

# Taiwan & Hong Kong

29 April – 4 May 2005

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*Taiwan Wren-Babbler – variously treated as subspecies of Pygmy and Scaly-breasted, but certainly a separate species*

## General

Having visited Taiwan in July 2004 (see my separate internet published report about Chinese Crested Terns) and then being cut off from the high altitude birding due to landslides, I was keen to return to this interesting island. Having already seen a few of the endemic species and subspecies, I decided to concentrate on the remaining ones. Thus three out of four days were spent in the mountains and the remaining spare day was thrown in for the lowlands. I was fortunate to see most of my target birds fairly easy, with the exception of Taiwan Hill-Partridge, which I only heard. I recorded all the endemic species but the Formosan Magpie, which I did not spend time looking for. Besides the endemic, I had good views of Fairy Pittas and Malayan Night-Herons. All in all it was a successful trip to a very easy-birded island that could be highly recommended.

As I traveled through Hong Kong, I decided to spend one morning looking for the Rufous-rumped Grassbird. In spite of poor weather, we finally connected and had good views (cheers Graham!). With time left, we then went to a site for Brown Fish-Owl and were lucky enough to quickly find it.

## Itinerary

28/4

Left Beijing for an evening flight to Hong Kong, where I was met by Graham Talbot at the airport. Stayed at his apartment and did some final preparations for the trip.

29/4

We left early in order to be at Tai Mo Shan at dawn for the best chances of Rufous-rumped Grassbird. The weather was not the best with high winds and low clouds and drizzle. We spent a couple of hours walking around without seeing much at all, which was no surprise given the lousy weather. Then, suddenly a Grassbird responded to the tape and sat right out in the open for as long as we wanted. With some time to spare before my flight to Tawian, we opted for giving a try at a site for Brown Fish-Owl at Tai Lam Chung Reservoir in the western parts of HK. Thanks to detailed directions and brilliant scanning by Graham, he soon found one bird sitting at its nest in a hollow. We scoped it until we were very satisfied with the views. Graham dropped me off at the train station where I took the train to the airport for the midday flight to Taipei.

At Taipei airport the car rental agent, who swiftly processed the paperwork, met me and soon I was on the road. I traveled south along the west coast heading for Anmashan, which I arrived shortly before dusk. Found the guesthouse and was served a dinner before taking an early evening.



*Brown Fish-Owl trying to stay invisible in its cave.*

30/4

Left the guesthouse at 4.00 and drove up to what I expected to be the walkway across the landslide at KM32.5. The walkway seemed wide enough for a car so I slowly rolled across and continued to the main entrance at KM 35. At the crack of dawn at 5.00 I started to slowly walk along trail 210. No pheasants were seen to my disappointment. Furthermore the forest had been selectively logged on the upper side and after a while I met the car with the logging staff. I continued along the trail until more than 3 km from the start. The habitat was not very good for pheasants and very steep with multiple landslides to negotiate. On the way back a female Mikado Pheasant quickly ran across the trail and disappeared down the slope. Apart from Yuhinas, Sibias and Liocichlas,

which were all common, I saw very few interesting species. Several Taiwan Shortwings refused to come out until I had very good looks at one just by the trail. At 9.00 I was back by the car and drove uphill to KM39, where I started to walk trail 220. After only a few meters, my mobile rang and simultaneously a female Swinhoe's Pheasant flushed across the trail. Better view desired to say the least. The trail was not very productive and soon a major landslide put a stop. Instead of spending more time here, I decided to go back to trail 210 and give it another try. Between 10.30-11.30 I walked along the first km. This time I heard five different Taiwan Wren-Babblers and had eyeball-to-eyeball views of one. A bit further on I heard a Taiwan Bush-Warbler give a burst of song. It was quickly brought in around my feet like a mouse.

At 11.30 I left Anmashan and drove south to Wushe, which took until 15.00 including a lunchstop. 5.5 km beyond Wushe I checked in at a guesthouse (several in the area) and then left for Beitungyanshan for the rest of the day. Very soon I saw a male Swinhoe's Pheasant, but the target birds Taiwan Partridge and Yellow Tit eluded me completely. At dusk at 18.30 I was back by the car and drove to the guesthouse and had a quick dinner.

### 1/5

Left the guesthouse at 4.30 and drove for half an hour up the mountain to KM18 where I took the small road down to Continuation Trail. Between 5.00 and 9.00 birded the 1.5 km walkable part. No pheasants, but the much-wanted Yellow Tit and a couple of heard Hill-Partridges. Before it was going to be too late, I left and drove further up the mountain. A roadside stop at KM21.5 produced my first Collared Bush-Robins and White-whiskered Laughingthrushes as well as Taiwan Bush-Warbler, everything within a few seconds. A brief stop at the highest pass gave an Alpine Accentor, but I continued down on the other side in search of Flamecrest. This actually took me a while and three different stops. One stop was at the old military area, which is in the valley east and below the pass. Before they asked me to leave I at least saw two Vinaceous Rosefinches. Eventually I found a good patch of accessible forest and quickly located two Flamecrests. Now it was time for the obligatory visit to the east coast for Styan's Bulbul. It was a long but beautiful drive on very winding roads down to Tiansiang, where I arrived at noon. Bulbuls were calling, but I failed to locate a decently pure individual. Instead I went for lunch and with recharged batteries I walked around in the small village. Most of the bulbuls were hybrids, some looked like pure sinensis and eventually two looked like Styan's. Frankly speaking it seems that these two forms have not been separated long enough in order to develop crossbreeding barriers. Therefore I must say it should be lumped with Light-vented Bulbul.

At 14.00 I returned up the valley to the mountain pass and reached KM 18 and Continuation Trail at 16.30. Birded there for two hours and saw another Yellow Tit, but again no pheasants.

Night at a hotel at KM 12.

### 2/5

Left the hotel at 4.30 and drove for 30 minutes to Peitungyanshan. Target bird for today was seeing Taiwan Partridge, but in spite of hearing five birds calling during the full morning, no one came close enough. The highlight instead being a male Mikado Pheasant that suddenly appeared on the track before flying off to more secure shelter. A splendid male Swinhoe's Pheasant was also seen and that one was much more cooperative and showed well. Yellow Tit was seen at four occasions and proves this to be a good site for this somewhat uncommon species.

At 11.00 I left the area for a long drive southwest to Huben in the lowlands. It was not until 15.30 that I arrived at the bamboo forest and started birding again. One of the first birds I saw was a male Swinhoe's Pheasant. I birded this area until dusk when I stopped at the guesthouse where the research staffs for Fairy Pitta are staying. Unfortunately it was not possible to stay there as the place was actually closed. One of the researchers provided some limited information while both Fairy Pitta and Malayan Night-Heron were calling in the background. A surprise was an Oriental Pratincole that flew passed very high up. Soon I drove into Linnei and checked in at the motel.

### 3/5

At 5.00 I met up with the research staff and while waiting for them I could again hear both Fairy Pitta and three Malayan Night-Herons calling nearby. A few times two Night-Herons were seen flying around chasing each other. Soon we drove further into the reserve to a very narrow ravine, which was supposed to hold 2-3 pairs of partridges. In spite of me spending the entire morning until 9.45, I failed to see or even hear one. The resident pair of Pittas was on the other hand very much in view. Eventually I gave up and spent some time looking for my jinx Barred Buttonquail in a grassy area at a nearby orchard. Again I failed to connect and instead started the journey back to Taipei. Encouraged by the Brown Fish-Owl in HK, I was tempted to give the Tawny cousin a go at the fish farm at Fushan. I had extremely little information for than what is just mentioned. I did not even know where Fushan was, other than that it should be somewhere near Wulai, a place just south of Taipei that I visited last year. Closing in on Wulai, I asked around and sure enough, some locals know about the fish farm and pointed out the road and said it was only 25 km away. Halfway there a guard, who said the road was closed due to recent rain and risk for landslides, stopped me. This seemed like a repeat of last year's experience when we could not reach the highlands due to risky road conditions. I instantly felt that no negotiation power in the world would let me through, so it was only to turn back. By now it was late afternoon, so I decided to go towards the airport to find a hotel and drop off the car. There are currently no hotels at the airport and it took me a while to find the nearest, which was in Taoyuan.

### 4/4

Essentially a travel day that started at 5.00 when I left the hotel in Taoyuan. Then a 6.55 flight to Hong Kong, where I took the train to Kowloon station and started the second leg of this trip into Guangdong...

## **Weather**

Hong Kong was mostly overcast with low clouds and windy on top of Tai Mo Shan. In Taiwan I was very lucky with the weather, no rain at all and bright and sunny weather, sometimes a bit cloudy. Even at high altitudes at Hohuanshan it was totally clear at the time I birded there, although on the way back in the afternoon it was all swept in clouds.

## **Logistics**

My sincere thanks to Graham Talbot in HK, who very kindly picked me up at the airport and guided me to the good birds as well as putting me up for the night.

In Taiwan I rented a car from VIP Car Rental Co. They were very good and flexible, provided the car to the airport as well as collected it again at my hotel in Taoyuan. The price for the smallest car was NT\$ 8880 including insurance, airport/hotel delivery and free mileage for four days. They were swift with emails at [vipcar@vipcar.com.tw](mailto:vipcar@vipcar.com.tw) and had English-speaking staff at +886 (0)2 2713 1111.

To drive in Taiwan is fairly straightforward and most signs are bilingual. Get good maps at the tourist information center at the arrival hall at CKS airport. The mountain roads are very narrow and winding. The soil is apparently not good for road building and landslides are extremely frequent. During typhoons, much of the mountains may be just off limits either by a landslide or an about-to-happen landslide. Some of the roads are just amazingly built on vertical cliff-faces and taking the type of soil into consideration, it is no surprise that accidents happens very often.

Gas stations are plentiful, except for in the mountains. You'd better fill up when you have the possibility. 7/11-shops are abundant and can support you with an assortment of fast food. Many of them seem to be open around the clock.

Lodging is fairly easy to find. I stayed at the following places:

Anmashan: Guesthouse next door to the police station just beyond km 15. NT\$900 for a room.

Wushe: Plenty of guesthouses, hotels and resorts between KM5 and KM12. I paid NT\$1500 for a nice and clean room. The building was apparently earthquake proof as it just rocked gently during an earthquake in the middle of the night. The second night I picked another hotel and paid the same price.

Huben/Linnei: The guesthouse where the Pitta research team was staying was not available, so I stayed at the motel in Linnei where I paid NT\$1000.

Taoyuan ("near" CKS airport): Stayed at upscale Taoyuan Holiday Hotel and paid NT\$2160.

## **Site descriptions for Taiwan part**

### Anmashan

This site has been reopened fairly recently. At KM 32.5 there was a serious landslide that is now repaired with a board-walk kind of thing that is actually drivable, but do not look down and if you have weak nerves, you should do it in the dark. This means that it is now possible to drive all the way up at KM 43 (although I did not go that far). To reach Anmashan I quote Gruff Dodd's excellent trip report from early 2005, which has a spot on description: "From Taipei take Freeway 1 south, then go east on Freeway 4 to the end of the road. From here, take Route 3 to Dongshih, and after the bridge turn right onto Route 8, the old Central Cross-island Highway, towards Guguan. Keep your eye open for a McDonalds on the left hand side, with a small dirt car park on its left hand side - you will then know that you are on the right road. Continue further along this road, looking out for a 7Eleven shop on a junction on the right hand side. Just before the shop, there is a turn-off to your left which angles sharply back from the main road. Right on this

corner, on your left hand side, there is a pillar-like monument, maybe 15 feet tall, with a blue shield bearing the words "China Trust" on it. Turn left here, and look for a junction to the right about 50 metres further. This is marked by a green road sign, and is opposite a store with a green "Clarks" shoes sign. This is the road to Anmashan."

The best birding is claimed to be along trail 210 at KM 35 near the entrance. I found the habitat somewhat trashed and selective logging was going on and created habitat loss as well as disturbance. Mikado Pheasant is apparently still around, but seems to be getting more difficult. I also birded a little bit on trail 220 in the very late morning. Although I saw a Swinhoe's Pheasant at the trailhead, I do not regard this trail as very good.



*Steere's Liocichla – common in most highland forests*

### Peitungyanshan

Good forest with no people at all. This is slightly lower than Anmashan and Continuation Trail, i.e. 1700-1800 masl, and may not be so good for high altitude stuff. Key species here are Yellow Tit and Taiwan Partridge, although I failed to actually see any of the latter. I had two sightings of males Swinhoe's and one of a male Mikado.

To reach the forest, take the road to Lishan from road 14. It leaves road 14 about 4 km after Wushe and is clearly signposted at a sharp bend. From the turnoff it is 8.4 km to a narrow paved road leading to the left. After 1.5 km there is a locked gate where it is possible to park. I birded for a couple of km along this road, but not all the way to the farm that is supposed to be further on.

### Continuation Trail

Continuation Trail (and Blue Gate Trail) is famous in the birding community for providing most of the Taiwan endemics. To reach the trails, go east from Wushe along road 14 to KM18 and turn left immediately beyond the police station. The small paved road leads down the slope and after 700 m there is a small parking place with a large sign with a Mikado Pheasant. Continuation Trail leads east (right) and Blue Gate Trail leads west (left). I did only bird along Continuation for 1.5 km until the landslide blocked the trail.

### Hohuanshan

This is the highest part of road 14 and should be visited in order to easily connect with endemic birds like White-whiskered Laughingthrush (roadside scrub), Taiwan Bush-Warbler (bamboo and scrub), Collared Bush-Robin (patches of higher bushes and trees amongst the bamboo scrub. Seems to be easier here during the breeding season, I did not see any in the forest areas) and Flamecrest (coniferous forest).

I stopped at

- a pull-off near KM21.5 that was productive.
- the parking lot at the pass for Alpine Accentor.
- the old military area in the valley immediately below the pass for Vinaceous Rosefinch in the coniferous trees.
- at a large dense patch of coniferous forest that is about 300 m down and away on the south slope just after passing the last restaurant. Easy walk across the low bamboo. I quickly found Flamecrest there and also Collared Bush-Robin and heard Taiwan Bush-Warbler.

### Tiensiang

This is the nearest site to Wushe for Styan's Bulbul. It takes about two hours on a winding and beautiful single lane road from the about KM34. The place is really small and lots of Bubluls are seen around the square, which is the centre of the place. Accommodation and food is available at this gateway to Taroko Gorge. As has been mentioned in other reports, the number of good-looking Styan's at this place might be rather small, but on the other hand the two taxa now seems to merge again after a period of separation.

### Huben

Huben is an area with lowland forest with lots of huge stands of bamboo. It is famous as a good site for Fairy Pitta, but other key species such as Malayan Night-Heron and Taiwan Partridge should be relatively easy although I dipped on the latter.

To reach the site, go south on freeway 3 from Taichung. At KM 259, take the turn-off or Linnei and Toulieu (Dolieu). Go back north again to Linnei and after only a couple of minutes, having passed the motel on the right-hand side, there is a sign for Huben to the right. This is at a traffic light and about 100 m ahead of a 7/11 on the left side. Take the road to Huben and after 1.8 km it forks, take the left fork (having the embankment on your right-hand side) and drive for another 800 m. There is a small shelter on the right side and a guesthouse on the left. This is where the Pitta research staff is staying. About 200 m further there is a bridge and if going across this and taking immediately to the left there is after probably less than one km a temple with a large parking lot. From here there are a few trails and small roads. In this area I saw a male Swinhoe's Pheasant and heard Fairy Pitta. Alternatively there are two more roads that lead into the forested areas, one is by crossing the second bridge and follow the road for about 2 km, another is by taking the left fork by the second bridge and drive for another km.

## **Birds**

### Hong Kong

- Black Kite, *Milvus migrans lineatus*  
A few in HK.
- Spotted Dove, *Streptopelia chinensis chinensis*  
One near Tai Lam Chung Reservoir
- Asian Koel, *Eudynamys scolopacea chinensis*  
Several heard at Tai Mo Shan and Tai Lam Chung Reservoir
- Brown Fish-Owl, *Ketupa zeylonensis orientalis*  
One adult at a nest at Tai Lam Chung Reservoir.
- White-throated Kingfisher, *Halcyon smyrnensis fokiensis*  
One at Tai Lam Chung Reservoir.
- Upland Pipit, *Anthus sylvanus*  
Two at Tai Mo Shan.
- Light-vented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus sinensis sinensis*  
A few at Tai Mo Shan.
- Yellow-bellied Prinia, *Prinia flaviventris sonitans*  
Common at Tai Mo Shan.
- Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler, *Cettia fortipes davidiana*  
About ten at Tai Mo Shan.
- Rufous-rumped Grassbird, *Graminicola bengalensis sinica*  
One performing very well at Tai Mo Shan.
- Hwamei, *Garrulax canorus canorus*  
Two heard at Tai Mo Shan.
- Vinous-throated Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis webbianus suffusus*  
Two at Tai Mo Shan.
- Japanese White-eye, *Zosterops japonicus simplex*  
Common in lower areas.
- Eurasian Magpie, *Pica pica sericea*  
Two seen.

### Taiwan

- Great Egret, *Ardea alba modesta*  
One between Puli and Huben.
- Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta garzetta*  
A few in the lowlands.
- Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis coromandus*  
Fairly common in the lowlands.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*  
A few seen around Taipei.
- Malayan Night-Heron, *Gorsachius melanolophus*  
Two calling shortly before dusk near the guesthouse at Huben and three calling at the same site at dawn. Just at dawn two birds were seen several times when flying around over the orchard opposite the guesthouse. Call is a short deep booming, frequently repeated at 2 seconds intervals.
- [Sacred Ibis, *Threskiornis aethiopicus*  
One over the freeway near Taipei. Introduced.]



Oriental Honey-Buzzard, *Pernis orientalis* ssp

One at Anmashan. Not known to me which ssp that occurs on Taiwan.

Crested Serpent-Eagle, *Spilornis cheela hoya*

A pair at KM2 on the Lishan road from road 14. Five together at Huben.

Taiwan Hill-Partridge, *Arborophila crudigularis*

Two heard at Continuation Trail. Five heard at Peitungyanshan on the morning visit. Regular calling was only noticed early in the morning and after that, only infrequent bursts were heard.

Chinese Bamboo-Partridge, *Bambusicola thoracica sonorivox*

Many heard and several seen at Huben.

Swinhoe's Pheasant, *Lophura swinhoii*

One female shot across trail 220 at Anmashan. One male seen as it slowly walked through the forest at Peitungyanshan. On the morning visit at Peitungyanshan a male, possibly the same was seen very well. At Huben a male was seen and video-filmed in the late afternoon.



*Male Swinhoe's Pheasant sneaking away in the undergrowth*

Mikado Pheasant, *Syrmaticus mikado*

One female walked quickly across trail 210, about 1 km from the trailhead. A male was seen right on the track at Peitungyanshan before it ran and flew off into the forest. This last sighting was at 1770 m, which is probably on the low side for this species.

Oriental Pratincole, *Glareola maldivarum*

One flying high over Huben in the late afternoon.

Ashy Wood-Pigeon, *Columba pulchricollis*

Four at Continuation Trail.

Oriental Turtle-Dove, *Streptopelia orientalis orii*

Two between Hohuanshan and Tiensiang. A few in the lowlands.

Red Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia tranquebarica humilis*

Several between Anmashan and Wushe. Common in the lowlands.

Spotted Dove, *Streptopelia chinensis formosa*

Common around Huben.

Emerald Dove, *Chalcophaps indica indica*

Several at Huben.

Large Hawk-Cuckoo, *Cuculus spraverioides sparverioides*

Several at Anmashan, Peitungyanshan, Continuation Trail. A few at Huben.

Oriental Cuckoo, *Cuculus horsfieldi*

Two calling at PTYs and two calling at Huben. All birds called with Hoopoe-like repeated double-notes, not like in mainland south-central China, where they have a 3-4 note call and should be named Himalayan Cuckoo *C saturatus* according to article by Ben King in Bull B.O.C., 2005 125.

Chinese Tawny Owl, *Strix nivicola yamadae*

One heard at the trailhead of Continuation Trail in the early morning. Separated from Tawny Owl based on call and plumage. Same call as in various places in mainland China.

Collared Owlet, *Glaucidium brodiei pardalotum*

Two at Anmashan. One at Peitungyanshan. Two at Peitungyanshan on the morning visit. Call is to me identical to the mainland form.

Fork-tailed Swift, *Apus pacificus kanoi*

Five above Tiensiang.

House Swift, *Apus nipalensis kuntzi*

About five along freeway 1. A few at Tiensiang. One near Huben. 10+ at Wulai.

Black-browed Barbet, *Megalaima oorti nuchalis*

One heard at Anmashan. Two heard at Peitungyanshan. One at Continuation Trail. A few at Huben.

White-backed Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos leucotos insularis*

Two at Peitungyanshan.

Grey-headed Woodpecker, *Picus canus tancolo*

One at Anmashan. Two at Peitungyanshan.

Fairy Pitta, *Pitta nympha*

Two heard calling in the late afternoon at Huben. In the morning a pair was seen many times in the ravine I visited. Nearby another two territorial birds were heard.



*Fairy Pitta*

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica gutturalis*

A few along the freeway near Taipei.

Pacific Swallow, *Hirundo pacifica javanica*

Common in the lowlands.

Striated Swallow, *Cecropis striolata striolata*

Fairly common in the lowlands.

Asian Martin, *Delichon dasypus nigrimentalis*

Two small colonies between Hohuanshan and Tiensiang.

White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba leucopsis*

Two at Tiensiang and two at Huben.

Grey-chinned Minivet, *Pericrocotus solaris griseogularis*

Two at trail 210 at Anmashan. Two at Continuation Trail.

Collared Finchbill, *Spizixos semitorques cinereicapillus*

Two at KM 2 on the Lishan road from road 14. Several at Huben.

Light-vented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus sinensis formosae*

Common in the lowlands. A few at Tiensiang including some variable hybrids with *taivanus*.

Styan's Bulbul, *Pycnonotus sinensis taivanus*

Two at Tiensiang were showing the characteristics of this form that I lump with *sinensis*. As there seems to be a total mix of the two taxa in the entire *taivanus* range, it is apparent that the two former species are now collapsing into the one they originally evolved from. A taxonomically interesting case indeed!

Black Bulbul, *Hypsipetes leucocephalus nigerrimus*

One at Tiensiang, 20+ at Huben and a few at Wulai.

Flamecrest, *Regulus goodfellowi*

A pair in the coniferous forest below KM 33.

Winter Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes taiwanus*

A few at Hohuanshan.

Alpine Accentor, *Prunella collaris fennelli*

One at the parking lot at the pass at Hohuanshan.

Formosan Whistling-Thrush, *Myophonus insularis*

One between Dongshui and Anmashan, one at Tiensiang and three at Wulai.

Taiwan Shortwing, *Brachypteryx goodfellowi*

About five heard and one seen well at trail 210 at Anmashan. 5-8 at Continuation Trail. Separated from White-browed Shortwing, due to completely different song and plumage.

Striated Prinia, *Prinia criniger striata*

One with nest material in the orchard at Huben.

Plain Prinia, *Prinia inornata flavirostris*

At least five around the orchard at Huben.

Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler, *Cettia fortipes robustipes*

One heard at trail 220 at Anmashan.

Yellowish-bellied Bush-Warbler, *Cetta acanthizoides concolor*

Common at Hohuanshan.

Taiwan Bush-Warbler, *Bradypterus alishanensis*

One showing extremely well at trail 210 at Anmashan. One heard at KM21.5 and several heard around the high altitudes at Hohuanshan.



*Taiwan Bush-Warbler – a recently described skulking Bradypterus*

- Rufous-faced Warbler, *Abroscopus albogularis fulvifacies*  
Common at Anmashan, Peitungyanshan, Continuation Trail.
- Ferruginous Flycatcher, *Muscicapa ferruginea*  
One at trail 210 at Anmashan. Four at Continuation Trail.
- Snowy-browed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hyperythra innexa*  
One male at Continuation Trail.
- Vivid Niltava, *Niltava vivida vivida*  
Three at trail 210 at Anmashan. Two at Continuation Trail. One at KM21.5 at Hohuanshan. Song is similar to the mainland taxon.
- Collared Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger johnstoniae*  
A pair at KM21.5 and two males beyond the pass at Hohuanshan. One female between Hohuanshan and Tiensiang.
- Plumbeous Water-Redstart, *Rhyacornis fuliginosus affinis*  
One at Tiensiang and one at Huben.
- White-tailed Robin, *Cinclidium leucurum montium*  
5-10 at Anmashan, ten at Peitungyanshan and a few at Continuation Trail.
- Black-naped Monarch, *Hypothymis azurea oberholseri*  
Two pairs at Huben.
- White-throated Laughingthrush, *Garrulax albogularis ruficeps*  
Frequently seen at Anmashan and Peitungyanshan.
- Rusty Laughingthrush, *Garrulax poecilorhynchus poecilorhynchus*  
Several small flocks at Peitungyanshan.
- Hwamei, *Garrulax canorus taewanus*  
One at KM2 on the Lishan road from road 14.
- White-whiskered Laughingthrush, *Garrulax morrisonianus*  
Two at KM21.5 on road 14 and several along the road at Hohuanshan.



*White-whiskered Laughingthrush*

- Steere's Liocichla, *Liocichla steerii*  
Common at Anmashan, Peitungyanshan and Continuation Trail.
- Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis erythrocnemis*  
One feeding on the forest floor in the ravine at Huben.
- Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ruficollis musicus*  
Four at Huben.

Taiwan Wren-Babbler, *Pnoepyga [albiventer] formosanus*

Five heard and one of them seen very well at trail 210 at Anmashan. At least five at Continuation Trail. The song is entirely different from Pygmy, although a bit similar to Scaly-breasted. I tested playback on two separate individuals with the song of the mainland Scaly-breasted. No positive reaction at all was noticed. When I then started to play *formosanus*, the bird suddenly got really excited.

Rufous-capped Babbler, *Stachyris ruficeps praecognita*

Common at Anmashan, Peitungyanshan, Continuation Trail and Huben.

Taiwan Barwing, *Actinodura morrisoniana*

Two feeding on mossy branches at trail 210 at Anmashan. 2+3 at Continuation Trail.



*Taiwan Barwing*

Streak-throated Fulvetta, *Alcippe cinereiceps formosana*

One at trail 210 at Anmashan. Completely different from the forms on the mainland.

Dusky Fulvetta, *Alcippe brunnea brunnea*

Fairly common at Huben.

Grey-cheeked Fulvetta, *Alcippe morrisonia morrisonia*

Two at trail 210 at Anmashan. Common at Huben.

White-eared Sibia, *Heterophasia auricularis*

Common at Anmashan, Peitungyanshan and Continuation Trail.

Taiwan Yuhina, *Yuhina brunneiceps*

Common at Anmashan, Continuation Trail and Peitungyanshan.



*Taiwan Yuhina*

Black-throated Tit, *Aegithalos concinnus concinnus*  
Common at Anmashan and a few at Peitungyanshan and Continuation Trail.

Coal Tit, *Periparus ater ptilosus*  
Three heard at Hohuanshan.

Green-backed Tit, *Parus monticolus insperatus*  
Five at Anmashan.

Yellow Tit, *Macholophus holsti*  
One at KM1.5 at Continuation Trail in the morning and one singing at KM1 at Continuation Trail in the evening. At Peitungyanshan 1+1+2+1 where seen.

Eurasian Nuthatch, *Sitta europaea sinensis*  
Three at Anmashan and two at Hohuanshan.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, *Dicaeum ignipectus formosum*  
Two, presumably this species, heard at Continuation Trail.

Japanese White-eye, *Zosterops japonicus simplex*  
Common at Tiensiang. Several at Huben.

Brown Shrike, *Lanius cristatus lucionensis*  
One at Huben.

Black Drongo, *Dicrurus macrocercus harterti*  
Common in the lowlands.

Bronzed Drongo, *Dicrurus aeneus braunianus*  
Several at Huben.

Eurasian Jay, *Garrulus glandarius taivanus*  
A few at Anmashan. Four at Peitungyanshan.

Grey Treepie, *Dendrocitta formosae formosae*  
Several at Huben.

Large-billed Crow, *Corvus macrorhynchos colonorum*  
Four at Anmashan. Several between Hohuanshan and Tiensiang.

Crested Myna, *Acridotheres cristatellus formosanus*  
Common in the lowlands.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow, *Passer montanus saturatus*  
Common in the lowlands.

Scaly-breasted Munia, *Lonchura punctulata topela*  
20 at the orchard at Huben.

Vinaceous Rosefinch, *Carpodacus vinaceus formosanus*  
Two females at the old military area beyond Hohuanshan pass.

### **Mammals**

Apart from a number of squirrels and rodents I saw one species of Macaque at Huben and a Boar at Peitungyanshan.