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SAM VEASNA CONSERVATION
TOURS

WILD CAMBODIA



Remote locations, Critically Endangered birds and a journey into Cambodia's past

This route enables the birder to experience almost all of Cambodia's threatened bird species at a variety of exciting and often remote locations. We should see the Critically Endangered Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, Bengal Florican and if we're lucky the Endangered White-winged Duck along with a host of other species. This route also takes in a vulture restaurant where we will see Red-headed, White-rumped and Slender-billed Vultures feeding at a carcass. Distances are moderate and occasionally long and some camping in large safari-style tents is required.

Day 1: Angkor Wat

Day 2: Prek Toal Bird Sanctuary

Day 3: Ang Trapaeng Thmor Sarus Crane Reserve (ATT)

Day 4: Bengal Florican Conservation Area and Prey Veng

Day 5: Prey Veng village

Day 6: Prey Veng village to Tmat Boey

Day 7: Tmat Boey

Day 8: Tmat Boey to Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant

Day 9: Boeng Toal Vulture Restaurant to Kratie

Day 10: Kratie to Siem Reap or Phnom Penh

DAY 1: ANGKOR WAT

ITINERARY

For full Angkor Wat bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

04:45 – Pick up from Hotel in Siem Reap

Pick up Angkor Pass if needed. Before sunrise we will search for Brown Boobook.

05:30 – Sunrise at Angkor Wat

A prepared breakfast will be provided during sunrise. Alternatively, we can go owling instead of the sunrise.

06:00 – Birding around Angkor Wat

Hope to see Hainan Blue Flycatcher, White-throated Rock thrush, Forest Wagtail and more. Please note that locations for birding may be flexible depending on the location of bird species and the number of tourists on the day.

09:15 – Visit Angkor Wat Temple to see the most famous tourist attraction in Cambodia

10:45 – Birding at Bayon Temple Complex

All of the SVC guides are certified temple guides and will take you through the history of this breathtaking complex.

12:30 – Lunch

This will be at a local restaurant within the complex.

13:30 – Birding at Ta Prohm and surrounding forest areas

See Red-breasted Parakeet and Alexandrine Parakeet.

16:00 – Return to hotel in Siem Reap



Drive Time:

20-30 minutes

Walking Distance:

4-7km

Key Species:

Forest Wagtail, White-throated Rock Thrush, Black Baza, Red-breasted Parakeet, Alexandrine Parakeet, Asian Barred Owlet, Common Hill Myna, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Hainan Blue-flycatcher

Habitat:

Deciduous dipterocarp forest with semi-evergreen forest patches.



DAY 2: PREK TOAL BIRD SANCTUARY

ITINERARY

For full Prek Toal Bird Sanctuary bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

05:30 – Pickup from your hotel by an English speaking SVC guide and travel to Chong Khneas or Mechrey

06:00 – Board the boat to take us across the great Tonle Sap Lake to Prek Toal

With breakfast and a full briefing from the guide on the way.

07:30 – Arrive to Prek Toal

At Prek Toal we will pick up a ranger and swap to a community motorboat for the boat trip into the core bird reserve flooded forest. Please note that the motorboat can be noisy. We will view a wide range of birds at a custom built treetop observation deck.

11:30 – Return to floating village for lunch

Have lunch in a floating house.

13:00 – Paddle boat tour of the floating village (optional)

14:30 – Return boat trip to Siem Reap

Arriving back at your hotel around 16:30.



Drive/Boat Time:

3 hours

Walking Distance:

2km

Key Species:

Birds: Greater Adjutant, Lesser Adjutant, Painted Stork, Milky Stork, Black-headed Ibis, Grey-headed Fish-eagle, Spot-billed Pelican

Mammals: Silvered Langur, Long-tailed Macaque, Smooth-coated Otter, Hairy-nosed Otter

Habitat:

Seasonally flooded forest and scrub. Open water retreats to reveal muddy lakeshore.



DAY 3: ANG TRAPAENG THMOR (ATT)

ITINERARY

For full Ang Trapaeng Thmor bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

05:30 – Pick up at your hotel by an English-speaking SVC bird guide for the 90 minute trip to ATT

We stop for a packed breakfast on the road at some excellent birding spots.

07:30 – Arrive at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) ATT station

Receive a briefing with the local guide.

08:30 – Birding around and inside the reservoir.

11:00 – Visit Phnom Srok village

See unique silk items being created, or continue birding around the reservoir.

12:00 – Home cooked Khmer lunch at the WCS station

13:00 – Explore further bird sites on the far side of the reservoir

We will look for bird species we may have missed in the morning.

15:00 – Leave ATT site.

Return to Siem Reap at 17:00.



Drive Time:

4 hours

Walking Distance:

5-7km

Key Species:

Birds: Sarus Crane, Milky Stork, Painted Stork, Greater Adjutant, Greater Spotted Eagle, Black-necked Stork, Black-headed Ibis, Rufous-winged Buzzard, Comb Duck, Spotted Wood-owl, Asian Barred Owlet, Common Barn Owl, Spotted Owlet, Pied Harrier.

Mammals: Elds Deer- Please note that this is extremely rare species but hopefully we will get lucky.

Habitat:

A large reservoir surrounded by rice paddies, with a range of grassland and sedge habitats on the northern edge, and a small area of degraded deciduous forest.



DAY 4: BENGAL FLORICAN CONSERVATION AREA AND PREY VENG

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 Prey Veng Ecolodge

We will travel to the Prey Veng 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 Prey Veng Ecolodge.

We will get checked into the Prey Veng Ecolodge. After we have settled in and had a short rest, we will drive to the White-winged Duck roosting site. This will take 1 hour. We will park near the site and walk to the roosting tree. This short walk through the bush can attract a variety of incredible species. Stay at the roosting site until the sun goes down.

19:30 – Dinner and night at Prey Veng 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.

Prey Veng:

Giant Ibis, White-winged Duck,
Sarus Crane, Great Slaty
Woodpecker, Black-headed
Woodpecker, White-bellied
Woodpecker, Grey-headed Fish-
eagle, Rufous-winged
Buzzard, White-rumped Pygmy-
falcon, Brown Prinia, Indochinese
Bushlark, White-browed Fantail

Habitat:

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

Prey Veng: Lowland deciduous
dipterocarp forest, often
mistakenly referred to as dry
forest. Trapeangs dot the
landscape and there is tall semi-
evergreen forest in riverine areas.



DAY 5: PREY VENG VILLAGE

ITINERARY

For full Prey Veng village bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

04:10 – Leave Prey Veng Ecolodge to return to the roosting tree to view the White-winged Duck

If we didn't see White-winged Duck the previous day then we will return to the roost tree for a second attempt. If requested, you can choose not to do this and rest. Prepared breakfast will be provided. When the sun rises, we will explore around the roosting site in search for Black-headed Woodpecker and White-rumped Pygmy Falcon. We will continue birding in this area until 10:00.

11:00 – Return to the Ecolodge to rest.

Lunch at 12:00

14:30 – Explore the Chen Srom Temple complex whilst birding

This temple is a 15 minute walk from the lodge and is one of the most remote temple sites in Cambodia with no visitors.

17:00 – Return to the Ecolodge for rest

18:30 – Dinner

19:15 – Option for owling in the evening

Collared Scops Owl and Brown Boobook are common around the site. This will take 30 minutes to 1 hour.



Drive Time:

2 hours

Walking Distance:

7-10km

Key Species:

Birds: Giant Ibis, White-winged Duck, Sarus Crane, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Black-headed Woodpecker, White-bellied Woodpecker, Grey-headed Fish-eagle, Rufous-winged Buzzard, White-rumped Pygmy-falcon, Brown Prinia, Indochinese Bushlark, White-browed Fantail

Mammals: Indochinese Ground Squirrel, Cambodian Striped Squirrel, Muntjac

Habitat:

Lowland deciduous dipterocarp forest, often mistakenly referred to as dry forest. Trapeangs dot the landscape and there is tall semi-evergreen forest in riverine areas.



DAY 6: PREY VENG VILLAGE TO TMAT BOEY

ITINERARY

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

06:30 – Breakfast in the morning

07:00 – Explore the ancient baray for Sarus Crane and Giant Ibis
As well as other species we may have missed in the previous days.

10:30 – Arrive at the Ecolodge for rest and lunch at 11:15

12:00 – Leave Prey Veng Ecolodge

14:30 – Arrive at Tmat Boey Ecolodge

We will get checked in and settled before birding in the afternoon.

15:00 – Leave the lodge to explore White-shouldered Ibis or Giant Ibis site

We will search for the ibises until it is dark (17:30/18:00). We will take 30 minutes to search for the Oriental Scops Owl before returning to the lodge.

19:00 – Return to the Ecolodge for dinner and rest.



Drive Time:

3-4 hours

Walking Distance:

7-10km

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 7: 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 8: 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 Ec lodge

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

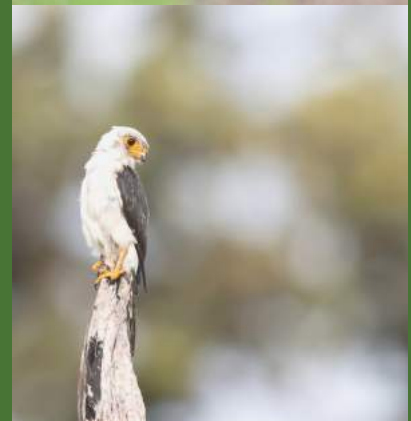
Key Species:

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 9: BOENG TOAL VULTURE RESTAURANT TO KRATIE

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 to the way to Kratie

After lunch we commence a 3 hour drive to Kratie.

16:00 – Arrive in Kratie and check into the hotel

After checking in we will go to a local birding site and go birding until 18:00 for Yellow-breasted Bunting and Asian Golden Weaver.

19:00 – Back to the hotel for dinner and rest



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.



DAY 10: KRATIE TO SIEM REAP OR PHNOM PENH

ITINERARY

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

06:30 – Breakfast in the hotel

07:00 – Leave the hotel to go to the river

It will be 25 minutes to reach the pier to embark on the boat. We will be looking for the Mekong Wagtail- this can take 15 minutes to 1 hour depending on your luck! After we find the Mekong Wagtail, we will go to view the Irrawaddy Dolphin.

10:00 – Return to the hotel

Check out and drive to either to Siem Reap (6 hour drive) or Phnom Penh (3 hours). We will have lunch on the way.

If we travel back to Phnom Penh, we can go to a Cambodian Tailorbird site. A must-see for any birder in Cambodia.

For full Cambodian Tailorbird site bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

17:00 - Drop you at your hotel or the airport.

END OF TOUR



Drive Time:

3 hours to Phnom Penh

6 hours to Siem Reap

Walking Distance:

4-6km

Key Species:

Birds: Mekong Wagtail, Asian Golden Weaver, Yellow-breasted Bunting, Watercock, Ruddy-breasted Crake, White-browed Crake, Black-browed & Oriental Reed Warblers, Streaked & Baya Weavers, Red-throated Pipit, Zitting & Golden-headed Cisticolas

Mammals: Irrawaddy Dolphin

Habitat:

Large low-land river with small rocky islands covered in dense bush.

