



PENINSULAR MALAYSIA – CENTRAL TOUR

14-26 SEPTEMBER 2020



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Diard's Trogon is one of our targets on this trip.

This tour will cover several key birding sites in peninsular Malaysia, visiting various habitats from the coastal mangrove forests to the highlands of the Titiwangsa Range. The Titiwangsa Range runs southward from the border of Thailand and forms the backbone of the peninsula. After spending three nights at Fraser's Hill, one of the best areas for birdwatching in Malaysia, we will also concentrate our efforts on the world-famous and stunningly bird-rich Taman Negara National Park; the tropical rainforest here is said to be 130 million years old. We will be targeting many of the highly-sought species to be found in Malaysia, such as pittas, trogons, broadbills, hornbills, and kingfishers, along with some very special, secretive birds such as **Rail-babbler**, **Mountain Peacock-Pheasant**, and **Malayan Whistling Thrush**.

This tour can be combined with our **Borneo: Spectacular Birds and Other Wildlife 2020** tour for a magnificent Malaysian mega tour.

Itinerary (13 days/12 nights)

Day 1. Arrival at Kuala Lumpur

After arrival at Kuala Lumpur International Airport you will be taken to our nearby hotel, with the rest of the day spent at leisure. The group will meet for a welcome dinner in the evening, when we will discuss plans for the coming days.

Overnight: Putrajaya

Day 2. Pulau Indah and Putrajaya

We'll have an early-morning transfer to the coastal mangroves for **Mangrove Pitta** and other species such as **Ashy Tailorbird**, **Laced Woodpecker**, **Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker**, **Pink-necked Green Pigeon**, **Blue-tailed Bee-eater**, **Copper-throated Sunbird**, **Brahminy Kite**, **White-bellied Sea Eagle**, **Black-winged Kite**, **Lesser Coucal**, **Coppersmith Barbet**, **Long-tailed Shrike**, **Barred Eagle-Owl**, and more. After the morning birding session we will travel back to our hotel for a rest during the heat of the day.

In the late afternoon and early evening we will head out again to a patch of forest, looking for **Oriental Dwarf** (Rufous-backed) and **Blue-eared Kingfishers**, **Black-and-Red**, **Dusky**, and **Banded Broadbills**, **Gold-whiskered Barbet**, **Dollarbird**, **Brown Hawk-Owl**, and **Blyth's Frogmouth**.

Overnight: Putrajaya

Day 3. Putrajaya and Kuala Lumpur

We will likely head back to the same forest that we visited the previous afternoon and evening, where we will look for several species, such as **Black-backed Swamphen**, **Painted Stork**, **Large-tailed Nightjar**, **Savanna Nightjar**, **Plaintive Cuckoo**, **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**, **White-crowned Hornbill**, **Black Hornbill**, **Little Bronze Cuckoo**, **Violet Cuckoo**, **Black-and-yellow Broadbill**, **White-chested Babbler**, **Pale Blue Flycatcher**, **Rufous-chested Flycatcher**, **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker**, and **Olive-backed Flowerpecker**. We will spend the majority of the day birding in this area, as there are numerous high-quality target birds for us to search for.

Overnight: Putrajaya

Day 4. Kuala Selangor

After breakfast we will visit a nearby heronry for **Painted Stork, Purple Heron, Grey Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Little Egret, Eastern Cattle Egret, Striated Heron, White-throated Kingfisher, Pied Triller**, and others. Then we will check-out from our hotel and travel to Kuala Selangor in the afternoon. Along the route we will check out some rice fields, where we may find **Scaly-breasted, White-headed, Chestnut (Black-headed), and White-rumped Munias, White-breasted Woodswallow, Yellow Bittern, Cinnamon Bittern, Watercock, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Coppersmith Barbet**, and others. At night we will be looking for **Buffy Fish Owl, Sunda Scops Owl, Spotted Wood Owl, and Large-tailed Nightjar**.

Overnight: Kuala Selangor

Day 5. Kuala Selangor to Fraser's Hill

A pre-dawn walk will give us another chance to look at the nocturnal species. In the morning we will be exploring the mangrove and their surrounds for **Mangrove Blue Flycatcher, Mangrove Whistler, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Golden-bellied Gerygone, Little Bronze Cuckoo, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Lineated Barbet, Daurian (Purple-backed) Starling, Crested Goshawk, Crested Serpent Eagle, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Olive-winged Bulbul, Common Flameback, Greater Flameback**, and many more.

During the afternoon, we will transfer to the beautiful, picturesque mountains of Fraser's Hill. Along the way to the hill station we will make several stops for **Chestnut-naped Forktail, Whiskered Treeswift, Rufous-bellied Swallow, House Swift, Red-wattled Lapwing, and Banded Bay Cuckoo**. At night we will be looking for **Brown Wood Owl, Mountain Scops Owl, and Grey Nightjar**.

Overnight: Fraser's Hill

Days 6 - 7. Two full days birding at Fraser's Hill

We will take a pre-dawn walk for the rare and local endemic **Malayan Whistling Thrush**. During our two full days in the hill station we will look for **Silver-eared Mesia, Spectacled Laughingthrush, Malayan Laughingthrush, Black Laughingthrush, Greater Yellowname, Lesser Yellowname, Bay Woodpecker, Large Hawk-Cuckoo, Mountain Bulbul, Ochraceous Bulbul, Scaly-breasted Bulbul, Cinereous Bulbul, Blue Nuthatch, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo, Banded Broadbill, Long-tailed Broadbill, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Red-headed Trogon, Orange-breasted Trogon, Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler, Pygmy Wren-babbler, White-tailed Robin, Lesser Shortwing, Buff-breasted Babbler, Golden Babbler, Grey-throated Babbler, Blyth's Shrike-babbler, Black-eared Shrike-babbler, Large Niltava, Rufous-browed Flycatcher, Little Pied Flycatcher, Verditer Flycatcher, Mugimaki Flycatcher, Hill Blue Flycatcher**, the endemic **Malaysian Partridge, Streaked Spiderhunter, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker**, and **Black-throated Sunbird**. We will also try to look for the rare **Rusty-naped Pitta** if luck is on our side!

Overnight: Fraser's Hill (two nights)

Day 8. Fraser's Hill to Taman Negara

In the morning we transfer to Taman Negara with a stopover for **Dusky Crag Martin, Black Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Rufescent Prinia, Banded Broadbill**, and others.

Upon arrival at Taman Negara we will start exploring the village for **Barred Buttonquail, Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot, Blue-rumped Parrot, Black-and-red Broadbill, Banded Woodpecker, Checker-throated Woodpecker, Asian Palm Swift, Black-thighed Falconet**,

and **Oriental Dollarbird**. We'll also take a drive around the local roads at night, looking for an assortment of owls, frogmouths, and nightjars.

Overnight: Taman Negara

Day 9 - 11. Three full days birding at Taman Negara

We will spend the morning exploring the incredible Taman Negara valley for many species, including **Rhinoceros Hornbill**, **Wreathed Hornbill**, and **Great Hornbill**, and if possible **Garnet Pitta**. In the afternoon we will transfer across the river into the national park for a three-night stay inside the park. For these three days we will explore the forest along the boardwalks/trails and by boat for a wide-range of awesome target birds (some of the best birds in all of Asia!), such as **Asian Fairy Bluebird**, **Black-and-yellow Broadbill**, **Green Broadbill**, **Scarlet-rumped Trogon**, **Diard's Trogon**, **Red-naped Trogon**, **Cinnamon-rumped Trogon**, **Black Magpie**, **Crested Jay**, **Great Slaty Woodpecker**, **White-bellied Woodpecker**, **Buff-rumped Woodpecker**, **Buff-necked Woodpecker**, **Straw-headed Bulbul**, **Yellow-bellied Bulbul**, **Grey-cheeked Bulbul**, **Hairy-backed Bulbul**, **Black-and-white Bulbul**, **Sunda Scops Owl**, **Reddish Scops Owl**, **Large Frogmouth**, **Gould's Frogmouth**, **Blyth's Frogmouth**, **Large Wren-babbler**, **Striped Wren-babbler**, **Chestnut-winged Babbler**, **Chestnut-rumped Babbler**, **White-chested Babbler**, **Sooty-capped Babbler**, **Moustached Babbler**, **Black-capped Babbler**, **Black-throated Babbler**, **Tickell's Blue Flycatcher**, **Malaysian Blue Flycatcher**, **Blue-banded Kingfisher**, **Oriental Dwarf (Rufous-backed) Kingfisher**, **Ruddy Kingfisher**, **Stork-billed Kingfisher**, **Blue-eared Kingfisher**, **Banded Kingfisher**, **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**, **Red-bearded Bee-eater**, **Rail-babbler**, **Malayan Banded Pitta**, and so much more!

Overnight: Taman Negara (three nights)

Day 12. Taman Negara to Bukit Tinggi

We'll have a final morning birding at Taman Negara, looking for anything else that might be new or missing from the species listed above before we transfer to Bukit Tinggi in the afternoon.

Overnight: Bukit Tinggi

Day 13. Bukit Tinggi to Kuala Lumpur International Airport, tour concludes

We will have an early morning birding session, where we will target the rare and localized endemic **Mountain Peacock-Pheasant** and **Ferruginous Partridge**. There are plenty of other exciting birds in this gorgeous forest, and we may find **Sultan Tit**, **Large Woodshrike**, **Long-billed Spiderhunter**, **Blue-winged Leafbird**, and **Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler**. After lunch we will then transfer back to Kuala Lumpur, where the tour will conclude mid-afternoon and you will be able to take your evening international flight home.

Tour Duration:	13 days
Group size:	4-8
Tour Date:	14-26 September 2020
Tour Start:	Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Malaysia
Tour End:	Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Malaysia

Tour Price: US\$5,540 per person sharing – based on a minimum of 4 people
Single Supplement: US\$1,015

Price includes:

Meals and drinking water during the tour (from evening meal on day 1 until lunch on day 13)
Accommodation as described above
Expert tour leader and local bird/wildlife guide fees
National park/birdwatching reserve entrance fees
All transport while on tour, including airport pick-up and drop-off
Tolls

Price excludes:

Flights to/from Kuala Lumpur International Airport
Meals and drinking water before/after tour as described above
Items of a personal nature, e.g. gifts, laundry, internet access, travel insurance, phone calls, etc.
Soft/alcoholic drinks
Camera permits
Personal insurance
Gratuities

Please note that the itinerary above cannot be guaranteed as it is only a rough guide and can be changed (usually slightly) due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides and other factors. In addition, we sometimes have to use a different international guide to the one advertised due to tour scheduling.