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SAM VEASNA CONSERVATION  
TOURS

# CRITICAL CAMBODIA

## Six Critically Endangered birds in five days!

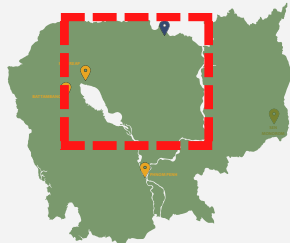
Cambodia is the last stronghold of a set of magnificent birds that are now so globally rare they are considered Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. This tour is a superb opportunity, not just to see these incredible species, but by supporting SVCs work with community-based conservation to give them a chance of continued survival. Most of the bird watching takes place in open dry forest, a beautiful habitat in which to watch birds. One night is spent in our large safari-style tents, with the other nights at a purpose-built community ecolodge.

**Day 1: Bengal Florican Conservation Area and Tmat Boey**

**Day 2 and 3: Tmat Boey**

**Day 4: Tmat Boey to Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant**

**Day 5: Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant to Siem Reap**



"Over the next few days, we visited the grasslands, BeTreed, Tmat Boey and the Vulture Restaurant and added Bengal Florican, Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, Green Peafowl, the three species of vultures and countless other birds to our ever-growing species list. We ended up with well over 100 unique species on this tour.

My personal interest is butterflies which we had ample time to study while birding and take some nice pictures as well. Add in the occasional gibbon, snake and squirrel and we had a very productive look into Cambodian wildlife.

Thank you SVC for making this possible, organizing it so well and for all the good work that you do protect endangered animals while cooperating and supporting the local communities."

Rianne, Netherlands, 23rd December 2019



Scan QR code to view full tour detail, view current prices and book online

# DAY 1: BENGAL FLORICAN CONSERVATION AREA AND TMAT BOEY

## ITINERARY

For full Bengal Florican Conservation Area bird list: [CLICK  
HERE](#)

### 05:00 – Pick up from your hotel

This is a 2 hour drive from Siem Reap to Stoung Bengal Florican Conservation Area. A prepared breakfast will be provided when we arrive at the site.

### 06:30 – Birding at Stoung Bengal Florican Conservation Area

Our guides have a very good track record of finding these Critically Endangered birds, the first of the six targets, they should be seen within the first few hours of the trip. Whilst we are enjoying the floricans, other birds we typically see include Sarus Crane, storks, Manchurian Reed Warbler, Pied and Eastern Marsh Harrier, Small Buttonquail, Bluethroat and Red Avadavat.

### 10:00 – Leave Stoung Bengal Florican Conservation Area for Tmat Boey Ecolodge

We will travel to the Tmat Boey Ecolodge, birding in dry forest along the way. During our birding stops, we will have lunch and hope to see White-rumped Pygmy Falcon.

### 15:00 – Arrive at Tmat Boey Ecolodge.

We will get checked into the Tmat Boey Ecolodge. After we are settled in, we may get a chance to see our second Critically Endangered species in the evening, as we try to see the White-shouldered Ibis at a roosting site.

### 19:30 – Dinner and night at Tmat Boey Ecolodge



#### Drive Time:

5 hours

#### Walking Distance:

3-5km

#### Key Species:

Stoung Bengal Florican  
Conservation Area:

Bengal Florican, Sarus Crane,  
Small Buttonquail, Manchurian  
Reed-warbler, Pied Harrier.

Tmat Boey:

Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis,  
Pale-capped Pigeon, Woolly-  
necked Stork, Black-headed  
Woodpecker, Great Slaty  
Woodpecker, Yellow-crowned  
Woodpecker, Streak-throated  
Woodpecker, Spotted Wood-owl,  
Brown Wood-owl, Brown Fish-  
owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown  
Prinia, White-browed Fantail

#### Habitat:

Stoung Bengal Florican  
Conservation Area: Seasonally  
inundated outer-floodplain  
grassland with some small areas  
of scrub.

Tmat Boey: Lowland deciduous  
dipterocarp forest, often  
mistakenly referred to as dry  
forest. Trapeangs dot the  
landscape and there are fairly  
extensive areas of bamboo in  
riverine areas..



# DAY 2 AND 3: TMAT BOEY

## ITINERARY

For full Tmat Boey bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

**04:30 ~ 18:00 – Wake up to search for Giant Ibis followed by a full day of birding**

SVC coordinates a scheme where the local people are paid to protect the nests of the two Critically Endangered ibis present – Giant and White-shouldered Ibis. Consequently our guides have a 100% record of finding these species for visiting birders! We will try to get good views of both species during the time we spend here. The birding is excellent and our guides, with the help of the SVC-trained local guides, have made a special effort to locate the day roosts of nocturnal species such as Spotted Wood Owl and Brown Fish Owl.

Tmat Boey also supports an incredible 16 species of woodpecker including the fantastic Black-headed Woodpecker, the huge Great Slaty Woodpecker and the scarce Rufous-bellied Woodpecker. Our guides know where to find these and all of the dry forest specialties such as Indian Spotted Eagle, White-rumped Pygmy Falcon, Collared Falconet, Rufous-winged Buzzard, Indochinese Bushlark, Brown Prinia, Neglected Nuthatch and White-browed Fantail at this or nearby sites. Today and the following morning are very flexible as we rely on trained local guides to give us up-to-date information on key species. Prepared breakfast and lunch will be provided in at the birding sites. Hot dinner at the eco-lodge in the evening.



### Drive Time:

1 hour

### Walking Distance:

10-12km

### Key Species:

**Birds:** Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, Pale-capped Pigeon, Woolly-necked Stork, Black-headed Woodpecker, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Streak-throated Woodpecker, Spotted Wood-owl, Brown Wood-owl, Brown Fish-owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown Prinia, White-browed Fantail

**Mammals:** Indochinese Ground Squirrel, Cambodian Striped Squirrel

### Habitat:

Lowland deciduous dipterocarp forest, often mistakenly referred to as dry forest. Trapeangs dot the landscape and there are fairly extensive areas of bamboo in riverine areas.



# DAY 4: TMAT BOEY TO BOENG TOAL VULTURE RESTAURANT

## ITINERARY

For full Tmat Boey bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

### 04:30 – Wake up for last morning of birding in Tmat Boey

Prepared breakfast will be provided. We will be concentrating on anything that we have not already seen before we travel to Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant.

### 11:00 – Lunch at Tmat Boey Ecologe

### 12:30 – Leave for Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant

We will spend one hour in T'beng town to resupply our trip. It will take 3 hours overall to get to Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant.

### 15:30 – Arrive at Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant and late-afternoon birding

Our local guides will have already set up large safari-style tents for us to sleep in. The vultures will not be fed until the next day, so there will be time for some birding in the dry forest in the later afternoon and certain species may be easier to see here than at Tmatboey.

### 19:00 – Dinner and sleep at Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant.

Hot dinner. We have the option to do some owling before bed with the hope to see Oriental Scops Owl and Large-tailed Nightjar. This will take 30 minutes to 1 hour. Rest before early start the next day.



### Drive Time:

3 hours

### Walking Distance:

6-8km

### Key Species:

Birds: Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, Pale-capped Pigeon, Woolly-necked Stork, Black-headed Woodpecker, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Streak-throated Woodpecker, Spotted Wood-owl, Brown Wood-owl, Brown Fish-owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown Prinia, White-browed Fantail

Mammals: Indochinese Ground Squirrel, Cambodian Striped Squirrel

### Habitat:

Lowland deciduous dipterocarp forest, often mistakenly referred to as dry forest. Trapeangs dot the landscape and there are fairly extensive areas of bamboo in riverine areas.



# DAY 5: BOENG TOAL VULTURE RESTAURANT TO SIEM REAP

## ITINERARY

For full Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

### 04:30 – Wake up to go to Vulture Restaurant site

As vulture populations have crashed across Asia, Cambodia has held onto populations of the three species currently considered Critically Endangered. However, owing to a decline in wild cattle populations, Cambodia's vultures are now reliant on supplementary feeding. Joining this tour offsets the cost of running the 'vulture restaurant' and includes the local community in the efforts to save these impressive, macabre birds. A cow will be provided to the vultures and from dawn we will be able to watch the spectacle of up to fifty White-rumped, Slender-billed and Red-headed Vultures feeding on the carcass. A prepared breakfast will be provided at the Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant site.

### 12:00 – Lunch at local restaurant and Beng Melea

We will break the journey at Beng Melea, a spectacular jungle-temple ruin set in semi-evergreen forest providing a different assortment of birds. There is a chance of finding some scarce winter migrants from the north here, such as the difficult to see White-throated Rock Thrush.

### 17:00 – Arrive in Siem Reap

We will drop you off at your hotel of choice.



### Drive Time:

3 hours

### Walking Distance:

4-6km

### Key Species:

Birds: Slender-billed Vulture, Red-headed Vulture, White-rumped Vulture, White-throated Rock Thrush, Black-headed Woodpecker, Rufous-winged Buzzard, White-rumped Pygmy Falcon, Brown Prinia, Blossom-headed Parakeet, Burmese Shrike, White-browed Fantail, Rufous-bellied and Streak-throated Woodpeckers

Mammals: Golden Jackal

### Habitat:

Deciduous dipterocarp forest, Semi-evergreen forest.

