The booming sound of Goliath Coucal will eventually give away its presence, while we will also scan through the treetops for several cuckooshrike species, including Moluccan, White-bellied and the endemic Halmahera Cuckooshrikes, as well as North Moluccan Cicadabird and Rufous-bellied Triller.

It will likely take some coaxing to produce the exquisite Common Paradise Kingfisher that tends to stay in thicker forested areas, and we will also be targeting Blue-and-white Kingfisher. An outside chance exists for the shy and scarce Moluccan Dwarf Kingfisher, but we'd be very fortunate to see this species. Other likely possibilities during our time here include Halmahera Golden Bulbul, Variable Goshawk, the impressive Long-billed Crow, Moustached Treeswift, Metallic and Moluccan Starlings, White-streaked Friarbird, Black-chinned and Drab Whistlers, Cream-throated (Halmahera) White-eye, Halmahera Flowerpecker, Island (North Moluccan) Leaf Warbler and



Ivory-breasted Pitta by Glen Valentine



Sulawesi Pitta by David Hoddinott

Gurney's Eagle soaring overhead. If we are very fortunate, we may even see the scarce Moluccan King Parrot, which we have found on past tours. Gunung Uni-uni, like Foli and Gunung Roni, is also an excellent area for pigeons and parrots with all the previously mentioned species in these respective families being likely in this area. Night-birding could produce Halmahera Boobook, Moluccan Owlet-nightjar, and Moluccan Scops Owl, and with much luck, Barking Owl.

Gunung Roni. All of the species mentioned for Foli and Gunung Uni-uni also occur in the secondary forest in this area that lies to the west of Subaim and is easiest accessed between Ternate and Subaim. Gunung Roni does however appear to be a slightly better area to encounter the very rare Azure Dollarbird, which is a widespread but very low-density endemic species. This is also a good area for Cream-throated White-eye, Goliath Coucal, Sombre Kingfisher and all the pigeons and parrots on the island. It also appears to be the only realistic chance of seeing two rarely encountered cuckoos, namely the Moluccan Drongo-Cuckoo and Moluccan Brush Cuckoo but we'd still require a hefty dose of luck to encounter either of these two species.

SULAWESI

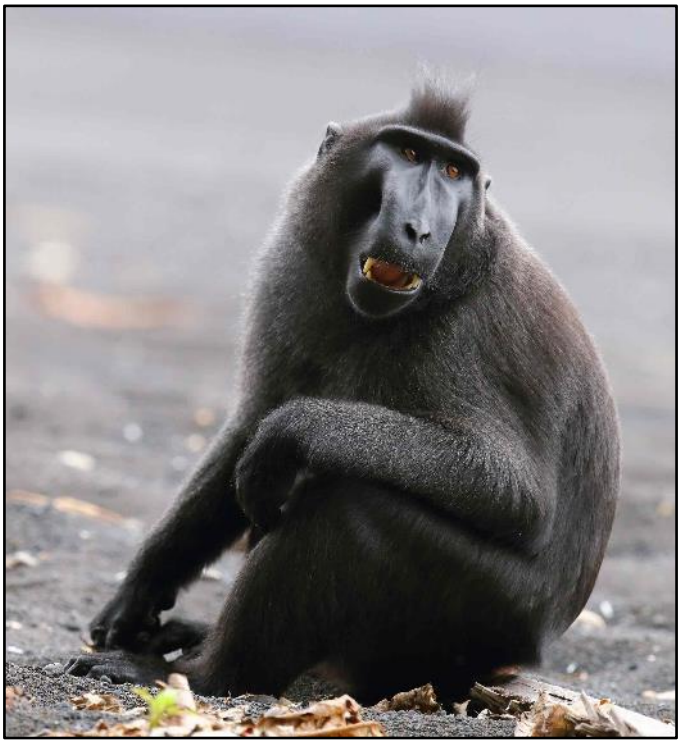
Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park (Dumoga-Bone). We'll explore the primarily lowland forest of Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park (formerly known as Dumoga-Bone), though there is also some hill forest on the slopes of the surrounding mountains that we will access along the Molibagu Road. Human exploitation of the area's habitat, unfortunately, continues to create challenges here, but the forest still supports a wide variety of our target birds, including several of the lower elevation species that are now rare or absent from Lore Lindu National Park.

One of our primary targets is the increasingly difficult Maleo, a surprisingly attractive megapode that, like its cousin, the Melanesian Megapode of the Bismarck Archipelago and Solomon Islands, digs a hole in the ground to lay its eggs to take advantage of the volcanic heat for brooding, rather than building the more traditional vegetation-covered mound.

A colonial nester, the Maleo's eggs are then often left unattended since the eggs are incubated by the



The unique Maleo by Glen Valentine



Celebes Crested Macaque by Adam Riley

natural warmth of the ground. Unfortunately, however, this fact is well known amongst the locals, so human collections continue to wreak havoc on the native population, which in turn makes the species increasingly difficult to find. Regardless, with patience here we stand an excellent chance of locating this unique and interesting bird.

Other noteworthy species we'll be on the lookout for in the Tambun area, while searching for Maleo, include the stunning but shy Green-backed Kingfisher, Sulawesi Pitta, Oberholser's and Black-naped Fruit Doves, Sultan's (Sulawesi) and White-faced Cuckoo-Doves, Pale-blue Monarch, Bay Coucal, White-necked Myna, Grosbeak Starling, and the scarce Sulawesi Hornbill.

Kotamobagu rice paddies. The extensive, seasonally flooded rice fields between our accommodation in Kotamobagu and Nani Wartabone National Park can be extremely productive and regularly produce several quality waterbirds, many of which won't be seen anywhere else during the trip, and we'll likely stop and bird this area on at least one of our afternoons in the area.

Interesting species that we may very well encounter include Chestnut and Black-faced Munias, Buff-banded and Barred Rails, White-browed Crake, Cinnamon and Yellow Bitterns, Purple (Black-backed) Swamphen, Greater Painted-snipe, Spotted Harrier, Black-winged Kite and possibly even Australian Pratincole on their wintering grounds.

Molibagu Road. The Molibagu Road winds its way through a small section of Nani Wartabone National Park, which allows us several opportunities for many of the Tambun specialties, as well as Pied Cuckooshrike, the now-rare Yellow-breasted (Minahasa) Racket-tail (that are often heard before seen), the exquisite Sulawesi Lilac Kingfisher, the tiny, jewel-like Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher that darts rapidly through the forest, Sulawesi Myna, Sulawesi Goshawk, Spot-tailed Sparrowhawk, the magnificent Knobbed Hornbill, White-rumped (Sulawesi) Triller, Ivory-backed Woodswallow, Sulawesi Cicadabird and Crimson Sunbird. In the heat of the day, we'll scan the skies for soaring



Spectral Tarsiers by Glen Valentine



Green-backed Kingfisher by Adam Riley

raptors that could include Sulawesi Serpent Eagle and Jerdon's Baza, as well as the fast-flying Purple Needletail and flocks of Moluccan (Sulawesi) Swiftlet. Although mammals are not conspicuous, we should find several possible species of squirrels and perhaps a Sulawesi Bear Cuscus or Gorontalo Macaque.

Gunung Ambang. Depending on time, road conditions, site conditions, weather and fitness and level of the group, we might spend one morning at Gunung Ambang along the way from Kotamobagu to Tangkoko. This is the only accessible site for the rare and extremely localised Matinan Blue Flycatcher. The chance of seeing this species is fair but requires a fairly long and strenuous hike up to the higher elevation of the mountain. Other high elevation specialities are likely to be encountered such as Sulphur-vented Whistler, the skulking Sulawesi Bush Warbler, Cerulean Cuckooshrike, Sulawesi Drongo, Citrine Canary-flycatcher, Sulawesi Leaf Warbler, Black-crowned White-eye, Sulawesi Babbler and the brilliant Fiery-browed Starling, although all of these species are present and generally easier to see at Lore Lindu National Park.

Tangkoko Nature Reserve. Sulawesi Nightjar can sometimes be found hawking insects over the forest here before dawn, and as the sun illuminates the forest, we will be watching for the secretive Green-backed Kingfisher (represented here by the blue-headed subspecies) that often reveals its presence by its distinctive whistled call.

The outrageous Knobbed Hornbill is regular here, while Black-naped Fruit Dove, the noisy Azure-rumped Parrot, Yellow-billed (Sulawesi) Malkoha, Great and Pygmy Hanging Parrots, Sulawesi Pygmy and Ashy Woodpeckers, Isabelline Bush-hen, Bay Coucal, Black-billed Koel, Pale-blue Monarch, the rare Pied Cuckooshrike, the gorgeous Purple-winged (Blue-crowned/Sulawesi) Roller and White-faced Cuckoo-Dove are all possibilities. Tangkoko also offers further chances to see several of the island's shy and low-density *accipiters* such as Sulawesi Goshawk and Spot-tailed and Vinous-breasted Sparrowhawks. Vibrant Grosbeak Starlings can sometimes be found nesting colonially in tower-block fashion in the trunks of dead trees. In the dense, dark forest interior, we'll be watching out for Sulawesi Lilac



Pale-blue Monarch by David Hoddinott



Red-backed Thrush by Glen Valentine

Kingfisher, the shy and unobtrusive Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher, Philippine Megapode on the forest floor, Stephan's Dove, and the striking Red-backed Thrush. Our local guide often knows the whereabouts of a roosting pair of Ochre-bellied Boobook and one evening, we'll give the option to try for the extremely elusive and rarely seen Minahasa Masked Owl, while other nocturnal avian specialties could include Speckled Boobook, Sulawesi and Great Eared Nightjars and Sulawesi Scops Owl.

Mammals are also a great feature of this reserve, and we will almost certainly locate the wacky and endearing Sulawesi Crested Macaque, as we wait for the darling Gursky's Spectral Tarsier to emerge from its roosting site in the early evening or perhaps even see them peaking their heads out from a tree hollow during the day.

Batu Putih boat trip. We'll take a boat trip up the Lembeh Strait to maximise our chances of seeing the monstrous Great-billed Kingfisher in the coastal forest-edge. The second major target species during this boat trip will be the localised White-rumped Cuckooshrike, whilst other interesting species that could turn up include Rainbow Bee-eater, Sacred and Collared Kingfishers, Spotted (Indonesian) Kestrel, Silver-tipped and Pied Imperial Pigeons, Sulawesi Crow, Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Lesser Frigatebird and Black-naped Tern.

Tembuan Hill. This is an especially good site for hornbills, pigeons and parrots, and we'll pay at least one visit here during our time in the Tangkoko area. The lookout over the forest works as a fabulous vantage point for perched and flying non-passerines in the early morning and late afternoon and we hope to encounter flocks of Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeon and singletons of White-bellied Imperial Pigeon and possibly even Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon among the much more common Green Imperial Pigeon, as well as Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon, Azure-rumped Parrot, Yellow-breasted and Golden-mantled Racket-tails, Purple-winged Roller and the increasingly rare Ornate Lorikeet during our time at the lookout. The forest understory in the area provides one of the only chances of the trip for the extremely rare, local and elusive Rufous-throated Flycatcher and we might also get lucky and find the scarce and little-known Sulawesi Streaked Flycatcher here.



The extremely localised Black-ringed White-eye by Glen Valentine



Fiery-browed Starlings by Adam Riley

Gunung Mahawu. Gunung Mahawu is an excellent site for the rare Scaly-breasted Kingfisher. Isabelline Bush-hen also seems to occur at higher densities here than elsewhere on the island and we stand a good chance of hearing them and hopefully luring one out into the open. Black-crowned White-eyes are also especially common and showy here and we also have good chances of seeing Sulawesi Pitta should we still need this beautiful and sometimes elusive endemic. A fine selection of other montane forest endemics is likely to be encountered during our time on the mountain and include Crimson-crowned, Yellow-sided and Grey-sided Flowerpeckers, Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Citrine Canary-flycatcher, Sulawesi Myzomela and Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker, while we also stand a good chance of finding the unobtrusive but beautiful Superb Fruit Dove.

Rammang Rammang. We'll spend some time birding the open forest, woodland, wetlands and riverine habitats in and around the extensive limestone karst that dominates the picturesque landscape at Rammang Rammang. Although situated close to Karaenta and therefore having a lot of overlap in species, Rammang Rammang supports a larger diversity of species and also appears to be a particularly good site to connect with three extremely range-restricted and tricky endemics: White-rumped Cuckooshrike, Black-ringed White-eye and the extremely scarce and little-known Sulawesi Streaked Flycatcher. These will be our main target species at this site, but we will undoubtedly see several other noteworthy species during our time here. Other possible highlights are likely to include Sulawesi Serpent Eagle, Pale-headed and Black-faced Munia, Common (Cobalt-eared if split) Kingfisher, Sacred Kingfisher, Pale-blue Monarch and Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker and we'll also try our best to find Sunda Teal, which is often around but can be tricky to pin down.



Satanic Nightjar by Clayton Burne

Karaenta. We'll spend a little time birding the limestone outcrops near to Karaenta, situated just north of Makassar, where remnant forest patches support the localized Black-ringed White-eye, a species restricted to southern Sulawesi. A host of other Sulawesi endemics also occur here, and we'll be on the lookout for White-necked Myna, the wonderfully vocal but scarce and shy black and white Piping Crow, Pale-blue Monarch and Yellow-sided Flowerpecker. Noisy Hair-crested (Sulawesi White-eyed) Drongos may reveal arboreal mixed feeding



White-bellied Imperial Pigeon by Glen Valentine

flocks, while the undergrowth should reveal the endemic Sulawesi Babbler with its melodious song. We'll scan open branches for Grey-rumped Treeswift, Green, White-bellied and Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeons. The forest understory also supports the extremely shy and uncommon Green-backed Kingfisher, represented here by the very distinctive and striking black-headed subspecies that is restricted to southern Sulawesi. The handsome, yellow-headed Sulawesi Hornbill is another possibility, as is the unobtrusive but stunning Sulawesi Pitta, Bay Coucal and Ashy Woodpecker. If it is a warm and clear day, scanning skywards in the late morning could produce soaring Rufous-bellied and Black Eagles, Sulawesi Serpent Eagle, Sulawesi Hawk-Eagle and Barred (Sulawesi) Honey Buzzard. We're also likely to encounter troops of Moor Macaque along the roadside while winding our way along the forest-lined road that intersects this large, protected area.

Makassar rice paddies. Time dependent, we may explore more open areas near Makassar where inundated rice paddies can sometimes produce Cinnamon Bittern, Asian Woolly-necked Stork, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Zitting Cisticola, White-breasted Woodswallow, flocks of munias that could include Scaly-breasted, Black-faced, Chestnut and the scarce Pale-headed Munias or even the poorly known and endangered Pale-bellied (Makassar) Myna.

Lore Lindu National Park. This superb reserve, the largest of the islands' national parks, supports most of Sulawesi's montane species and we can look forward to some fabulous birding!

Lore Lindu National Park is also one of the only accessible sites for the uncommon, often elusive, and monotypic Hylocitrea. This is a highland speciality that is quiet and reclusive in the moss-laden montane forest, but it does associate with mixed feeding flocks and working the many bird parties that move through the forest canopy and mid-story will be our best chance of locating this much-wanted, endemic species.



Hylocitrea by Glen Valentine

At twilight one morning, we will start birding in the montane forest for the scarce Cinnabar Boobook; and although uncommon, one of the first songs at dawn might be the vocal but secretive Great Shortwing that lurks in the thick understory. Near Lake Tambing we will search



Sulawesi Myzomela by Glen Valentine

for feeding flocks given away by the sharp calls of Malia, a unique species of grassbird that forages nuthatch-like on the moss-covered branches along with attending species such as Pygmy and Cerulean Cuckooshrikes, Sulawesi Drongo, Sulphur-vented Whistler, Sulawesi Fantail, Lemon-bellied, Warbling and Black-crowned White-eyes, Turquoise Flycatcher, Citrine Canary-flycatcher, and Sulawesi Leaf Warbler. Further searching could produce small flocks of Sulawesi Heleia, the brightly coloured Sulawesi and Blue-fronted (Hoevell's) Blue Flycatchers singing from vine tangles, the splendid Fiery-browed Starling, Sulawesi Myzomela, Dark-eared (Lesser) Myza, Yellow-sided Flowerpecker, the lovely Ivory-backed Woodswallow, White-bellied Imperial Pigeon with its unique booming call, Black-billed Koel, and the impressive Sulawesi Myna.

The extensive upper montane forest inside the reserve is mostly inaccessible due to the area's ruggedness, but the Anaso Track climbs the slopes of Gunung Rorekatimbu, the highest peak in the park at just over 2 500 meters, allowing us to search for high montane specialities.

Before dawn we will begin our ascent on foot, keeping our eyes and ears peeled for specialties such as Red-eared Fruit Dove and Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon that sometimes sit out in the early morning. Although increasingly scarce and elusive, the brilliant, Purple-bearded Bee-eater will hopefully be found near its breeding areas along exposed earthen embankments. We will undoubtedly be constantly serenaded by the timid Sulawesi Bush (Grasshopper) Warbler, although it may take a few tries to be sure everyone sees this surprisingly attractive species. Higher up the trail we'll keep an eye out for White-eared Myza and the flighty Mountain Serin. We also hope to encounter roosting Satanic Nightjar around the half-way mark, and this is also a good area for the low-density Sombre Pigeon. It will take a bit of luck, but we'll scour the trail as we walk for subtle movements in the hope of finding the bizarre Geomalia that can sometimes be found hopping along the path, a large, disproportionate bird somewhat reminiscent of Madagascar's ground rollers. Spot-tailed and Dwarf



Geomalia by Glen Valentine



Knobbed Hornbill by Adam Riley

Sparrowhawks are two of the scarce and retiring forest understory raptors that might be encountered. Fruiting trees sometimes produce views of the shy Sulawesi Thrush as well as the uncommon Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker and we'll also be on the lookout for the rare, retiring, and elusive Blue-faced Parrotfinch and the distinctive song of the skulking Maroon-backed Whistler.

Three of Lore Lindu's rarest and least-known species are the Sulawesi Cuckoo, Sulawesi Ground Dove, and the near-mythical Sulawesi Woodcock and although worth keeping a lookout for since they do occur at Lore Lindu, we'd be extremely fortunate to see or even hear any of these three very rarely encountered species.

Overhead in Lore Lindu National Park, we can watch for Yellow-cheeked Lorikeet, while noisy Golden-mantled Racket-tails shoot by overhead and, with time in this habitat, we have a fair chance of finding this species perched on flowering trees. As the days warm up, we can also watch for raptors such as Sulawesi Serpent Eagle, Barred Honey Buzzard and Sulawesi Hawk-Eagle soaring above the forest, together with Purple Needletail.

Night-birding excursions will be undertaken to track down Sulawesi Scops Owl, Speckled Boobook and Sulawesi Masked Owl.

Wuasa Valley. Below Lore Lindu National Park and to the south of the town of Wuasa lies some flooded rice fields and wetland habitat. Here we'll hopefully lay eyes on the rare and generally elusive Eastern Grass Owl at dusk, together with Great Eared Nightjar and possibly Nankeen Night Heron. Birding this area in the late afternoon before dusk can also be productive and often produces Buff-banded Rail, Lesser Coucal, Spotted Harrier, Pacific Black Duck, Wandering Whistling Duck and Javan Pond Heron.

Palu area. Areas of grassy scrubland, and bushes could produce Savanna Nightjar on its day roost, Barred Buttonquail, the localised Pale-headed Munia, Spotted Harrier, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Lesser Coucal and White-shouldered Triller. The coastal salt ponds support Javan Plover, Pied Stilt and Barred Rail.



Ivory-backed Woodswallow, a scarce hill-forest endemic by Glen Valentine

Tour Grading & Key

Overall Ease		This is an intensive tour involving several early starts, long birding days, night-birding sessions and some demanding travel days with lengthy drives, boat transfers and domestic flights. Most walking is moderate, although trails may be muddy, uneven or steep in places.
Birding Ease		Moderate to difficult. Much of the birding takes place in forest, where many targets occur at low density or are shy, unobtrusive, canopy-dwelling or most active around dawn and dusk. Finding certain species may require prolonged waits, repeat visits and patience.
Accommodation		Accommodation is mostly comfortable, although the guesthouses in the Subaim and Lore Lindu areas are simple but functional. Hot running water is not available at every property; specific details are provided in the Important Notes below.
Walking / Trails		Most walking is easy to moderate, on roads and forest trails, although some sections may be muddy, uneven or fairly steep. The full Anaso Track ascent is the most demanding walk of the tour and is optional; participants may turn back earlier with a local guide.
Vehicles / Roads		Transport is by comfortable minibuses or smaller vehicles, together with scheduled speedboat transfers. Some drives are long, and roads may be winding, potholed or rough. Delays caused by weather, road conditions or occasional landslides are possible.
Photography		Photography can be rewarding, particularly at feeding stations and for larger forest birds, parrots, hornbills and mammals. However, this is not a dedicated photography tour, and many targets occur in dense forest, low light or high in the canopy.
Annoyances		Lowland conditions can be hot and humid, with rain and muddy trails possible. Chiggers occur at Tangkoko and may be encountered at Gunung Ambang if that site is visited. Mosquitoes and occasional land leeches are possible but are generally not troublesome. Early starts, limited facilities in the field and long birding days may also be tiring.

Financial Arrangements and Important Notes

Tour dates, prices, single supplement, approximate flight costs and tour spaces are displayed on our website.

Tour inclusions:

- All meals from breakfast on day 1 to dinner on day 16;
- Bottled drinking water;
- All lodgings;
- All ground transportation during the tour;
- National park and reserve entrance fees as well as local access and permit fees;
- Services of the Rockjumper tour leader and local birding guides;
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff and other local service providers..

Tour exclusions:

- International flights and all domestic flights required by the itinerary;
- Visa, electronic travel authorisation, passport and entry-related fees;
- Accommodation, meals and transfers before the tour begins or after it ends;
- Beverages other than the included drinking water;
- Optional activities or excursions not specified as included in the itinerary;
- Gratuities for the Rockjumper tour leader or leaders;
- Travel insurance, medical expenses and emergency evacuation or repatriation costs;
- Excess baggage charges;
- Laundry, telephone calls, minibar charges and other personal expenses..

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.

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 you feel that they have given you excellent service, it is entirely appropriate to tip them at your discretion.

- **Due to constantly fluctuating exchange rates, we quote our tours in 4 currencies. The tour price is 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. The same applies to approximate flight and single supplement rates.**
- **Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registrations, a small group supplement will be offered to confirm the tour.**
- **Tour prices are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result.**
- **The designated tour leader/s may be changed at short due to unforeseen circumstances.**
- **The itinerary is indicative only. Changes may need to be made to the order in which the tour is conducted, or some of the venues we visit closer to departure. We will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.**

- This tour involves some moderate walking, including one moderately strenuous hike up the Anaso Track at Lore Lindu. The trail ascends 500 m (1,600 ft) in elevation over approximately 6 km (4 miles) to the uppermost part of the trail. Most of the principal target species may be found on the lower sections of the track and along the road near Lake Tambing. White-eared Myza is generally restricted to the highest accessible sections. Guests can stop and turn back at any time, as there are plenty of local guides and porters available to assist if the group needs to split.

- You should be in good health and of good to very good fitness to undertake this tour.
- We will be birding in some remote areas, far from modern medical facilities.
- Most of the hotels during the tour are of reasonable to good standard. However, in some areas the only available accommodations are basic guesthouses with no piped hot water (flasks of boiled water are provided at Lore Lindu), and only cold showers at Subaim (Halmahera). Everywhere else, hot or warm running water will be available, and all rooms have en suite bathrooms. Food is generally good and tasty throughout the tour. Our ground team does a fantastic job in this regard, with many fully cooked, well-prepared breakfast and lunch meals served in the field to maximize birding time during the best parts of the day.
- Transport will be in comfortable vehicles (small vehicles with three passengers per vehicle or a minibus), with most participants having a window seat, and 4×4 vehicles where required.
- The roads are mostly in fair condition, although we will encounter some winding sections with potholes, and in a few areas, rough unpaved roads. Due to the nature of the terrain, there is a possibility of landslides affecting our route, though this risk has been minimized by scheduling the tour during the drier season.
- Most days in the lowlands will be hot, dry, and sunny, but overcast conditions are fairly common, and some rain—sometimes heavy—can be expected. Humidity is often high. In montane areas, conditions will range from very cool to warm.
- Trekking poles and rubber boots have proven useful on previous tours.
- Chiggers are present in Tangkoko Reserve, and, if time and conditions permit, at Gunung Ambang.

Arrival and Departure Details

The tour begins at Jakarta's Soekarno–Hatta International Airport very early on Day 1. Guests must arrive in Jakarta no later than the previous day. The tour ends upon arrival at Jakarta's Soekarno–Hatta International Airport in the early evening of Day 16.

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.

Soekarno–Hatta International Airport, Jakarta (IATA: CGK) is the main port of entry and departure for this tour.

Visa requirements differ by country, nationality of the traveller and duration and purpose of your intended stay. It may be necessary to obtain a visa or an electronic travel authorization in advance of your travel. It is therefore vitally important that you check with your travel agent/consulate/embassy for exact visa requirements.

DO NOT book any flights until the Rockjumper Team have officially confirmed the tour.