

SULAWESI & HALMAHERA

July 2020 – dates to be confirmed

Detailed Itinerary; 18-days Sulawesi & Halmahera - Birding Spectacular 2020

Sulawesi, a large, four-pronged island of Indonesia that sits between Borneo and New Guinea, is an amazing destination. Rich tropical jungles and rainforest peaks hold some 42 range-restricted species, including 12 endemic genera! Probably most famous among these endemic birds is the Standardwing bird-of-paradise, whose raucous calls echo through the forest from their leks. Stunningly-coloured kingfishers illuminate the forest along with the mound-building Maleo, Purple-bearded Bee-eater hawking for insects, and brightly-coloured parrots, woodpeckers and stunning hornbills. Not only are the birds spectacular, but many endemic mammals also inhabit this island. This itinerary gives us a chance to criss-cross the island to find the best spots in this most endemic-rich place.

The adjacent smaller island of **Halmahera** is similarly packed with north-Moluccan endemics and is equally high on most world birders' wish lists.

Please note that the detailed itinerary below 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, and the discretion of the guides and other factors.

ITINERARY (18 DAYS / 17 NIGHTS)

Day 1: Arrival in Manado – Tangkoko.

Fly by Silk Air departs from Singapore direct to Manado. After arrival in Manado we will drive to Tangkoko Nature Reserve (2 to 3 hours). We'll spend the afternoon birding around the park; at this time we should get a chance to see one of the smallest primates on earth, the spectral tarsier, as well as the Celebes crested macaque. Overnight at Tangkoko Guest House or at similar accommodation in Batuputih. (Dinner is included)

Day 2. Birding Tangkoko

We'll have a full day birding in the Tangkoko Nature Reserve for target species like Green-backed Kingfisher, Lilac Kingfisher, Ruddy Kingfisher, Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher, Sulawesi Pitta, Spot-tailed Goshawk, Blue-backed Parrot, Philippine Megapode, Stephan's Dove, Sulawesi Pitta, Ashy Woodpecker, Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Racquet-tail, Golden-mantled Racquet-tail, Finch-billed Myna, White-necked Myna, Sulawesi Myna, Sulawesi Triller, Purple-winged Roller, Mnahasa Masked Owl, Ochre-bellied Boobook, Stephan's Dove, Red-backed Thrush, and Grey-sided and Yellow-sided Flowerpecker. For part of the day we'll use an outrigger canoe to boat across the mangrove forest to see Great-billed Kingfisher, White-rumped Cuckooshrike, Great-billed Heron, various frigatebirds, Pied Imperial Pigeon, Blue Rock Thrush, and a number of terns. Overnight at

Tangkoko Guest House or at similar accommodation near park. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included)

Day 3. Birding Tangkoko

Today is the third day of birding in the park to look for species that maybe still missed, Overnight at Tangkoko Lodge or at similar accommodation near the reserve (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included)

Day 4. Tangkoko – Tomohon

In the morning we will continue birding at Temboan hill, looking for species we might still be missing. After lunch we will drive to Tomohon to bird the Mount Mahawu Protected Forest. Trying to Scaly-breasted Kingfisher, Sulawesi Goshawk, Small Sparrow-hawk, Spot-tailed Goshawk, Superb Fruit-dove, Sulawesi Swiftlet, Grey-sided Flowerpecker and Yellow-sided Flowerpecker. Overnight: Mountain View Resort, Tomohon (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 5. Birding on Minahasa highland - Manado

Today we bird again on Gunung Mahawu for second chance to find Scaly-breasted Kingfisher, Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Yellow-vented Whistler, Sulawesi Leaf-warbler, Streak-headed Dark-eye, Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker, Sulawesi Myzomela, Isabelline Bush-hen and other endemic species on highland forest, then drive down to Tondano lake to look for shore birds. After lunch check-out from the accommodation, then go birding on rice-fields to look for Munias, Java Sparrow and Spotted Harrier. Late evening drive down to Manado Overnight: Grand Central Hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 6. Manado – fly to Ternate – Sofifi - Wasile

After breakfast transfer to the airport for a flight schedule departs in the morning to Ternate, then onwards travelling by a speedboat or Ferry across Sofifi, and from there where we drive to the Wasile district. We'll do some birding along the way for Blyth's Hornbill, Blue-and-white Kingfisher, Sombre Kingfisher, Moluccan Cuckoo-shrike, Halmahera Cuckoo-shrike, Goliath Coucal, Long-billed Crow, Blue-capped Fruit Dove, Red-cheeked Parrot, Eclectus Parrot, Gurney's Eagle, Moluccan Flycatcher Flycatcher, Spectacled Monarch, and Moluccan Golden Bulbul. We'll also do some night birding here for Halmahera Boobook, Moluccan Scops Owl, and Moluccan Owlet-nightjar. Overnight: Wisma Kita homestay in Wasile (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 7. Wasile - Birding at Foli area

Today we depart early in the morning and drive to Foli, from there we walk down to the lek of Standardwing. Their raucous calls echo through the forest, and we'll spend a while enjoying these amazing birds. Then we continue birding along the logging road to look for Purple Dollarbird, Ivory-breasted Pitta, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Sombre Kingfisher, Azure Kingfisher, Dusky Megapode, Halmahera Oriole, Spectacled Imperial Pigeon, Grey-headed Fruit Dove, Blue-capped Fruit-dove, Scarlet-breasted Fruit-dove, Chattering Lory, Moluccan Goshawk, Moluccan Hanging Parrot, Drab Whistler, White-naped Monarch, Paradise Crow and Cream-throated White-eye. We'll do some night birding again to look for Halmahera

Boobook, Moluccan Scops Owl, and Moluccan Owlet-nightjar. Overnight at Wisma Kita Homestay in Wasile (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 8. Birding along Buli roadside

Today is birding along Buli roadside for species that might be still missed like White-naped Monarch, Dusky Friarbird, White-streaked Friarbird, Nicobar Pigeon, Violet-necked Lory, Gurney's Eagle, Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove, Paradise-crow, Halmahera Cuckoo-shrike, Moluccan Cuckoo-shrike, Moluccan King Parrot, Great-billed Parrot, Chattering Lory, Halmahera Flowerpecker, Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove, Moluccan Goshawk, Moluccan Hanging Parrot. Ivory-breasted Pitta, Drab Whistler, Moluccan Goshawk, Gurney's Eagle and Goliath Coucal, Overnight: Wisma Kita Homestay in Wasile (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 9. Wasile – Binagara – Sofifi - Ternate

After breakfast we drive to Binagara, where there is a chance to look for Invisible Rail, Variable Dwarf Kingfisher and Azure Kingfisher. then birding toward Sofifi. We'll spend the morning looking for species we may have missed the day before and then begin the drive back to Sofifi where is a chance to find Beach Kingfisher on mangrove forest. and continue on to Sofifi. Birding along roadside for another on seeing Azure Dollardbird at Gunung Roni. On arrival in Sofifi then birding continues to the mangrove forest to look for Beach Kingfisher. After that traveling by a speedboat or Ferry returning Ternate. Arrive in Ternate at night. Overnight: Batik Hotel (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 10. Ternate – fly to Makassar / Karaenta forest

After breakfast you'll be transferred-out to the airport for a flight schedule departs to Makassar. If time permits morning birding at Tolire lake. After arrival in Makassar we will be birding near the airport to look for Barred Buttonquail, Pale-headed Munia, and Lemon-bellied White-eye. Then drive to Rammang-Rammang, Afternoon birding at secondary forest to look for Black-ringed White-eye, Sunda Teal, Sulawesi Pitta, Sulawesi Babbler, Piping Crow, Sulawesi Serpent Eagle, Speckled Boobook, and Sulawesi Owl. Overnight: Dalton hotel near airport. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 11. Birding at Karaenta forest

Departs very early morning at Karaenta forest to find species that maybe still missed. then after lunch drive returning Airport to catch flight schedule by Wings Air departs in the afternoon to Luwuk, onwards driving 5 hour to Taima. Overnight: Dalton hotel near airport. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 11. Taima

Full day of birding in Taima where can be seen Barred Rail, Pink-necked and Grey-cheeked Green Pigeons, Green Imperial Pigeon, White-rumped Cuckoo-shrike, Knobbed Hornbill, and Purple-winged Roller. In Taima, one of the most reliable places for Maleo, the local people, in partnership with the international 'Alliance for Tompotika Conservation', have set up a Maleo reserve, complete with an observation tower. Here we hope to be watching Maleo in the afternoon. And night

birding to look for Minahasa Masked Owl. Overnight: Home Sweet home (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 13. Birding in Taima forest - Luwuk

Birding in the morning for a good view of Maleo, then continued to the farm lands to see many fascinating lowland Sulawesi species. After lunch drive back to Luwuk, again making birding stops along the way. Overnight: Swiss-bel Hotel Luwuk (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 14. Luwuk – fly to Palu – Lore Lindu

After breakfast we will transfer to the Luwuk airport for a flight to Palu. Having lunch at the restaurant in Palu. Afterward drive up to Lore Lindu National Park for about 3-4 hour. Overnight: Nasional Homestay or at similar accommodation near park. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 15. Birding in Lore Lindu (the lake Tambing + roadside)

Birding early morning at the lake Tambing and along roadside to find Cinnabar Boobook and Sulawesi Thrush, then continued to the lake Tambing to see more endemic species like Sulawesi Drongo, Lesser Sulawesi Honeyeater, Yellow-and-green Lorikeet, Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Blue-fronted Blue Flycatcher, Spot-tailed Goshawk, Small Sparrow-hawk, Sulawesi Goshawk, Malia, Pygmy Sulawesi Cuckoo-shrike, Cerulean Cuckoo-shrike, Streak-headed Dark-eye, Sulawesi Leaf-warbler, Fiery-browed Myna and much more...Night birding to look for Speckled Boobook, Sulawesi Owl and Minahasa Masked Owl. Overnight: National Homestay or at similar accommodation near park. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 16. Birding along Anaso track

Departs very early morning then hiking up along Anaso track to look for target species; Diabolical Nightjar, Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon, Sombre Pigeon, Great Shortwing, Purple-bearded Bee-eater, Greater Sulawesi Honeyeater, Indonesian Serin and Hylocitrea After that continued to Padaeha roadside are other productive places for endemic species such as Sulawesi Cicadabird, Piping Crow, Knobbed Hornbill, Rufous-throated Flycatcher, Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Ivory-backed Woodswallow, Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker, Overnight: National Homestay or at similar accommodation near park. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 17. Lore Lindu – Biromaru/Paneki forest

Today is still birding along roadside, then drive down to Oloboju where you can see Savana Nightjar at day-roosting ground. Then continue to Biromaru for chance on seeing Pale-vented Myna. then continued to Paneki forest for a chance on seeing Sulawesi Sahul Pitta. Overnight at Mercure Hotel (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included).

Day 18. Palu - fly to Jakarta for departures home

Today you will fly by Garuda Indonesia departs in morning directly to Jakarta then will be connected with your international flight to Singapore for departures home. The end of tour service. (Breakfast is included).

PRICES TO FOLLOW

Price includes:

All transportation, accommodation (based on a shared room), 3 Meals per Day + Mineral Water, English speaking guide fee, park permits + conservation fees,

Price excludes:

Internal flight cost as marked on itinerary + International flight fee for departures home, extra beverages in hotel, Personal beverages alcoholic drinks + soft drinks, laundry, phone calls, personal travel insurance, and tipping. Any kind of expenditures which not mentioned on items included and incurred due to flight cancellation/delayed or due other causes beyond our control (force majeure).

NOTES:

This itinerary is prior to change depends on flight schedules, road condition and weather circumstance.

TYPICAL OF TRANSPORT

- North Sulawesi: Using a large bus, more than 10 seats.
- South & Central Sulawesi: Using a vehicle (Toyota Avansa/Inova), maximum 3 -4 persons in each vehicle
- Halmahera: Using a vehicle (Toyota Avansa/Inova), maximum 3 -4 persons in each vehicle
- 4 Wheel Drive/Pick- up vehicle for a short trip to Foli (Halmahera)
- Outrigger boat is used for a short birding trip on mangrove forest
- Tangkoko to find Black-billed Kingfisher in Tangkoko/North Sulawesi.
- Travelling by Ferry from Ternate to Sofifi (+ returning), it's more comfortable for clients and better view.

FEATURES OF ACCOMMODATION

Tangkoko Guest House in Tangkoko or at similar accommodation (North Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet + Mosquito net in each room. Has Air-conditioning + fan in each room. No hot water.

Mountain View Resort – Tomohon (North Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet + Mosquito net in each room, has hot water in each room. No Air-conditioning or fan in rooms, because it's located on highland, a bit cooler in Tomohon.. Has WIFI facilities in each room or available in Lobby.

Gran Central Hotel – Manado (North Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, no Mosquito net in rooms, Has air -conditioning and hot water in each room. Has WIF facilities in each room or available in Lobby.

Wisma Kita Homestay – Halmahera (North Moluccas)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, No Mosquito net in rooms, Has Air – conditioning + Fan, No hot water in rooms

Batik Hotel – Ternate (North Moluccas)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, No Mosquito net in rooms, Has Air –conditioning , has hot water in each room. Has WIF facilities in each room or available in Lobby.

Dalton Hotel – Makassar (South Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, No Mosquito net in rooms, Has air – conditioning , has hot water in each rooms. Has WIF facilities in each room or available in Lobby.

Home Sweet Home – Taima (Central Sulawesi)

Facilities:

No has private toilet in each rooms, has public shower only nearby the beach + Field western style toilet, Has Mosquito net in each room, No Air –conditioning or fan in rooms, Natural air (sea-breeze). No hot water in rooms. It has 5 simple bungalows, designed in conservation area of protected Maleo

Swiss-bel Hotel – Luwuk (Central Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, No Mosquito net in rooms, Has Air – conditioning , has hot water in each room. Has WIF facilities in each room or available in Lobby

Nasional Homestay – Lore Lindu (Central Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet + Asian Style toilet, No Mosquito nets in rooms, No Air –conditioning or Fan, No hot water in rooms. Simple accommodation is located on highland more than 1000m from the sea level.

Mercure Hotel – Palu (Central Sulawesi)

Facilities:

It has private toilet in each room, has shower + western style toilet, No Mosquito net in rooms, Has Air –conditioning , has hot water in each room. Has WIF facilities in each room or available in Lobby.

Hope This tour package will help your future trip.

Sincerely,

Nurlin Djuni

Founder – Indonesian Bird Guide

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