

Great Hornbill at Datai

photo: Hans-Erik Persson

## **Introduction**

The island of Langkawi is situated on the north-west coast just south of the border to Thailand, only 30 km from Malaysia mainland. One can quickly imagine that the number of bird species should be high. The fact is the opposite, only about 230-235 species are recorded. We managed to see or hear about 115 of these during our two week stay. To be noted already in this stage of the trip report – ***this is no hard core full time birding trip*** – this was a family vacation.

If it is one of the first visits to the Oriental region this tiny island is a very good introduction to the fauna. Not too many babblers or bulbuls to choose between and some species are easier to see well on Langkawi than in other areas we have visited. Langkawi must be one of the easiest places in the region to see Oriental Pied, Great and Wreathed Hornbill.

## **Logistics**

To get there is easy and can be made in different ways. Maybe the easiest way is to book a trip with any of the charter companies. We decided to avoid an often too early take off and the crowded and uncomfortable charter flights. Instead we once again used the excellent service and flight schedule with Malaysian Airways. This means a little bit more expensive tickets and a stopover at KLIA (Kuala Lumpur International Airport) both ways and with an overnight stay at the airport when going back home. On the other hand, the charter companies often travel directly to the destination. What's the case to Langkawi we do not know.

We bought a package from ABC-tours in Malmö including flight, hotel, transfers and hotel at KLIA (Concorde Inn) to a cost of 20650 SKr each. Though we left Langkawi 21.30 the tour agent had booked our rooms until the day after so we could use our them as long as we needed on our last day.

We stayed at Holiday Villa, the second last hotel on the sea side before Malai Jetty on the peninsula of Pantai Tengah. It turned out to be a good choice, very close to the sea and a not so crowded beach. Just around the hotel there were several small areas for bird watching "light". On the other side of the main road was a hillside covered with rainforest.

To rent a car and drive around on our own hand was no problem, though left side traffic can be a little tricky when used to the other side, especially in roundabouts and right turns. As long as one follows the traffic it is no problem. Cost was 125 MR (Malaysian ringit = SKr 2,80) for the first and the second day and then cheaper and cheaper. Our final cost for five days was 1260SKr. We rented a six seat Toyota Avanza with automatic gear and it turned out to be a very good choice and value for the money.

For bird information we really can recommend Irshad Mubarak and his wife Sri at Junglewalla. Visit their web site for information and contact – [www.junglewalla.com](http://www.junglewalla.com)

## **Sites**

### **Pantai Tengah**

Our main area was the peninsula where our hotel was situated. Pantai in Malay means just peninsula. Around our hotel we visited several different places and habitats. We will describe them briefly and give a better description, how to get there. In the itinerary each smaller area is named as follows.

#### **Sunday Restaurant**

Walk the main road back a few hundred meters towards the airport and on the right hand Sunday Restaurant is easily seen.

Behind the restaurant there is a small farmland area with rice paddies and small pools hidden in the reed beds. On the left side, when facing the restaurant, there is a narrow but paved road leading towards some houses. From the start it seems to be impassable but the road continue between the houses and then is the start of a small dirt road. After a couple of hundred meters there is a big tree where we had good view over the area although not much was seen of the pools. This track goes around the farmland and reaches the main road on the other side of Sunday Restaurant. At

the far end there is a steep track leading a bit up the hill, but it is a dead end. Species recorded here was Watercock, Lesser Whistling Duck, Ruddy-breasted Crake, Red-wattled Lapwing and in the forested hill sides Greater Racket-tailed Drongo and Oriental Pied Hornbill was seen and Puff-throated, Striped Tit and Abbott's Babbler were heard to mention a few. One evening a Large-tailed Nightjar was calling from here.

### **Holiday Villa**

Just before Sunday, on the left side, (when going back towards the airport) there is a small grassland area with scattered trees, a private house and a small stream that end up in the sea. There is a separate track away from the main road which makes the birding more comfortable when not disturbed by the traffic. Passing the small wooden bridge one enters a small area with 4-5 houses (seemed to some kind of private holiday villas). The small stream is also easy to reach by walking a few hundred meters along the beach from Holiday Villa.

In this area we recorded for example Striated Heron, 3 species of kingfishers, Dollarbird, Forest Wagtail, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Ashy Minivet and of course Oriental Pied Hornbill.

### **Lanai Pond**

The next hotel along the street, past Holiday Villa, is called Lanai and in the end of a tiny spot of grassland in front of the hotel there is a small pond. The pond is visible from the main road just when it starts to go uphill, but is easy to miss if one does not know the exact location. Sometimes Lesser Whistling Duck is present and a pair of Red-wattled Lapwing was seen at every visit.

### **Malai Jetty**

Continue the main road uphill and when coming down to sea level again is a small jetty for Island Hopping boats and further, at the very end of the road, is a bigger jetty and a resort. We did not have any problems walking pass the security post. There are a few dirt roads to right along the road but those only goes to settlements and barking dogs. Referring to Irshad there is a possibility of Pied Imperial Pigeon on the hill slopes, though we did not see any. We birded from the road side and birds seen here were Oriental Pied Hornbill, Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Crested Goshawk, Crimson Sunbird, Black-headed Bulbul and Black-capped Kingfisher among others.

## **Other sites**

### **Bonton Reedbeds**

This is quite a big area of reed beds, ponds and tracks near Bonton Resort. Situated just a few km from the airport. The whole area stretches all the way from Bonton to the airport runway. For more exact and up to date information use Irshad's services and he will certainly provide what he knows and where the hotspot for the moment is. The whole area seemed to us to be under pressure for other needs. The only positive thing is that it is situated so close to the runway at the airport. Our bird list here became quite long with species like Slaty-breasted Rail, Ruddy-breasted Crake, Watercock, 3 species of bittern (including Black), 3 species of munias (including White-headed), herons, egrets and many more.

## **Kuah**

Kuah is the main town on Langkawi. Just before the big parking area at the jetty there is a park. This is both a public part and the Legenda Park. The Legenda part looked very promising from the outside but was unfortunately closed for some kind of reparation during our stay. From the outside one could see at least one pond and it seemed to be more forest looking parts than the public part. Species seen in the public part was Common Flameback, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo and Copper-throated Sunbird among others more common species.

## **Datai**

This is the name of a luxury golf hotel on the northern tip of Langkawi, some 40 minutes drive from Pantai Tengah. Here we birded along the main road with Irshad one morning and one morning by ourselves. As Irshad seems to know everybody around here we were able to go birding past the security post with him. The road ends up at a private settlement, therefore guarded. On our second visit we did not even try to get past the security so we actually do not know how negotiable the guards might be. Species in the area among others are one pair of Great Hornbill, Mountain Hawk-eagle, Large Green Pigeon (not present around Pantai Tengah), Great Slaty Woodpecker, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, several species of flowerpeckers and sunbirds and Abbott's Babbler.

## **Gunung Raya**

Gunung Raya is the highest mountain on Langkawi and is THE place to tick off Great Hornbill. There is a well maintained road going up to the top. The road is well signposted from Kuah, leading to the left well before the city centre. Up there are masts with radio and television links but also a restaurant offering both food and a lookout. We went here twice, including one early morning.

There are several places along the road to pull over the car and be able to bird watch without being worried about the traffic along this winding road. We had excellent prolonged observations of 3 species of hornbills, Great Slaty Woodpecker, a singing Tickell's Blue Flycatcher and a Jerdon's Baza perched in a dead tree to mention a few.

## **Itinerary**

**3/1.** Arrived to Kuala Lumpur 06.45 in the morning, had to wait until 08.30 when our connection flight to Langkawi departed. Arrived to Holiday Villa (our hotel) around 11.00 but were unable to get our rooms before 2 pm. So we changed clothes, went across the street to a lunch restaurant and killed time. Birded from the hotel to Malai jetty in the afternoon and then an early dinner and bed time.

**4/1.** Morning walk and birding around Holiday Villa. Back to breakfast and the rest of the day was spent in the hotel garden and the beach.

**5/1.** Early pick up and a 40 minute drive with Junglewalla's driver to Datai where Irshad Mubarak turned up for a half day birding. We had arranged with him already from home. Birding around Datai was along the main road and around the hotel with magnificent views of 5 Slaty Woodpeckers together, Green Iora, Large Green Pigeon to mention a few. Over a cup of coffee Irshad gave us some very useful tips of

where to go. On the way back the driver showed us where to bird watch in the Bonton area. In the afternoon we did some birding around the hotel.

**6/1.** Birded the area behind Sunday restaurant both early in the morning and late afternoon. After breakfast we went for an Island Hopping tour from Malai Jetty. We visited three different islands and were showed eagle feeding near one of them. Mainly a touristy show and not many birds was seen.

**7/1.** Morning walk around Holiday Villa. After breakfast we all had a relaxing day on the beach. In the afternoon we took a taxi to Langkawi's main town – Kuah. Visited a local market and had a long walk almost to the jetty.

**8/1.** Had a short morning walk to the area behind Sunday restaurant. Back for breakfast before 9.00. Picked up our rental car at 10.00 and then on our way to Gunung Raya, and visited a waterfall on our way back and ended up the day in Kuah. Some were shopping, others birding. We tried to get in to the good looking Legenda Park, but some guard stopped us.

**9/1.** Started early for a morning at Gunung Raya. Birded in that area until 11.00. After lunch we all went for some sightseeing to Seven Wells waterfall and stopped en route to look at batik manufacturing.

**10/1.** Morning birding around Bonton, mainly the reed beds and the hot spot for crakes that Irshad's driver showed us the other day. After breakfast we went for sightseeing to the area around Datai. Late afternoon some recreation on the beach.

**11/1.** Once again we killed the morning until breakfast at Bonton. Stayed on the beach until lunch and spent the whole afternoon and evening in Kuah.

**12/1.** Early birding around Datai, went back to our waiting families for lunch. Stayed on the beach until late afternoon when we once again went to Kuah.

**13/1.** Another early morning around Bonton. Went back for breakfast when we also left our rental car after driving 532km in five days. In the afternoon we all had a nice mangrove trip with Junglewalla. We were shown a bat cave, eagle feeding at distance though Junglewalla's people did not like this touristy unnatural way of showing eagles. We also stopped at a local fishermen place and were shown different caged fishes. We also got nice views of a Mangrove Pit-Viper.

**14/1.** The early morning was spent behind Sunday restaurant until breakfast. Then the rest of the day was spent on the beach, except a short late afternoon walk towards Malai Jetty.

**15/1.** Full day trip to the marine park Pulau Payar south of Langkawi. The boat trip took about 45 minutes. Our main reason for this trip was to have some good snorkeling and to finally see Pied Imperial Pigeon. None of the targets ended up well. As some kind of bonus HEP found 2 Asian House Martins just when we were going to go on board and leave the island. The snorkeling was quite good but could have been better without the windy conditions. There was a short track up to the top of Pulau Payar but that was it. No birds, no comfortable view point to wait for pigeons at.

**16/1.** Our last day on Langkawi. We went towards Malai Jetty in the early morning and got back for breakfast. We should not leave Langkawi until late in the evening so our hotel rooms were booked an extra day so we could stay at the beach the whole day. In the afternoon we took a short walk with our bins in the neighborhood.

Left Langkawi 21.30 and stayed over night at an airport hotel 10 minutes from KLIA.  
**17/1.** Arrived in Stockholm/Arlanda in the afternoon and then train to Sundsvall, where we arrived just before 10.00pm.

## Species list

### **Lesser Whistling Duck** (*Dendrocygna javanica*)

1 Pantai Tengah 8/1, 5 Pantai Tengah 9/1, 150-180 Bonton Reedbeds 10-11/1 and 7 Lanai pond 14/1.



Lesser Whistling Ducks in the Lanai Pond.

photo: Lars Olausson

### **Yellow Bittern** (*Ixobrychus sinensis*)

1 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1 except 11/1 when 2 were seen.  
Only two birds are involved.

### **Cinnamon Bittern** (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*)

1 flushed Bonton Reedbeds 13/1.

### **Black Bittern** (*Dupetor flavicollis*)

1 seen flying at very close range Bonton Reedbeds both 10 and 11/1.

### **Striated Heron** (*Butorides striata*)

Up to 5 seen Pantai Tengah during our stay. Also seen in small numbers at Kuah, Bonton Reedbeds and Telinga Ruh.

### **Chinese Pond Heron** (*Ardeola bacchus*)

Common.

### **Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Common.

**Purple Heron** (*Ardea purpurea*)

Only seen at Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1, where up to 5 were counted 13/1.

**Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*)

Seen in small numbers (1-3) at most sites.

**Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*)

Common.

**Pacific Reef Egret** (*Egretta sacra*)

1 Pantai Tengah (Awana Porto, Malai Jetty) 4/1.

**Little Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax niger*)

1 Bonton Reedbeds 10-11/1.

**Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*)

1 Datai 5/1.

**Jerdon's Baza** (*Aviceda jerdoni*)

1 adult Gunung Raya 9/1.

Seen perched in a dead tree on and off during quite a long time.

**Oriental Honey Buzzard** (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*)

2 Pantai Tengah 4/1 and 1 roadside bird 8/1.

**Brahminy Kite** (*Haliastur indus*)

Common.

**White-bellied Sea Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*)

Common.



White-bellied Sea-eagle

photo: Hans-Erik Persson

**Crested Serpent Eagle** (*Spilornis cheela*)

2 Datai 5/1 and 1 there 12/1.

**Eastern Marsh Harrier** (*Circus spilonotus*)

1 young bird seen Bonton Reedbeds 13/1.

**Crested Goshawk** (*Accipiter trivirgatus*)

1 seen Pantai Tengah, along the road to Malai Jetty 3/1 and 7/1.

**Japanese Sparrowhawk** (*Accipiter gularis*)

1 Pantai Tengah 3-14/1.

One bird seen on several occasions in almost the same area.

**Grey-faced Buzzard** (*Butastur indicus*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4/1 and 2 Gunung Raya 8/1.

**Mountain Hawk-eagle** (*Spizaetus nipalensis*)

2 Datai 12/1.

**Slaty-breasted Rail** (*Gallirallus striatus*)

Up to 3 birds seen at close range Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1

**White-breasted Waterhen** (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)

Fairly common near freshwater.

**Ruddy-breasted Crake** (*Porzana fusca*)

1 Pantai Tengah 6/1 and up to 3 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Watercock** (*Gallicrex cinerea*)

2 Pantai Tengah 6/1 and early in the morning on the 8<sup>th</sup> we saw no less than 6 in the small wetland behind Sunday restaurant. 5 were climbing up in a rather low and dense bush. Referring to coloration and behavior we think that it was a female with 4 full grown chicks. The female stood on the top and guarded while the young birds were feeding lower down in the bush. The female was a little different colored compared to the 4 chicks. Also 3 female colored seen flying Bonton Reedbeds 11/1 and 1 female colored feeding in the open there 13/1.

Another highlight of the trip, to have such brilliant views of this species.

**Purple Swamphen** (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)

Up to 10 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*)

1-2 heard Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Red-wattled Lapwing** (*Vanellus indicus*)



Up to 9 seen Pantai Tengah (behind Sunday restaurant), 2 in a pond at Lanai hotel, 2 roadside birds 9/1 and up to 5 Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Pacific Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis fulva*)

Up to 130 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Little Ringed Plover** (*Charadrius dubius*)

Up to 7 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Pintail Snipe** (*Gallinago stenura*)

Up to 5 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Common Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia*)

2 Bonton Reedbeds 5/1 and 1 there 10/1.

**Wood Sandpiper** (*Tringa glareola*)

1 Bonton Reedbeds 5/1 and then 2 seen there both 10 and 13/1.

**Common Sandpiper** (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Fairly common.

**Feral Pigeon** (*Columba livia* 'feral')

Up to 7 Pantai Tengah (the hotelgarden) and also small numbers in other urban areas such as Kuah town.

**Spotted Dove** (*Streptopelia chinensis*)

Common.

**Zebra Dove** (*Geopelia striata*)

Fairly common.

**Pink-necked Green Pigeon** (*Treron vernans*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4/1 and up to 10 Pantai Tengah (close to Malai Jetty) on several dates.

**Thick-billed Green Pigeon** (*Treron curvirostra*)

1 Gunung Raya 9/1 and 1 Datai 12/1. Both males.

**Large Green Pigeon** (*Treron capellei*)

10 Datai 5/1 and at least 20 there 12/1.

**Indian Cuckoo** (*Cuculus micropterus*)

1 seen perched at close range for quite a time Datai 9/1 and 1 Gunung Raya 9/1.

**Plaintive Cuckoo** (*Cacomantis merulinus*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4-6/1 with 2 calling on the last date and also 1 Bonton Reedbeds 10/1.

**Asian Koel** (*Eudynamys scolopaceus*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4/1 and 7/1 (Malai Jetty) also 1 Kuah 11 and 15/1 (2 different birds).

**Chestnut-breasted Malkoha** (*Zanclostomus curvirostris*)

1 seen Datai 12/1.

**Greater Coucal** (*Centropus sinensis*)

Fairly common.

**Large-tailed Nightjar** (*Caprimulgus macrurus*)

1 heard calling Pantai Tengah 5 and 14/1. On the evening the 6<sup>th</sup> this bird was heard again, but this time another was heard at the same time from the opposite side of the main street. This bird, behind the Sunday restaurant, was pinpointed to us by Irshad

**Brown-backed Needletail** (*Hirundapus giganteus*)

Gatherings from 3-70 was regularly seen Pantai Tengah during our stay. 10 was also seen Datai 10/1.

**Asian Palm Swift** (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*)

Fairly common around our hotel.

**Pacific Swift** (*Apus pacificus*)

1 Pantai Tengah 3/1, 2 Datai 12/1 and 1 close to Malai Jetty 14/1.

**House Swift** (*Apus nipalensis*)

5 Pantai Tengah 4/1 and 5 Kuah 8/1.

***Swiftlet sp.***

Many swiftlets were left unidentified. Edible-nest Swiftlet is breeding on the island and it is also the species that is said to be commonly seen. In Kuah we heard tape recordings from open windows. When talking with Irshad about this he told us that people are collecting nests to get some extra money. Finally these nests are ending up as Chinese soap.

**Dollarbird** (*Eurystomus orientalis*)

Fairly common.



Dollarbird

photo: Hans-Erik Persson

**White-throated Kingfisher** (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)

Fairly common.

**Black-capped Kingfisher** (*Halcyon pileata*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4-5/1 and 3 near Malai Jetty 7/1 and 1 there 16/1.

**Collared Kingfisher** (*Todiramphus chloris*)

1 pair Pantai Tengah on several dates and also 1 pair Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*)

1 Bonton Reedbeds 10/1 and 2 there 11/1.

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater** (*Merops philippinus*)

6 Pantai Tengah 5/1, 2 Gunung Raya 8/1 and 15 there 9/1. Up to 10 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1 and 1 Pantai Tengah 14/1.

**Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** (*Merops leschenaulti*)

Up to 15 seen around Pantai Tengah during the stay. 10 near Malai Jetty 7/1 and 12 Kuah 12/1.



Chestnut-headed Bee-eater

photo: Lars Olausson

**Oriental Pied Hornbill** (*Anthracoceros albirostris*)

Common. Up to 20 seen around Pantai Tengah and Malai Jetty. Also seen around Datai, Gunung Raya and in the public park close to Legenda Park near Kuah Jetty. Langkawi must be one of the easiest places in south-east Asia to see this species.



Oriental Pied Hornbill in Kuah public park.

Photo: Hans-Erik Persson

**Great Hornbill** (*Buceros bicornis*)

1 young bird heard (Irshad's comment) Datai 5/1, 2 seen very well Gunung Raya 9/1 and 1 very co-operative male Datai 12/1.

Absolutely **the highlight of the trip!**

**Wreathed Hornbill** (*Rhyticeros undulatus*)

3 seen flying Gunung Raya 8/1 and 3 pairs was seen perched in the same dead tree Gunung Raya 9/1.

**Laced Woodpecker** (*Picus vittatus*)

1 Telinga Ruh 13/1.

**Common Flameback** (*Dinopium javanense*)

1 in the public park outside Legenda Park near Kuah Jetty 7/1.

**Greater Flameback** (*Chrysocolaptes lucidus*)

1 male seen Datai both 5 and 12/1. 1 male on Wet Rice Island 6/1.

**Great Slaty Woodpecker** (*Mulleripicus pulverulentus*)

5 seen Datai 5/1 and 3 there 12/1, also 3 Gunung Raya 9/1.

One of the highlights, with 5 together in a dead tree at very close range.

**Green Iora** (*Aegithina viridissima*)

1 Datai 5/1. Some more heard.

**Ashy Minivet** (*Pericrocotus divaricatus*)

Up to 8 seen Pantai Tengah during our stay, also 5 Datai 5/1 and 2 near Malai Jetty 7/1.

**Brown Shrike** (*Lanius cristatus*)

Fairly common.

**Black-naped Oriole** (*Oriolus chinensis*)

Common.



Black-naped Oriole

photo:Lars Olausson

**Black Drongo** (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)

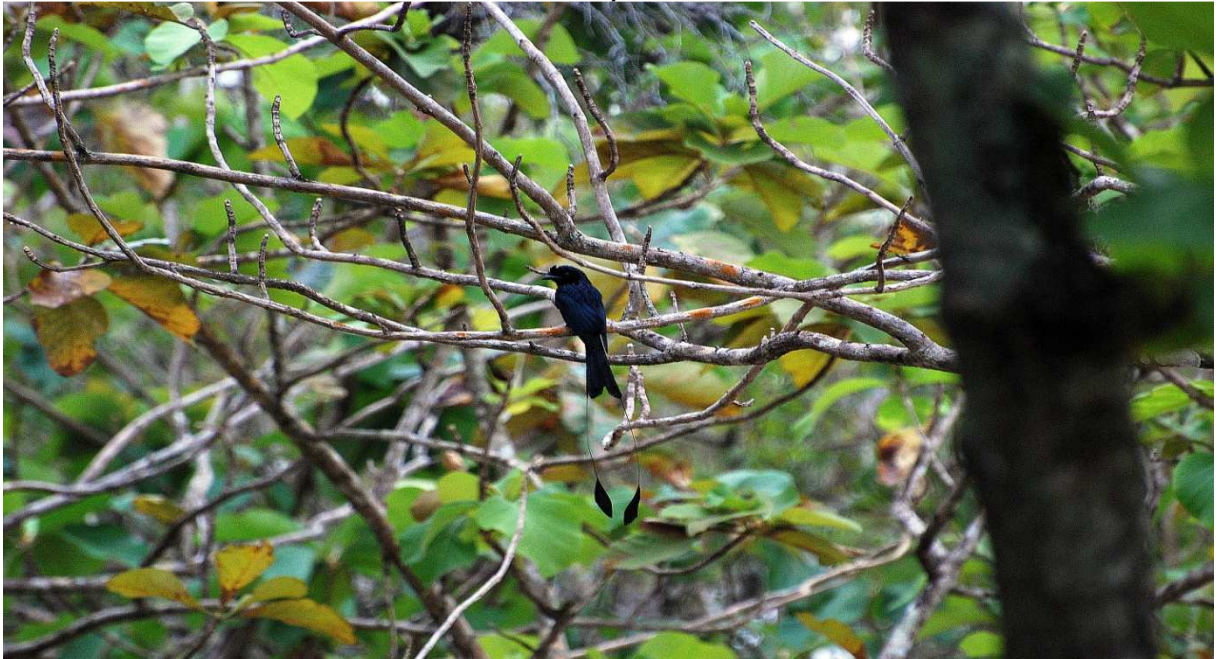
Up to 3 seen Pantai Tengah, around the rice paddies behind the Sunday restaurant.

**Crow-billed Drongo** (*Dicrurus annectans*)

1 Datai 5/1.

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** (*Dicrurus paradiseus*)

Fairly common and actually easy to see on Langkawi. We saw them at Datai, Wet Rice Island (the last visited island on the island hopping tour), Seven Wells Waterfall, Gunung Raya, in the public park outside Legenda Park near Kuah Jetty and also seen and heard on the hillside behind the Sunday restaurant.



Greater Racket-tailed Drongo in Kuah public park.

Photo: Lars Olausson

**Pied Fantail** (*Rhipidura javanica*)

1 Pantai Tengah 8/1.

**House Crow** (*Corvus splendens*)

3 at the airport 3/1 and 16/1, also 1 in Kuah 7 and 11/1.

**Large-billed Crow** (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)

2 Pantai Tengah on several dates, 2 roadside birds 8/1 and 2 Datai 12/1.

**Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*)

Common.

**Pacific Swallow** (*Hirundo tahitica*)

Common.

**Asian House Martin** (*Delichon dasypus*)

2 Pulau Payar 15/1.

**Red-rumped Swallow** (*Cecropis daurica*)

1 Malai Jetty 7/1, 5 Kuah and 1 Gunung Raya 8/1, 3 roadside birds 10/1, 1 Bonton Fields 12/1, 3 Bonton Reedbeds 13/1 and 1 Pantai Tengah 14 and 16/1.

**Rufous-bellied Swallow** (*Cecropis badia*)

10 roadside birds 9/1, 1 Kuah 11/1 and 15/1, also 20 Telinga Ruh 13/1.

**Common Tailorbird** (*Orthotomus sutorius*)

1 Pantai Tengah 16/1.

**Dark-necked Tailorbird** (*Orthotomus atrogularis*)

Common.

**Black-headed Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus atriceps*)

3 and 2 seen close to Malai Jetty 14 and 16/1.

**Yellow-vented Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus goiavier*)

Common.

**Olive-winged Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus plumosus*)

2 Pantai Tengah 3/1 and 2 near Malai Jetty 14/1.

**Red-eyed Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus brunneus*)

4 Datai 5/1, 2 Gunung Raya 9/1, 4 Datai 12/1, 2 near Malai Jetty 14/1 and 6 there 16/1.

**Oriental Reed Warbler** (*Acrocephalus orientalis*)

Up to 5 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1

**Dusky Warbler** (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*)

1 seen Datai 12/1.

**Arctic Warbler** (*Phylloscopus borealis*)

Fairly common.

**Eastern Crowned Warbler** (*Phylloscopus coronatus*)

1 seen Datai 5 and 12/1.

**Puff-throated Babbler** (*Pellorneum ruficeps*)

Heard commonly.

**Abbott's Babbler** (*Malacocincla abbotti*)

A few heard and one seen Datai 5 and 12/1. Also heard Pantai Tengah, Gunung Raya and Malai Jetty.

**Striped Tit-babbler** (*Macronous gularis*)

Common, seen and heard in most forested areas.

**Asian Fairy-bluebird** (*Irena puella*)

Up to 10 Datai 5 and 10/1 and 10 Gunung Raya 9/1.

**Asian Glossy Starling** (*Aplonis panayensis*)

3 and 7 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-11/1

**Hill Myna** (*Gracula religiosa*)

2 Datai 5/1 and 4 there 12/1.

**Javan Myna** (*Acridotheres javanicus*)

3 Kuala Lumpur airport 3/1 during the stopover

**Common Myna** (*Acridotheres tristis*)

Common is an understatement.

**White-rumped Shama** (*Copsychus malabaricus*)

1 heard singing Datai 5/1.

**Blue Rock Thrush** (*Monticola solitarius*)

1 female colored seen near Malai Jetty 3/1.

**Asian Brown Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa dauurica*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4/1, 2 Datai 5/1, 2 Kuah 12/1, 2 Datai 12/1, Malai Jetty 14/1, 3 Pantai Tengah 16/1

**Tickell's Blue Flycatcher** (*Cyornis tickelliae*)

1 singing Gunung Raya 9/1.

**Orange-bellied Flowerpecker** (*Dicaeum trigonostigma*)

2-3 seen Datai 5 and 12/1.

**Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** (*Dicaeum cruentatum*)

Fairly common.

**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** (*Chalcoparia singalensis*)

A pair seen Datai 5/1 and a male there 12/1.

**Brown-throated Sunbird** (*Anthreptes malacensis*)

Common.

**Purple-throated Sunbird** (*Leptocoma sperata*)

Up to 10 seen Datai 5 and 12/1.



**Copper-throated Sunbird** (*Leptocoma calcostetha*)

1 female in the public park, Kuah 12/1.

**Olive-backed Sunbird** (*Cinnyris jugularis*)

Common.



Olive-backed Sunbird

photo: Lars Olausson

**Eastern Crimson Sunbird** (*Aethopyga siparaja*)

1 male Datai 5/1, 1 male Gunung Raya 9/1, 2 males Datai 12/1 and 1 male Malai Jetty 16/1.

**Plain-backed Sparrow** (*Passer flaveolus*)

1-4 seen Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer montanus*)

Uncommon. A few seen at the airport, in the hotel garden, in Kuah town and around the Underwater World center, Pantai Tengah.

**Baya Weaver** (*Ploceus philippinus*)

Common Pantai Tengah (behind Sunday restaurant) and Bonton Reedbeds.

**White-rumped Munia** (*Lonchura striata*)

15 Pantai Tengah 6/1.

**Scaly-breasted Munia** (*Lonchura punctulata*)

Common.

**Black-headed Munia** (*Lonchura malacca*)

20-50 Bonton Reedbeds 10-13/1.

**White-headed Munia** (*Lonchura maja*)

Up to 20 seen Bonton Reedbeds 11 and 13/1.

**Forest Wagtail** (*Dendronanthus indicus*)

1 Pantai Tengah 4/1.

**Grey Wagtail** (*Motacilla cinerea*)

3 Gunung Raya and 2 outside Legenda Park, Kuah 8/1, also 1 Seven Wells Waterfall and 2 Gunung Raya 9/1

**Oriental Pipit** (*Anthus rufulus*)

Fairly common.

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