



BIRDING TOUR CAMBODIA: REGIONAL SPECIALS AND GLOBALLY RARE BIRDS

06–19 DECEMBER 2027

04–17 DECEMBER 2028



Giant Ibis (here a pair on a nest), are one of the top targets in Cambodia, where the majority of the global population exists.

Overview

This birdwatching tour to Cambodia starts in Siem Reap and ends in Phnom Penh. Our Cambodia bird tour focusses on finding as many of the special birds of Cambodia, including mega world birds like **Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, Bengal Florican, Green Peafowl, Sarus Crane, Milky Stork, Greater Adjutant, Red-headed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture, White-rumped Vulture, White-rumped Falcon, Spotted Wood Owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo, Bar-bellied Pitta, Blue-rumped Pitta, Blue Pitta, Eared Pitta, Mekong Wagtail, Cambodian Tailorbird, Red-vented Barbet, Indochinese Barbet, Black-headed Woodpecker, Pale-headed Woodpecker, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Black-browed Fulvetta, Indochinese Yuhina, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Long-tailed Broadbill, and Hainan Blue Flycatcher.**

The birding in Cambodia is excellent, and Cambodia offers the best (and sometimes only) chance to see most of the above birds anywhere in the world, so this destination should be firmly placed on the list of places to visit for the discerning world birder. It also definitely rates highly as one of the best places for birding in Asia. In addition to the above *really* special birds, there are loads of other birds to expect on the tour, with around 300 bird species possible on this Cambodia bird tour, many of these are birding highlights in their own right!

This tour will also be supporting local communities and wildlife conservation through responsible ecotourism.



*The gorgeous **Bar-bellied Pitta** can be found while birding in Cambodia.*

Detailed Itinerary (14 days/13 nights)

Day 1. Arrival in Siem Reap, Cambodia

A non-birding day with your arrival into Siem Reap, where you will be transferred to our comfortable hotel for the night. We will meet in the evening for a group “welcome dinner” and discuss plans for the exciting birding that we will be experiencing over the days ahead.

Overnight: Siem Reap

Day 2. Full day birding at Angkor Wat complex

We will commence our birding close to Siem Reap at the world-famous UNESCO World Heritage Site, Angkor Wat, the world-renowned temple complex. It will be a gentle introduction to the birds of Cambodia, with many common species likely to be seen that we’ll no doubt become very familiar with over the next couple of weeks. Some of the other targets here include **Hainan Blue Flycatcher**, **Asian Barred Owlet**, **Alexandrine Parakeet**, **Green-eared Barbet**, **Black-naped Oriole**, **Oriental Magpie-Robin**, and **White-crested Laughingthrush**.

Overnight: Siem Reap



White-crested Laughingthrush is a rather striking bird!

Day 3. Full day birding Prek Toal, Tonle Sap

An exciting day on the cards today. We will take a boat tour on Tonle Sap Lake, near Siem Reap to see a number of big (literally and figuratively) target birds, such as **Spot-billed Pelican**, **Milky**

Stork, Painted Stork, Lesser Adjutant, Greater Adjutant, Asian Openbill, Black-headed Ibis, Oriental Darter, and Grey-headed Fish Eagle, as well as numerous cormorants, herons, and egrets. Hopefully there will be some good photo opportunities of some of the above species too.

Overnight: Siem Reap



Lesser Adjutant, one of several key birds possible at Tonle Sap Lake.

Day 4. Travel from Siem Reap to Changkran Roy (bird hide birding)

We will depart from Siem Reap for the night and to Changkran Roy, one of the last remaining forests near the city. The site is protected by the community, and we will spend the afternoon looking for birds here. In the evening, we will move to our tented camp near a waterfall where we will spend the night listening to the wildlife around us. Some of the target birds for today may include **Bar-bellied Pitta, Oriental Bay Owl, Blyth's Frogmouth, Green-legged Partridge, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Common Green Magpie**, and with extreme luck, **Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo**.

Overnight: Changkran Roy (tented camp)

Day 5. Changkran Roy (bird hide birding) then travel to Siem Reap

We will spend most of the day birding at Changkran Roy, looking for the birds mentioned as possibilities for Day 4 (and many more), before heading back to Siem Reap in the afternoon.

Overnight: Siem Reap

Day 6. Full day birding Ang Trapaeng Thmor

Today we will be birding at Ang Trapaeng Thmor, another great site near Siem Reap, covering an area of 12,650 hectares of wetlands, grassland, dry dipterocarp forest, bamboo forest, and open water. The main targets we will look for here include **Sarus Crane**, **Black-necked Stork**, **Milky Stork**, **Painted Stork**, **Knob-billed Duck**, **Black-backed Swamphen**, **White-browed Crake**, **Greater Painted-snipe**, **Spot-billed Pelican**, **Spotted Wood Owl**, **Greater Spotted Eagle**, **Eastern Marsh Harrier**, and **Pied Harrier**.

Overnight: Siem Reap



Black-necked Stork has an interesting and patchy distribution across Asia and Australasia.

Day 7. Morning birding at Tonle Sap floodplains, then afternoon travel to Tmatboey

We will travel down to the Tonle Sap floodplains where our prime target will be the rare **Bengal Florican**. A species tough to connect with across its rapidly shrinking global distribution. There are numerous other birds likely to be present at the site, but we will be focused on finding this global rarity, first. Some of the other possibilities include **Sarus Crane**, **Eastern Marsh Harrier**, **Pied Harrier**, **Oriental Plover**, **Common Buttonquail**, and **Red Avadavat**.

In the late morning, we will travel to Tmatboey, where we will have the afternoon, the full following day, and an additional morning looking for the area's special birds, of which there are many to search for across a large area.

Overnight: Tmatboey



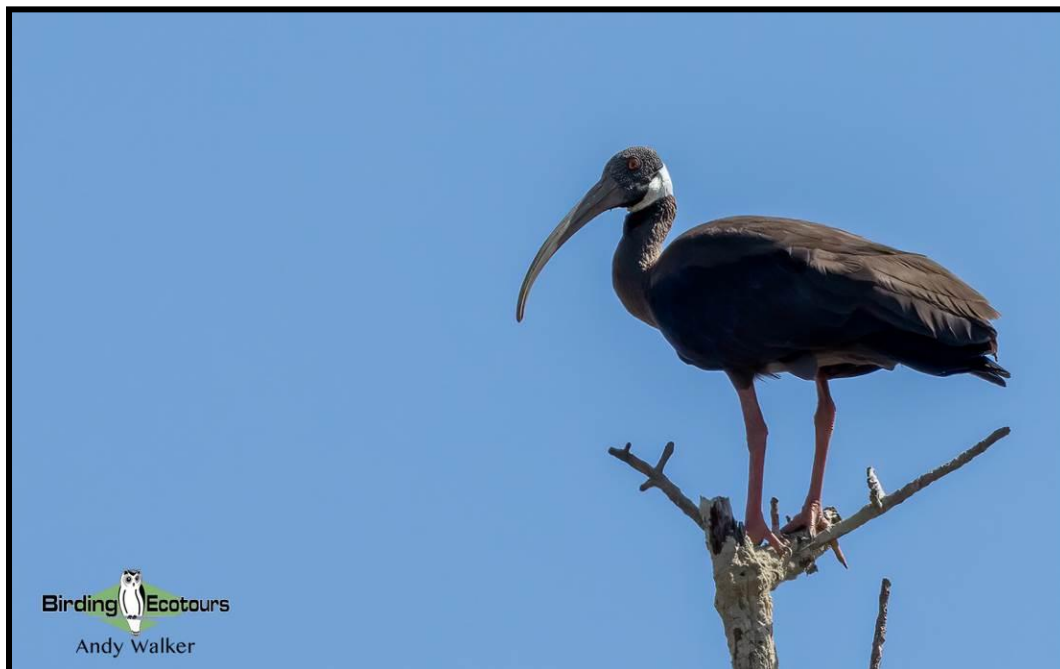
Bengal Florican is tough to see anywhere outside of Cambodia, and we will be putting a lot of effort into seeing the species on this tour.



As we drive between the florican grasslands and Tmatboey, we will keep our eyes peeled for *White-rumped Falcon*. Again, Cambodia represents the best place in the world to see this attractive small falcon.

Day 8. Full day birding Tmatboey

We will have a full day birding the open-woodland here (woodland that is interspersed with rice paddies). This area is home to a huge number of birds. We will focus our efforts on seeing our key target birds and in doing so will likely see an awful lot of other top notch birds. Some of the major targets include **Giant Ibis**, **White-shouldered Ibis**, **White-rumped Falcon**, **Spotted Wood Owl**, **Brown Fish Owl**, **Green Peafowl**, **Lesser Adjutant**, **Asian Woolly-necked Stork**, **Black-headed Woodpecker**, and **Great Slaty Woodpecker**.



*The area around Tmatboey offers a good chance for us to connect with the highly sought-after, **White-shouldered Ibis**.*

Numerous other targets occur here, and we are sure to see plenty of great birds. In addition to those already mentioned above, we could also see **Chinese Francolin**, **Rufous-winged Buzzard**, **Yellow-footed Green Pigeon**, **Red-breasted Parakeet**, **Alexandrine Parakeet**, **Blossom-headed Parakeet**, **White-bellied Woodpecker**, **Streak-throated Woodpecker**, **Rufous-bellied Woodpecker**, **Yellow-crowned Woodpecker**, **Indochinese Cuckooshrike**, **Red-billed Blue Magpie**, **White-browed Fantail**, **Brown Prinia**, **Chestnut-capped Babbler**, **Oriental Scops Owl**, **Asian Barred Owlet**, **Brown Wood Owl**, and many, many more!

Overnight: Tmatboey

Day 9. Morning birding Tmatboey, then afternoon travel to and birding at “vulture restaurant”

We will spend the morning continuing our birding around Tmatboey, which will continue to give us excellent birds right up until we must leave!

Our next stop will be rather interesting too, as we head over to a “vulture restaurant” a few hours’ drive away from Tmatboey. The main targets here are **Red-headed Vulture**, **Slender-billed Vulture**, and **White-rumped Vulture**. All three species are, incredibly unfortunately, considered Critically Endangered by BirdLife International. The “vulture restaurant” offers the best chance to see these very rare birds anywhere in the world. We might also get a visit to the “restaurant” by a **Golden Jackal**. We will spend the night in safari-style tents in the local area as this is a remote site.

Overnight: Boeng Toal (tented camp)

Day 10. Morning birding Boeng Toal, afternoon birding Kratie (Mekong River)

We will have the morning birding around Boeng Toal, hopefully gaining further looks at **Red-headed Vulture**, **Slender-billed Vulture**, **White-rumped Vulture**, and any other birds that are to be found in the area.

Once we have finished at Boeng Toal, we will travel across to Kratie on the Mekong River. Our main target here will be the **Mekong Wagtail**, but that will probably have to wait until our boat trip the following morning. We will again find lots of other birds here, hopefully including **Small Pratincole**, **Little Ringed Plover**, **Streaked Weaver**, **Baya Weaver**, and **Asian Golden Weaver**. We might also get our first chance for the relatively recently described **Cambodian Tailorbird**.

Overnight: Kratie



*A gorgeous, but often shy species, we will look for **Green Peafowl** while birding in eastern Cambodia.*

Day 11. Morning birding Kratie (Mekong), afternoon birding at Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary

We will take a morning boat trip on the Mekong River, where we will be seeking **Mekong Wagtail** and the Endangered (ICUN) **Irrawaddy Dolphin**. We might also spot the increasingly localized **Grey-throated Martin**, along with more widespread species like **Pied Kingfisher**, **Indian Spot-billed Duck**, and **Indian Cormorant**.



*There is definitely a cute factor about the rather pretty **Small Pratincole**, they are always a highlight.*

After our boat trip on the Mekong River, we will depart for our stay at Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, located in the eastern plains of Cambodia, along the Vietnam border. The wildlife sanctuary contains bamboo forest, dry dipterocarp forest, evergreen and semi-evergreen forest and is one of Cambodia's most important protected areas for a wide range of birds and other top wildlife. We will have plenty of time birding here over the next few days looking for the birds listed for Day 12. Along the way, time permitting, we will also look for the regal **Green Peafowl**, usually a shy species in this part of its range.

Overnight: Senmonorum

Day 12. Full day birding Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary

As we bird our way around Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary we will be looking for key targets like **Siamese Fireback**, **Bar-bellied Pitta**, **Blue-rumped Pitta**, **Pale-headed Woodpecker**, **Red-vented Barbet**, **Indochinese Barbet**, and **Grey-faced Tit-Babbler** along with more widespread but no less impressive species like **Pin-tailed Green Pigeon**, **Ashy-headed Green Pigeon**, **Great**

Hornbill, Banded Kingfisher, Bay Woodpecker, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Banded Broadbill, Golden-crested Myna, Crimson Sunbird, and (Langbian) Black-throated Sunbird. Two of the rather tough and secretive species found here are **Orange-necked Partridge** and **Germain's Peacock-Pheasant**. Either will take some luck, but we will be listening out for their calls to try and gain visuals. Mammal highlights here could include the rare **Black-shanked Douc Langur** and **Red-cheeked (Yellow-cheeked) Gibbon**.

Overnight: Senmonorum



Blue-rumped Pitta is localized in Cambodia and Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary is one location where it can be found, with some luck and patience.

Day 13. Full day birding at Dak Dam Highland

Dak Dam is a hilly area of evergreen forest along the Vietnamese border. Here, the remaining forest patches hold some great birds, such as **Pale-capped Pigeon, Red-headed Trogon, Orange-breasted Trogon, Blue Pitta, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Long-tailed Broadbill, Banded Broadbill, Indochinese Barbet, Blue-winged Minla, Silver-eared Mesia, White-cheeked Laughingthrush, Black-throated Laughingthrush, Rufous-capped Babbler, Grey-cheeked Tit-Babbler, Spot-throated Babbler, Black-chinned Yuhina, Black-headed Parrotbill, Black-browed Fulvetta, Maroon Oriole, Black-throated (Grey-crowned) Bushtit, and (Langbian) Lesser Shortwing.** We will spend the day birding around the area trying to find as much as we can. It's sure to be an interesting day with a lot of good possibilities.

Overnight: Senmonorum



Silver-breasted Broadbill is another attractive species we will look for during the tour.

Day 14. Morning birding at Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, afternoon to Phnom Penh for Cambodian Tailorbird and end of tour

After a final morning birding at Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, we will commence our journey to Phnom Penh, making a stop at a site along the way to look for the recently described **Cambodian Tailorbird**. On reaching Phnom Penh, this exciting Cambodian bird tour will end.

Overnight: Not included

Please note that the itinerary 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 guide from the one advertised due to tour scheduling or other factors.

Tour Details

Duration:	14 days
Group size:	5–8
Dates:	06–19 December 2027 04–17 December 2028
Start:	Siem Reap
End:	Phnom Penh
Prices:	US\$ 6,980 per person sharing – based on 5–8 participants (2027) US\$ 7,750 per person sharing – based on 5–8 participants (2028)
Single supplements:	US\$ 535 (2027) US\$ 595 (2028)

Price includes:

Meals (from evening welcome meal on Day 1 until lunch on Day 14)
Bottled water (if taken from our vehicle/our supply), please bring a refillable water bottle. Note that water taken from your room (other than free water provided by the accommodation), e.g., out of a minibar/hotel restaurant etc., will be responsibility of individuals to pay for
All accommodation as described (based on two sharing) (two nights in tented safari-style camps)
Guiding fees with expert local guide, rangers, international tour leader
All entrance fees to national parks, nature reserves, bird blinds (bird hides), etc.
Carcass for “vulture restaurant”
Bird conservation contribution and local village contributions
All ground transport while on tour, including toll fees
Two boat trips (one on Prek Toal – Tonle Sap Lake and one on Mekong River)
Airport transfers (may be shared, may be an additional charge if you arrive before tour starts/after tour ends)

Price excludes:

International flights
Items of a personal nature, e.g. gifts, laundry, etc.
Drinks
Drinking water (and any other drinks) out of hotel minibars (drinking water from our vehicle supply is included – see above)
Personal insurance
Visa fees if required
Gratuities (please see [our tipping guidelines blog](#))