



Endemics & Specialities of Southern Vietnam (10 Days)

Ho Chi Minh City ♦ Cat Tien National Park
Di Linh ♦ Dalat ♦ Ho Chi Minh City



Grey-crowned Crocias

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh City to Cat Tien National Park

Pick up at Ho Chi Minh City's Tan Son Nhat International Airport or from your hotel and transfer by road to Cat Tien National Park, 150 km to the north. Cat Tien National Park contains the largest remaining area of lowland tropical forest in southern Vietnam and an incredible diversity of birds and mammals. Endangered birds found at Cat Tien include Germain's Peacock-pheasant, Green Peafowl and the elusive, Orange-necked Partridge while the mammal list includes Leopard Cat, Lesser Mousedeer, Gaur and three beautiful primates, Black-shanked Douc Langur, Silvered Langur and Buff-cheeked Gibbon. Overnight at Cat Tien National Park.

Days 2, 3 & 4: Cat Tien National Park

Three full days of birding at Cat Tien National Park. There are excellent trails starting right at the park headquarters while areas further afield such as Crocodile Lake can be reached by park jeeps. Spectacular avian delights to be found in Cat Tien's semi-evergreen forest include Germain's Peacock-pheasant, Siamese Fireback, Blue-rumped and Bar-bellied Pittas, Dusky, Black-and-red and Banded Broadbills, Orange-breasted Trogon, Great, Oriental Pied and Wreathed Hornbills. Cat Tien

is woodpecker heaven with 17 species on the park list including Heart-spotted, Pale-headed, Black-and-buff, Great Slaty and White-bellied. Lesser Adjutant, Asian Woollyneck and Crested Serpent-eagle can often be seen circling over the forest. Overnights at Cat Tien National Park.

Day 5: Cat Tien National Park to Di Linh

There is time for some final early morning birding at Cat Tien National Park before heading up Highway 20 to the cooler climes of the Dalat Plateau. The afternoon is spent birding at a forested mountain pass known locally as Deo Suoi Lanh, a short drive from the town of Di Linh. The montane evergreen forest at Deo Suoi Lanh is a great place to become acquainted with some of the Dalat Plateau specialities including Maroon Oriole, Grey-crowned Tit, Black-headed Parrotbill, Black-hooded and White-cheeked Laughingthrushes and Yellow-billed Nuthatch. Overnight at Di Linh.

Day 6: Di Linh to Dalat

Return to Deo Suoi Lanh after breakfast for a full morning of birding. Other exciting possibilities to look out for here include Bar-backed Partridge, Blue Pitta, Indochinese Green Magpie, Green Cochoa and Spotted Forktail. After lunch continue north along Highway 20 to the bustling hill resort of Dalat and start exploring some of the exciting birding sites around town. Overnight at Dalat.

Days 7, 8 & 9: Dalat

Three days of birding in the montane evergreen and coniferous forests around Dalat includes visits to Mount Lang Bian, the shores of Ho Tuyen Lam and the Ta Nung Valley. The Dalat Plateau is one of the endemic hotspots of South-East Asia and is home to many unique species and subspecies including Dalat Shrike-babbler, Annam Minivet, Annam Prinia, Annam Grasshopper-warbler, Black-crowned Fulvetta, Collared Laughingthrush, Grey-crowned Crocias, Langbian and Annam Sunbirds and Vietnamese Greenfinch. Other local specialities include Lowe's Green-pigeon, Red-vented, Necklaced and Annam Barbets, Rusty-naped and Blue Pittas, Slender-billed Oriole, Yellow-crowned Green Magpie, Langbian Tit, Brown-backed Bulbul, Grey-crowned Tit, Black-headed Parrotbill, Vietnamese Cutia, Black-hooded and White-cheeked Laughingthrushes, White-spectacled Sibia, Plain Minla, Manipur Treecreeper, Yellow-billed Nuthatch, Langbian Lesser Shortwing and Red Crossbill. Overnights at Dalat.

Day 10: Dalat to Ho Chi Minh City

A final morning of birding around Dalat before transferring to the airport for the short afternoon flight back to Ho Chi Minh City's Tan Son Nhat International Airport.