





MALAYSIA & BORNEO

Rail-babbler Quest

20th to 27th August 2024 (8 days)

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OVERVIEW & MAP

This short tour to Malaysia is designed specifically to find Rail-babbler, the only representative of the Eupetidae family. Surprisingly, this monotypic species is most closely related to the mountain loving Rockjumper's of southern Africa. We have three days and will visit one of the most reliable sites in Malaysia to find our elusive, shy quarry.

Day 1	Arrive in Kuala Lumpur
Day 2	Full day birding around Kuala Lumpur for Rail-babbler.
Day 3	Morning birding around Kuala Lumpur; afternoon depart for Kota Kinabalu



BIRDING SITES IN DETAIL



KUALA LUMPUR AREA

We'll visit a hill station near to Kuala Lumpur in our quest for Rail-babbler. This is known as one of the best places to find the monotypic Rail-babbler. This enigmatic species is found here at an unusually high density, and coupled with the typically sparse undergrowth - provides birders with the best chances of seeing it (and maybe even photographing it). There are a good number of known, accessible territories that we'll work our way through slowly, hoping to watch our quary strutting their stately walk and puffing their blue cheek pouches out.

Aside from Rail-babbler, this fabulous birding location also gives a fair chance of finding Crested Shrikejay, a species that has just recently been elevated to its own unique family (2021) – Platylophidae. We will also seek to enjoy the many other fabulous hill country species of this montane forest such as Silver-breasted Broadbill, Buff-rumped, Grey-and-buff and Crimson-winged Woodpeckers, Sultan Tit, Golden-whiskered, Sooty and Blue-eared Barbets, the beautiful Orange-breasted Trogon, Black-crested and scarce Scaly-breasted Bulbuls, Rufous-fronted and Buff-breasted Babblers, White-bellied Erpornis, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler, Blue-winged Leafbird and White-rumped Shama, the highly nomadic Pin-tailed Parrotfinch and extremely shy Ferruginous Partridge. We may also encounter troops of Dusky Leaf Monkeys foraging in the mid-canopy while strolling

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND IMPORTANT NOTES

The price for this 3-day birding tour of Peninsula Malaysia is **US\$975** per person on a twin/sharing basis based on a minimum of 7 guests.

Single supplement: US\$165

Internal flight cost (Kuala Lumpur to Kota Kinabalu): roughly **US\$121**. The cost of this flight is not included in the price of the tour. However, Rockjumper will gladly assist you with making this reservation and the final cost of the flight will be added to your invoice.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- All meals from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 3;
- · Bottled drinking water;
- · All lodgings;
- All ground transportation during the tour;
- · All reserve entrance fees;
- All guiding services;
- · Tips for local guides, drivers and services.

TOUR EXCLUSIONS:

- · Visa fees;
- · ANY flights;
- Any beverages (including mini-bar charges at hotels);
- · Optional excursions;
- · Special gratuities;
- · Telephone calls, laundry and other items of a personal nature.

Single Supplement: The single supplement cost for this tour will be charged if you wish to have single accommodation. If RBL cannot provide you with a rooming partner for these nights although you choose to share, the single supplement will become applicable. We will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that a rooming partner is found if you do wish to share.

Tipping: As noted above, gratuities (drivers, hotel staff, restaurants etc.) are included on this tour. However, this does NOT include your Rockjumper leader/s. If you feel that they have given you excellent service, it is entirely appropriate to tip them at your discretion.

Due to constantly fluctuating exchange rates, we quote our tours in 4 currencies. The tour price is fixed only in the currency printed in bold, and the actual cost in the other currencies listed will be adjusted according to prevailing exchange rates at the time of final invoicing. The same applies to approximate flight and single supplement rates.

Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registrations, a small group supplement will be offered to confirm the tour.

Tour prices are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result. The designated tour leader/s may be changed at short due to unforeseen circumstances.

The itinerary is indicative only. Changes made need to be made to the order in which the tour is conducted, or some of the venues we visit closer to departure. We will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.

- Accommodation throughout the trip is of a generally high standard and the hotels and resorts that we make use of range from comfortable to rather luxurious. There is no camping on this trip.
- It is important for the comfort of your fellow travellers that you do not over-pack. Kindly stick to 20kg (44lb) for check in luggage and 8kg (+-18kg) for hand luggage.
- Fitness: this tour requires a fair level of fitness, and participants should be in good general health as most of the birding will be done on foot and may require walking for several hours at a time. Some trails can be slippery, especially after rain.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS

The tour departs from and concludes at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (IATA: KUL). Day 1 is primarily reserved as an arrival day, and you would be welcome to arrive at any time before 16h00 today as we will meeting for a welcome dinner. Our tour will conclude by midday at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (IATA: KUL) on Day 3.

Visa requirements differ by country, nationality of the traveller and duration and purpose of your intended stay. It may be necessary to obtain a visa or an electronic travel authorization in advance of your travel. It is therefore vitally important that you check with your travel agent/consulate/embassy for exact visa requirements. The following website provides detailed information about visa eligibility and assistance with online applications options where viable: Visa HO for Travel