

Post monsoon bird watching is different. The colors are more vivid and saturated. More and more you explore these part of Sikkim, more you become fascinated by its charm. Fire-capped Tits are major highlight as they breed in this part and mostly found on Heracleum flowering. Enjoy!

- 27th September 2019 - The guests, four birders from a family - Ranadeys, were picked up from Bagdogra Airport around 9 AM and we drove through Kalimpong. Due to sudden landslide, the tour itinerary was altered. We continued birding through Delo-20th Mile-Pedong road and added few species in the list and had lunch at Pedong. It was a Crimson Sunbird and a Yellow-bellied Warbler which drawn our attention at Kalimpong. Lesser Yellownape, Silver-eared Mesia, Red-billed Leiothrix, White-tailed Nuthatch, Grey Bushchat etc were seen near 20th Mile Army campus. Later we continued driving down and switched our vehicle to Reshi (West Bengal-Sikkim border). The night we spent at Banolata Resort in Reshikhola.

>>Fri 27 Sep 2019 10:42 AM Jalpaiguri County, West Bengal, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255255>

>>Fri 27 Sep 2019 3:16 PM Darjiling County, West Bengal, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255236>

- 28th September 2019 - Morning bird watching was done in Reshi-Rhenok road and further till Rongli. It was a nice session with the sighting of Common Green Magpie, both Lesser and Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes, Asian Barred Owlet, Orange-headed Thrush etc. We drove further and because of sudden landslide in this part also, we were stuck for three hours. In the meantime, we decided to do roadside birding and bagged a few. Around 12:30 PM the road reopened and we entered Rongli. Stop for a while here for lunch and continued uphill birding thereafter. It was till Nimachen where we could continue birding. The afternoon session had sighting of Bay Woodpecker, Rufous Sibia, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Striated Laughingthrush etc. Around 6 AM we reached at Lungthung for our overnight stay.

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 5:45 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255116>

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 7:54 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255099>

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 11:36 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255075>

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 2:31 PM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255070>

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 3:20 PM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255064>

>>Sat 28 Sep 2019 4:47 PM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255055>

- 29th September 2019 - Today we had full day session to cover higher altitude areas. In the early morning for first two hours the weather was clear and it started deteriorating little by little thereafter. The Monal call in the morning was heard from close distance though we couldn't track it because of thick 'aconogonum' bushes. Fire-capped Tit, Rufous-vented Tit, Coal Tit were there in flocks. Though it rained but magnificent sighting of a pair of Fire-tailed Myzornis was cherishable. Near Baba Mandir, White-browed Rosefinch, Dark-rumped Rosefinch and Rufous-breasted Accentors were in mixed flock. Rosy and Blyth's Pipit was sighted in highland pastures. 'leucopsis' White Wagtail at Tukla Valley was nice to see this time. It is a winter migrant here. We stopped birding early around 3 PM in the afternoon due to rain.

>>Sun 29 Sep 2019 7:32 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255030>

>>Sun 29 Sep 2019 10:49 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60255022>

>>Sun 29 Sep 2019 2:07 PM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60254699>

- 30th September 2019 - Few hours of exploration at pine fores at 12,000 ft was insightful and this time also, Fire-tailed Myzornis was sighted. Grey-crested Tit was present in a mixed flock with Rufous-vented Tit and Coal Tit. After breakfast we checked out of Lungthung and we saw Himalayan Monal (♀), Himalayan Brown Goral, Fire-tailed Myzornis, Fire-tailed Sunbird, etc. Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, Black-faced laughingthrush and White-browed Fulvetta was there in 'aconogonum' bushes. Spent nice time with a Spotted Nutcracker. After having a cup of tea at Ganek, we came further down. Just before entering Zuluk, Brown Parrotbills obliged us for nearly 5 minutes. Below Zuluk, then Bamboo thickets area as thickly covered by mist and it was pouring continuously, we crossed Phadamchen, Nimachen and ultimately stopped at Kue Khola for Lunch. Brown Dipper, Little Forktail, were highlight from the area. Spotted Ealchura call from a nearby thicket was unmistakable. While driving downhill, after crossing Lingtam Streaked Spiderhunter and Black-chinned Yuhinas was nice to see. Around 3:30 PM we reached at Agamlok, where we did very little afternoon birding. The elusive 'melanota' subspecies of Kalij Pheasant (♂) was seen in a shadowy patch. In the evening we had fantastic time with Mountain Scops Owl. Though we couldn't see it, but its voice echoed throughout the night.

>>Mon 30 Sep 2019 7:48 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India :  
<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60254675>

- 1st October 2019 - Morning birding at the monastery area was productive as we saw Black Bulbuls, Eurasian Hoopoe, Black Eagle, Changeable Hawk Eagle etc. In a mixed flock at bamboo thickets White-crested Laughingthrushes, Common Green Magpie, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler was found foraging in a mixed flock. Blyth's Shrike-babbler (previously known as White-browed Shrike-babbler), Golden-throated and Blue-throated Barbets were nicely seen. A Crimson-breasted Woodpecker was seen just near our home stay. After 9 AM, we started driving down and spend good time with a Slaty-backed Forktail. On the way, we didn't stop much for birding as we had a long way to go. Before reaching Reshi a roosting and nesting site of Asian House Martins was nice to see, they were in the process of making their nests. We stopped birding at Reshi border. We took our lunch at Teesta Bazaar around 3 PM and by 5:15 PM, the birders-guests were dropped at Siliguri hotel.

>>Tue 1 Oct 2019 6:50 AM East Sikkim County, Sikkim, India  
[:https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60254457](https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S60254457)

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