



### **An Orchestra of Birds**

The abundance of Sri Lanka's bird-life makes it an ornithologist's paradise of the 435 recorded species, 230 are resident, and no less than twenty three are endemic to the island. Most of the endemic birds, like the Sri Lanka Myna or the Yellow-eared Bulbul, are restricted to the wet zone. Others such as the striking red-faced malkoha and the Sri Lanka Spot-winged Thrush, can be found through confined to small areas of humid forest. Among the best areas for bird-life are the Sinharaja Forest Reserve, the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary and the Polonnaruwa Archaeological Reserve Area. Around mid-August, the flocks of the species that winter in Sri Lanka begin to arrive with large number of wagers from northern temperate countries - sandpipers, stilts, plovers and terns - finding refuge in the unique lagoons along the coastal belt. In the forested areas, migratory tree warblers, thrushes and cuckoos can be found. Reservoirs in the dry zone attract numerous types of ducks, whilst large water birds - including storks, herons and egrets - can easily be spotted in areas such as Bundala, Kalametiya and Wirawila in the north-western province.

### **Bird Watching in Sri Lanka**

The best time for birding on the island is between the months of September and April, when thousand upon thousands of northern winter migrants arrive. Sri Lanka has a rich bird fauna and many passionate bird lovers rank Sri Lanka among their favourite destinations. 426 bird species have been seen on the Island of which 33 of these are endemic to Sri Lanka - a fabulous birding holiday awaits! Between October and April, many migrants visit the isle from as far away as Siberia. Another noteworthy feature is the presence of mixed-species flocks, which makes birding both easy and interesting, since one can study carefully the interactions between different species.

### How This Holiday Makes a Difference

The aim of this tour is to provide a natural package of birding without the use of undesirable and harmful methods such as audio play backs, which are detrimental to both the community of rare birds and tourist industry in the long run. We do not promote commercial sales aimed at tourists, rather we ensure that our rates are reasonable, and some of money you spend will directly and positively affect people at village level. We seek to improve the lives of the people who affect & conserve the birding habitats by buying products and service of local guiding etc. If the visitor decides to have no meat products (to avoid health risks & other reasons), we make sure that he gets quality organic vegetarian dishes. You are provided with a separate driver and a separate specialized birding tour leader for the whole tour who are most experienced birders and trekkers.



### Some locations that we offer

#### Kaudulla national park

Sri Lanka 's newest national park, wildlife reserve and eco tourism attraction. Situated around the ancient Kaudulla tank, the national park provides a 6656 hectare elephant corridor, only 6 km from off the main Habarana – Trincomalee road.

#### Kumana national park (Yala East)

Located in the southeast corner of Sri Lanka , the 18,149 hectare KUMANA (YALA EAST) NATIONAL PARK is a well-known eco tourism attraction and bird sanctuary where a multitude of birds breed and roost.

### **Wasgamuwa national park**

Located in the districts of Matale and Polonnaruwa and bordered by the 'Mahaweli' and 'Amban' rivers, stretches an impressive 36,948 hectares. It was declared a National Park in 1984, making it the only one in the Central Province.

### **Sinharaja rain forest**

World heritage site and major eco tourism destination, which can also be described as a Tropical Lowland Rainforest or Tropical Wet Evergreen Forest . Whatever its 'technical' name, it is undoubtedly a rich treasure trove of nature with a great diversity of habitats and a vast repository of Sri Lanka 's endemic species found no where else in the world.