



18 Days Sichuan Tour

Day 1: Arrival in Chengdu and Chengdu City Park Tour

Arriving in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, famous as the Panda hometown of China and also the best place for eating hotpot. In the afternoon, visit the city parks and gardens to look for a few common species like Chinese Grosbeak, Collared Finchbill, Vinous-throated, Ashy-throated Parrotbills and Chinese Blackbird, Light-vented/Chinese Bulbul, Oriental Magpie-Robin, Spotted and Oriental Turtle Doves, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Black-crowned Night Heron, Eastern Cattle and Little Egrets, Chinese Pond and Grey Herons, Long-tailed Shrike,



Chinese Grosbeak(F)

Japanese Tit, Red-rumped Swallow, Black-throated Bushtit, Japanese White-eye, Crested Myna and Grey-capped Greenfinch. White-browed Laughingthrushes. Night in Chengdu.



Golden-breasted Fulvetta

Day 2: Chengdu to Longcanggou

Early in the morning, drive to Botanical Garden and birding there, in case we have missed some species from yesterday afternoon, we will spend a few hours here, then drive from Chengdu to Longcanggou. After arrival, birding at the lower elevation around the hotel for the very rare Golden-fronted Fulvetta, and some

other species like Red-winged Laughingthrush, Ashy-throated Parrotbill, Brown Bullfinch, Red-billed Leiothrix, White-backed Woodpecker, Chinese Blue Flycatcher, Fujian Niltava, Brown Dipper, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Slaty-backed Forktail, Sichuan Bush Warbler. Other more commonly found species that we may encounter here include Large-billed, Sichuan, Claudia's and Kloss's Leaf Warblers, Martens's Warbler, Rufous-capped Babbler, etc.

Days 3-4: Longcanggou Birding



We have 2 full days here at Longcanggou to look for important species, we will drive and walk to different altitudes of the mountain from 1200 to 2400m in search of different species. Include some localized and endemic Parrotbills and Pheasants. Temminck's Tragopan, Lady Amherst's Pheasant, Grey-hooded , Golden, Fulvous, Great, Brown and Three-toed Parrotbills, Hodgson's and Sichuan Treecreepers, Darjeeling, White-backed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied, Aberrant, Spotted, Chestnut-crowned and Brown Bush Warblers, Bianchi's Warbler, Golden-breasted and Grey-hooded Fulvettas, White-bellied Redstart,



Golden Parrotbill

White-browed and Golden Bush Robins, Yellow-browed, Coal, Rufous-vented and Pere David's Tits, Eurasian Wren, Vinaceous Rosefinch, Spotted and Elliot's Laughingthrushes, White-collared Yuhina ,Streaked Barwing(Very difficult but possible). Emei Shan Liocichla , Himalayan and Lesser Cuckoos, Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, the rare Emei Leaf and White-spectacled Warblers, Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, Buffy Laughingthrush,SlatyBunting , Long-tailed Minivet , Swinhoe's Minivet , Alstrom's, Grey-crowned and Buff-throated Warblers, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Red-billed Starling, Yellow-throated Bunting, Black-naped Oriole, Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler, David's and Dusky Fulvettas, Brown-flanked Bush Warbler, Chestnut-flanked White-eye, Chinese Hwamei, Grey-faced Buzzard, Crested Honey Buzzard.

For Mammals, we have a reasonable chance of seeing **Red Panda**.

Day 5: Longcanggou to Wolong

After a final morning birding, we leave Longcanggou for the famous Balangshan Mountains in Wolong, we will stay in Wolong valley nearby the Giant Panda Reserve.



Teminck's Tragopan

Wolong Giant Panda Reserve is world famous Nature reserve for researching and conservation of Giant Pandas. This area also holds many pheasant species and we will try out best to see most of them. The road condition in the valley has improved a lot from last year, so we can reach there in the early afternoon, then we drive up to a temple

to try for the Golden Pheasant, they usually wonder around the Tibetan Temple there.



Grey-hooded Fulvetta



Chinese Dove Tree(Davidia involucrate)

Days 6 & 7: Balangshan Mountain Birding

This is another highlight of our Sichuan Birding tour, we will drive from 2200 m up to the 4484m pass, and try to find our targets in different altitudes, Chinese Monal ,White Eared Pheasant. Koklass Pheasant, Blood Pheasant, Verreaux's Monal-Partridge, Temminck's Tragopan. Streaked, Pink-rumped, Common, Dark-breasted and Chinese White-browed ,Sharpe's Rosefinches, Kessler's Thrush, Barred Laughingthrush ,Giant Laughingthrush, Chinese Fulvetta, Fire-capped Tit, White-browed and Golden Bush Robins, Firethroat, and Three-banded Rosefinch, Rufous-vented, Sichuan and Grey-crested Tits, Blue-fronted and White-capped Redstarts, Slaty-backed Flycatcher, Rosy Pipit, Chestnut Thrush, Claudia's, Alpine and Sichuan Leaf Warblers and Plumbeous Water Redstart. Golden Eagle, Himalayan Vultures, Eurasian Sparrowhawk and Common Buzzard, Sichuan Treecreeper, Black-browed Bushtit, Plain-backed Thrushes, Slaty Bunting..Near the pass we will look for Tibetan Snowcock, Snow Partridge, Grandala, Red-fronted Rosefinch (Asia's highest breeding passerine!), Brandt's and Plain Mountain Finches, Alpine Chough, Wallcreeper, Snow Pigeon and Alpine Accentor.



Grandala



Meconopsis integrifolia

Mammal here at Balangshan: Blue Sheep (Bharal), Himalayan Marmot ,Gansu Pika.,Hog Badger, Tufted Deer and Chinese Goral.

Day 8: Balangshan to Maerkang



We will drive passby Balangshan Pass and reach to another side of the mountain, if we have missed some species from previous 2 days, we can spend some time for what we are still missing, we will also make some stops for White-tailed Rubythroat, Hill pigeon and Tibetan Partridge and Przevalski's Nuthatch before we reach to Maerkang.



Snow Partridge



Primula sinopurpurea

Day 9: Mengbishan Mountain

Today we will leave early in the morning and drive up Mengbishan Mountain to try for the Blood and White Eared Pheasants if we are still missing them. Near the top ,we will try for the very shy Verreaux's Monal-Partridge. Then we will slowly walk downhill in search of Sichuan Jay, Crested Tit-Warbler, Black Woodpecker, Three-banded Rosefinch, Przevalski's Nuthatch, Goldcrest, Rufous-vented, Coal and Grey-crested Tits and Hodgson's Treecreeper, White-throated Redstart ,



Blood Pheasant

Collared and White-winged Grosbeaks, Spotted Nutcracker, Chinese Fulvetta, Grey-headed Bullfinch.

Day 10: Maerkang to Ruorgai

Today is a long driving day, but a very enjoyable day, we will see different sceneries and quite a lot of new birds on the way. we will leave Maerkang early and drive across the vast Tibetan Plateau (3900m) to the town of Ruorgai. Stop nearby a river to look for Ibisbill, a rarely seen species in Sichuan. We might also see Ruddy Shelduck, Common Merganser, Ferruginous Duck, etc, when we drive a little bit higher, in a differet habitat we will try for White-browed Tit, White-browed Tit-Warbler, and today's Star bird s 'Black-neck Crane and Przevalski's Finch'. Some other birds include, Tibetan Partridge, Plain Laughingthrush, Dusky Warbler, Horned Lark, Eurasian and Azure-winged Magpies, Oriental Skylark, Daurian Jackdaw, Carrion Crow, Northern Raven, Little Owl, Eurasian Hoopoe, Grey-backed Shrike, Twite, Rock Sparrow, Siberian Stonechat and the lovely Citrine Wagtail, Saker Falcon, Tibetan Snowfinch and Chinese Grey Shrike.



Przewalski's Finch



Black-necked Crane

Day 11: Ruoergai, Baxi Valley and Tibetan Plateau

Today we will drive to Baxi Valley to try for a few new species: 'Blue Eared Pheasant, Snowy-cheeked Laughingthrush, Chinese Grouse, Sichuan Tit, Przewalski's Nuthatch, we might also see Sichuan Jay, Black Woodpecker, Crested Tit-Warbler, Plain, Giant and Elliott's Laughingthrushes, White-throated and Hodgson's Redstarts, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Punk-rumped, Himalayan Beautiful and Chinese White-browed Rosefinches and White-browed Tit-Warbler. The Kessler's and Chestnut Thrushes, Godlewski's Bunting. In the afternoon, we will visit the marshy, wetland edge to see some high-plateau



Ruoergai Grassland and Wetland

wetland birds: Greylag, Bar-headed Geese, Great Crested, Black-necked Grebes, Red-crested and Common Pochards, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Teal, Eurasian Bittern, Brown-cheeked Rail, Citrine Wagtail, White-winged, Common and Whiskered Terns, Little Ringed Plover, Temminck's and Red-necked Stints, Dunlin, Curlew Sandpiper, Whimbrel and

breeding plumage Lesser Sand Plovers. A few High-plateau specialties: Tibetan Lark, Ground Tit, Black Redstart, Rufous-necked and White-rumped Snowfinches.

Mammals: Grey Wolf, Tibetan, Red Foxes, Himalayan Marmot, Plateau Pikas.

Day 12: Ruoergai to Jiuzhaigou(Valley)

We spend another morning here to look for the species we might still miss here, then we head to Jiuzhaigou valley by 4 hours drive. We will stay at a very good hotel. Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong is a World Heritage Site, is known as No. 1 Valley in China, the scenery here is spectacular, with tall pine trees, beautiful waterfalls and blue water pools. It attracts thousands of tourists everyday from different parts of the world. It is one of the top travel destinations in China.



Day 13: Jiuzhai Valley National Park

The park opens at 7:30, we will get our ticket ready 1 day before, so we do not need to wait in the long queue, we can take the first shuttle bus to reach to the Rufous-headed Robin site and try for it, the chance is very low, there was no report of being seen this species from last year, but there we also have good chance for Sichuan Treecreeper, as well as Hodgson's and Bar-tailed Treecreepers, We will also try the primitive forests for Chinese Nuthatch, Chinese Thrush, Pere David's Tit, Chinese



Jiuzhai gou Scenery

Leaf Warbler, Spotted Bush Warbler, Collared and White-winged Grosbeaks, White-throated Dipper, Grey-headed Bullfinch, Vinaceous Rosefinch, Spotted Nutcracker, Tibetan Serin, Elliott's Laughingthrush, Indian Blue Robin, Snowy-cheeked Laughingthrush. Eurasian Nuthatch, Sooty Bushtit, Yellow-bellied Tit, Brown Dipper, Crimson-breasted and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher, Ferruginous, Slaty-backed and Slaty-blue Flycatchers, Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, White-capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts, Spectacled Fulvetta and Rufous-faced Warbler. In the afternoon, we take the shuttle bus down to the reed area, walk along the boardwalk to look for Spectacled Parrotbill and some other species we might still missing.

Day 14: Jiuzhaigou to Tangjiahe

This morning we will leave early and drive up the mountain to Gong Gang Ling Pass to see Pere David's Owl, Chinese Grouse, those 2 are our main target for today, we might see a few other species here are Crested Tit-Warbler, Maroon-backed and Rufous-breasted Accentors, Three-banded Rosefinch, Hodgson's Treecreeper, Rufous-vented and Grey-crested Tits, Alpine and Sichuan Leaf Warblers, Goldcrest, Kessler's and Chestnut Thrushes. Then we drive to the nearby town named Chuanzhu Temple for Lunch. In the afternoon, we continue the long drive east towards our next destination Tangjiahe National Nature Reserve.



Pere David's Owl (Sichuan Wood Owl)

Days 15 & 16: Tangjiahe National Park

Tangjiahe National Park is a very important National Park in China, known for its bio-diversities, it is well



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known among birders and also among the mammal lovers, The National Park has provide natural habitat for Wild Pandas and Golden Snob-nosed Monkeys, as well as Golden Takins and many other mammals, Hog Badger, Eurasian Wild Boar, Reeve's Muntjac, Chinese Goral, Chinese Serow, Tibetan Macaque and Tufted Deer. For birds, there are Golden Pheasant(Excellent Chance), Temminck's Tragopan, Koklass Pheasants, Przevalski's Parrotbill, Sichuan Treecreeper, Fire-capped Tit, Golden-breasted Fulvetta, Baikal Bush Warbler, Emei Leaf Warbler, White-throated and Spotted Laughingthrushes ,Slaty Bunting, Crested Kingfisher, White-capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts, White-crowned, Little and Slaty-backed Forktails, Brown Dipper, Striated Heron ,Tawny Fish Owl, Speckled Wood Pigeon, Asian Barred Owllet, Asian Koel, Crimson-breasted and Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers, Mountain Bulbul, Rufous-faced, Alstrom's and Sulphur-breasted Warblers, Kloss's Leaf Warbler, Chinese Hwamei, Rufous-capped Babbler, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Spectacled, Dusky and David's Fulvettas, Japanese, Chestnut-flanked White-eye, Rufous-bellied Niltava, Blue Whistling Thrush, Yellow-bellied and Pere-David's Tits, Sooty Bushtit and Mrs. Gould's Sunbird. We will try both of the mammals and the birds in 2 days.



Golden Pheasant



Golden Takin

Day 17: Tangjiahe to Chengdu

After a final morning birding ,we will drive back to Chengdu. On the way, we stop for Collared Crow, Red-billed Starling, Black-throated Bushtit, Grey-capped Greenfinch, Daurian Redstart, Grey Bush Chat, White-browed Laughingthrush, Brown Shrike and Russet Sparrow. In the evening, we will arrange a special dinner for farewell, the most popular local food: Hotpot. Hope you all will enjoy it.

Day 18 Chengdu depart

Take the flight from Chengdu back to home country or to do our Extension Tour to Yunnan or Qinghai, Tibet.(Tour Ends.)

Remarks: All the photos were taken by Steven An or his colleagues , if anyone is interested to see the original photos, please contact us and we are happy to provide .



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