



Vietnam

Photography in the Far East

Tour Leaders: Jamie Cunningham

February 6-18, 2025

Vietnam is known for its friendly people, wonderful food, amazing culture, and, in more recent years, phenomenal bird photography opportunities! We will explore this beautiful country looking for specialties like Blue, Blue-naped, Rusty-naped, and Bar-bellied Pittas, Germain's Peacock-Pheasant, Indochinese Green Magpie, Siamese Fireback, and many other species, including broadbills, bulbuls, trogons, barbets, parrots, and babblers. Our group will spend most of our time in hides, which provides the best photo opportunities for these shy forest species. In addition to birds, there are abundant butterflies, primates, reptiles and amphibians we will keep an eye out for. Look forward to several cultural experiences like a Buddhist temple visit and boat trip on the Mekong Delta. We can't wait to share all Vietnam has to offer!

Itinerary Overview:

February 6: Arrival and Transfer to Hotel
February 7: Cultural Day in Ho Chi Minh
February 8-10: Cat Tien National Park
February 11-13: Da Lat
February 14-15: Di Linh
February 16: Final Shoot and Transfer to Ho Chi Minh
February 17: Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Tour
February 18: Departure

Detailed Itinerary:

February 6: Arrival and Transfer to Hotel

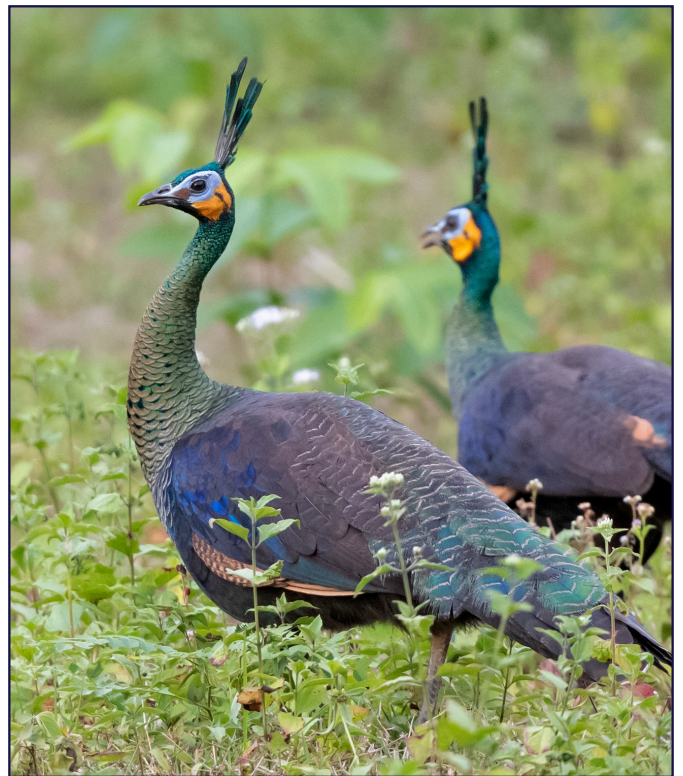
Upon arrival in Ho Chi Minh, you can catch the hotel's shuttle to our hotel in the city.

Overnight: Central Palace Hotel or similar

February 7: Cultural Day in Ho Chi Minh

We will begin our first day with a fun and relaxed tour of Ho Chi Minh City. We will also participate in some cultural activities around the city. That evening, we will enjoy a welcome dinner before we begin our photo tour the next day.

Overnight: Central Palace Hotel or similar



Green Peafowl (female)

February 8-10: Cat Tien National Park

Based on current activity levels, we will leave Ho Chi Minh early and head towards the wonderful Cat Tien National Park, with a possible stop at Ma Da Bird Hides. Cat Tien is a pristine national park with incredible birds! Cat Tien is also famous for its mammals, including several primate species such as Long-tailed and Pig-tailed Macaques, Langurs, and Yellow-cheeked Gibbons. We will be spending several days in this park at different hides. Many forest species at the hides are incredibly challenging to see elsewhere. Highlights include Bar-bellied Pitta, Germain's Peacock-Pheasant, Scaly-breasted Partridge, Hainan Blue Flycatcher, Siamese Fireback, Indochinese Blue Flycatcher, Orange-breasted Trogon, Snowy-browed Flycatcher, and multiple broadbill species including Silver-breasted and Banded. We will also take a night safari to look for other mammals in the park, including Pangolin, Indian Muntjac, Sambar, and Civet.

Overnight: Forest Floor Lodge or similar



Bar-bellied Pitta

February 11-13: Da Lat

We will depart after our final morning shoot in Cat Tien and head north to the beautiful mountain region of Da Lat. We will take advantage of this region's incredible restaurants and a Buddhist Temple visit. Our group will spend some time in the field and in bird hides to find a whole new range of species, including Indochinese Green-Magpie, Blue Pitta, Collared Laughingthrush, Vietnamese Cutia, Streaked Spiderhunter, Mrs. Gould's and Ruby-chested Sunbirds, Long-tailed Broadbill, White-tailed Robin, Large Niltava, Verditer Flycatcher, Rufous-throated Partridge, White-browed Scimitar-Babbler, and Vietnamese Greenfinch.

Overnight: Dreams 3 Hotel or similar



Indochinese Green Magpie

February 14-15: Di Linh

We will transfer to Di Linh after our final morning shoot in Da Lat. We will spend some time in the field but primarily focus on the bird hides in this area. There will be more new species for us to photograph like Blue-rumped Pitta, Blue Pitta, White-throated Rock Thrush, Black-crested Bulbul, Orange-headed Thrush, Siberian Thrush, Black-naped Monarch, Streaked Wren-Babbler, Ochraceous Bulbul, White-bellied Erpornis, Black-hooded Laughingthrush, and Black-headed Parrotbill.

Overnight: Da Lat Waterfall Resort or similar

February 16: Final Shoot and Transfer to Ho Chi Minh

After our final morning shoot in Di Linh, we will begin our trek back to Ho Chi Minh. We will enjoy a group dinner and a relaxing evening at our hotel in Ho Chi Minh.

Overnight: Park Royal Saigon Hotel or similar



Orange-headed Thrush



Black-naped Monarch

February 17: Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Tour

On our last day, we will depart early for an incredible boat trip on the Mekong Delta. We will have chances to see several wading birds, such as Little Egret, Chinese Pond-Heron, Cinnamon Heron, Pacific Reef-Heron, and several kingfisher species, such as Collared and Common. We will also visit a floating market and take in the sights and sounds of Vietnamese culture. After our boat tour, we will make our way back to Ho Chi Minh for one final group dinner.

Overnight: Park Royal Saigon Hotel or similar

February 18: Departure

You may depart at any time today.

Target Species

Rufous-throated Partridge

Green Peafowl

Scaly-breasted Partridge

Germain's Peacock-Pheasant

Siamese Fireback

Red Junglefowl

Asian Emerald Dove

Green-billed Malkoha

Little Egret

Chinese Pond-Heron

Asian Barred Owlet

Collared Owlet

Orange-breasted Trogon

Red-headed Trogon

Eurasian Hoopoe

Oriental Pied-Hornbill

Banded Kingfisher

White-throated Kingfisher

Blue-bearded Bee-eater

Coppersmith Barbet

Blue-eared Barbet

Green-eared Barbet

Lineated Barbet

Indochinese Barbet

Greater Flameback

Common Flameback

Vernal Hanging-Parrot

Long-tailed Broadbill

Banded Broadbill

Dusky Broadbill

Black-and-red Broadbill

Silver-breasted Broadbill

Blue-rumped Pitta

Blue Pitta

Bar-bellied Pitta

White-browed Shrike-Babbler

Dalat Shrike-Babbler

White-bellied Erpornis

Great Iora

Black Drongo

Ashy Drongo

Bronzed Drongo

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

Black-naped Monarch

Indochinese Green-Magpie

Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher

Green-backed Tit

Common Tailorbird

Dark-necked Tailorbird

Ochraceous Bulbul

Puff-throated Bulbul

Gray-eyed Bulbul

Ashy Bulbul

Black Bulbul

Black-headed Bulbul

Black-crested Bulbul

Streak-eared Bulbul

Stripe-throated Bulbul

Flavescent Bulbul

Gray-bellied Tesia

Black-throated Tit

Chestnut-capped Babbler

Gray-faced Tit-Babbler

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler

White-browed Scimitar-Babbler

Gray-throated Babbler

Black-crowned Fulvetta

Puff-throated Babbler

Spot-throated Babbler

Buff-breasted Babbler

Abbott's Babbler

Streaked Wren-Babbler

Short-tailed Scimitar-Babbler

Black-browed Fulvetta

Gray-crowned Crocias

Collared Laughingthrush

White-crested Laughingthrush

White-cheeked Laughingthrush

Orange-breasted Laughingthrush

Black-hooded Laughingthrush

Black-headed Parrotbill

Golden-crested Myna

Dark-sided Thrush

Siberian Thrush

Orange-headed Thrush

Oriental Magpie-Robin

White-rumped Shama

Vietnamese Cutia

Large Niltava

Verditer Flycatcher

Hainan Blue Flycatcher

Indochinese Blue Flycatcher

Lesser Shortwing

Siberian Blue Robin

White-tailed Robin

Mugimaki Flycatcher

Snowy-browed Flycatcher

Little Pied Flycatcher

White-throated Rock-Thrush

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird

Black-throated Sunbird

Mrs. Gould's Sunbird

Little Spiderhunter

Streaked Spiderhunter

Vietnamese Greenfinch

Red Crossbill

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Ho Chi Minh: \$7,999

Single Supplement: \$900

Minimum Participants: 4

Maximum Participants: 6

Price Includes:

Expert Guides

Ground Transportation in Vietnam

All Lodging

All Meals

Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Vietnam

Airport Taxes

Passport and Visa Fees

Alcoholic Beverages

Personal Items

Travel Insurance

Tips

Deposit:

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to hold your spot on this tour. The remaining balance is due no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled start date of the tour (November 6, 2024).

If you have any questions about this tour or would like to sign up for it, please contact us at info@sabrewingnaturetours.com, by phone at 317-324-8505, or register through our website at sabrewingnaturetours.com.

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