Vietnam and Cambodia

The Wildlife of Tonkin, Annam, and Cochinchina, and the incomparable Angkor Wat

A Greentours Trip Report

12th May to 2nd June 2026

Led by Paul Cardy

Trip Report and Systematic Lists by Paul Cardy

Pre tour
Sunday 10th to Wednesday 13th May Ba Vi National Park

Arriving from the Bhutan tour by way of Guwahati, Delhi, and Ho Chi Minh City, I was met on arrival in Hanoi and driven west of the city to the fine forested mountainous National Park of Ba Vi, where I would stay for three nights before the tour began. It was immediately obvious that this was a fine location, with excellent accommodation, and it will be part of the tour in future.

As we drove towards the hotel along lush beautiful forested lanes, I shouted to stop when I spotted the first *Stichopthalma suffusa tonkiniana* flying morpho like at the forest edge. In fact this fine species would turn out to be rather common here, often several feeding at fallen fruits or other bait. A very impressive butterfly, like all amathusiids it is now included in the morphinae.

During my stay, as well as catching up on notes and reports, and preparing for the tour, I of course explored the extensive verdant setting and the lanes and trails, finding many butterflies and a great selection of other vertebrates.

Also of interest here are various ruins of colonial buildings from the years of French rule early last century, and others remains dating from the French/Indochinese war.

Red Helen and Great Mormon flew along the shaded lanes. Walks were punctuated by Staff Sergeant, Sullied Brown Sailor, Small Yellow Sailor, The Circe, Common Archduke, Straight-lined Map, and Popinjay. Gaudy Baron flew in the canopy outside my room

Special satyrids included *Mycalesis mucianus*, *Lethe kansa*, *Lethe naga*, and *Lethe confusa.* Great Orange Tip and Yellow Orange-tip were much in evidence, Great Eggfly, Dark Blue Tiger, and Striped Blue Crow were seen, and highlights were Large Faun, Punchinello, and Restricted Demon.

It was here that I first realised just how productive Vietnam is for all manner of invertebrates in May. Lights attracted a great selection of moths including a lovely Lunar Moth. Many bugs, beetles, stick insects, and orthoptera, punctuated my strolls, with the occasional centipede too.

Birds were oddly few but I did see Japanese Tit and Red-billed Blue Magpies.

The lodge was supremely comfortable, with a fine restaurant. The breakfast buffet was one of the most extensive and beautifully prepared that I have ever seen. Ba Vi will be a great peaceful start to the tour.

The Tour
Days 1 and 2 Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th Arrival Hanoi

Having arrived in Hanoi early afternoon I enjoyed lunch with Ms Thuy, our ground agent, in the Sofitel Metropole. Later that evening she and I were driven to the airport to meet the group, arriving from the UK via Ho Chi Minh City.

Their flight was on time and we were soon on our way back into the city. It is remarkable how things continue to change here, with further new development. There was also an increase in the number of four wheeled vehicles in the city, and believe it or not an apparent decrease in, although still vast numbers of, mopeds and motorbikes. The shopping district around the hotel has changed significantly since my last visit, with high end shops now dominating.

In the dark we were driven through the continuous activity of the city, to the beautiful Sofitel. A very good dinner was enjoyed at a restaurant a short stroll from the hotel, and then we got some much needed sleep.

Days 3 to 6 Thursday 14th, Friday 15th, Saturday 16th, Sunday 17th Cuc Phuong National Park

Breakfast was the usual superb Sofitel selection of western, Vietnamese, and other Asian choices.

It was decided against the offered city walk this morning so we set out for Cuc Phuong National Park soon after breakfast. Hana, who would be our local guide, translator, and companion for the whole tour, met us in reception. The manager presented me with some beautifully wrapped tins of tea as a thankyou for my continued custom, this one of my many homes from home around the world.

Negotiating the hectic streets of Hanoi, we made our way to the southern parts of the city and the highway south. Before we left I saw Eastern Crowned Leaf Warbler from my window.

We played ‘spot the bird’ as it’s always sobering how few even usually common birds there are outside protected areas here. Various egrets and Black Drongos were about all we saw. After trundling south for some time limestone outcrops and characterful peaks formed an impressive landscape and we turned onto more minor roads that took us through many small bustling towns en route to our hotel.

We made a rest stop at a place where a large number of often beautiful crafts were on sale, but none were bought today.

Paddyfield Pipit was seen as we neared the hotel, a tranquil resort, the comfortable self contained rooms amid verdant gardens. It was rather busy with other visitors this year although many came only for lunch.

We enjoyed an excellent first lunch, a veritable feast as most meals here turned out to be, with more food than we could really do justice to. Sooty-headed Bulbuls were in the gardens.

Things started superbly the first afternoon as we made our first visit to Cuc Phuong National Park, and along the fine forested road towards Bong substation. This was very productive, from about 1530 to 1730. The reserve entrance is only a short drive from the hotel. The butterflies were immediately excellent and we realised what a great tour this was going to be for them. The road was alive with butterflies and all our stops yielded a great variety, the numbers stunning. Around the lake was mud puddling, and fermenting fallen figs attracted some fine species too.

Swallowtails began with Red Helen, Great Mormon, Common Bluebottle, and Spotted Zebra. Among pierids were Common Gulls, Orange Albatross, Yellow Orange-tips, and *Eurema andersoni.* It was great to see Little Map and many Marbled Mapwings, and Club Beak was on the track. A great site for limenitinid nymphalids we soon saw Plain Earl, Common Earl, Streaked Baron, Red-spot Duke, and Common Archduke. Popinjay was admired. There were Common Caerulean and many Common Ciliate Blues.

At the lake shore was the dragonfly *Chlorogomphus nakamurai*, the male with the basal half of wings black, the female with black body and a yellow patch at the base of the abdomen.

Further along the road we saw the first of the stunner *Stichopthalma suffusa*, Vietnamese Junglequeen, that I had seen so many of at Ba Vi. Butterflies continued with *Acraea issoria*, *Parantica sita*, *Lethe confusa*, *Terinos atlita*, Common Jester, Great Eggfly, and the lovely sapphire *Heliophorus ila.* Palmflies were well represented with *Elymnias hypermnestra*, *Elymnias patna*, and *Elymnias malelas*, the latter a fine mimic of Striped Blue Crow.

We saw a selection of lepidopterous larvae, including one especially large moth caterpillar on a *Calocasia*. There were two different gomphids, a mole cricket, and at least four species of stick insect, and we would see many more of these, a real feature here in May. There was a selection of plant hoppers and other bugs, a clearwing moth, and an oil beetle. Every step yielded something of interest.

It was rather hot for bird activity but we did see Common Iora, Rufescent Prinia, displaying Ornate Sunbirds, Rufous-capped Babbler, Ashy Bulbul, Oriental Magpie Robin, Common Tailorbird, and Little Spiderhunter.

The following day, our first morning at Cuc Phuong, the butterflies were remarkable in numbers and diversity. As we neared the park gates the verges were already buzzing with butterfly activity. At the first stop were Tawny Rajah, Black Prince, and *Stibochiona nicea*, The Popinjay. Here were two different stick insects, many weird fluffy-white scale insects, Green-eared Barbet, and the lizard *Calotes emma*.

Our excursions at Cuc Phuong consisted mainly of travelling backwards and forwards to Bong substation at the end of the paved road, some 20km from the HQ. Unusually none of the usual Bar-bellied or Blue-rumped Pittas were met on the road this year, or indeed Silver Pheasant. Fine forested limestone hills now and again appear through the trees. The forest here is superb and it’s all too easy to miss that when concentrating on the fine details of the wildlife. The slopes of the valley above Bong in particular boast excellent forest.

We saw Green-billed Malkoha, and Common and Great Ioras. The calls of Banded Bay Cuckoo were often heard, and Plaintive Cuckoo was seen.

The white flowered shrub commonly in flower at this time was *Clerodendrum chinense* and there was also *Clerodendrum japonicum.* There was a selection of red berried, and of white berried herbs and shrubs in fruit. Of the former *Aglaonema modestum* (Araceae) had particularly striking red berries. *Oxalis corymbosa* and *Alocasia macrorhiza* were at the roadside. Our walks were punctuated with a great selection of moths, bugs, orthopterans, lepidopterous larvae, spiders, etc.

Today were amazing mud puddling butterfly spectacles. How to describe what we saw? Anyway, as well as the species seen yesterday we saw all the following swallowtails: Common Jay, Tailed Green Jay, Fivebar Swordtail, Common Mormon, Spangle, Yellow Helen, Great Zebra, Lesser Zebra, Great Jay, Veined Jay, and Paris Peacock. Pierids were numerous with Red-base Jezebel, Painted Jezebel, Striped Albatross, Chocolate Albatross, Great Orange-tip, Spotted Sawtooth, Tree Yellow, Lesser Gull, and Plain Puffin. Danaids were represented by Dark Blue Tiger, Glassy Tiger, Striped Blue Crow, and Brown King Crow.

The great variety continued with Leopard Lacewing, Common Yeoman, Vagrant, Common Jester, Common Cruiser, Rustic, Clear Sailor, Sullied Brown Sailor, Common Nawab, Shan Nawab, Small Leopard, Black Prince, Tawny Rajah, Autumn Leaf, Malay Baron, and The Circe, a remarkable selection of impressive nymphalids.

We saw Punchinello, and the lycaenids Quaker, Dark Caerulean, Centaur Oakblue, Pointed Ciliate Blue, Fruhstorfer's Yamfly, Uncertain Royal, and Fluffy Tit.

Nympahlids continued with various species of *Athyma*, namely Staff Sergeant, Small Staff Sergeant, Orange Staff Sergeant, and Colour Sergeant.

A giant stick insect was an amazing find, first seen climbing on Hana's leg, an unwelcome surprise for her! We saw a mantid, and an *Argiope* in its web. Crimson Sunbird was admired.

A short stop at the Cave of Prehistoric Man yielded Jungle Glory, both White and Green Dragontails, and a very large heteropteran bug.

Atop a wall beside a small pond sat a Long-tailed Macaque. A family had stopped here too and the father beckoned me to point out some dragonflies. Whilst I was peering over the wall at the dragonflies, suddenly the macaque was alarmingly close to me, baring it's teeth and growling. It had covered quite a distance in seconds, and thankfully it stopped short of actually attacking me, an uncomfortable experience. Still no idea what was going on there!

Common Map puddled. Having reached the top of the road at Bong, an initial walk around the restaurant area produced many more butterflies. In fact I have never seen so many dragontails anywhere, one damp corner having hundreds of them puddling. The incredible variety continued with crickets, colourful grasshoppers, more stick insects, and a green spider.

At the Bong clearing we watched several Dollarbirds displaying over the disused swimming pool. It was so peaceful up here, considering all the visitors to the park today. We met a few people here and there, for example some girls who asked me to take their photos, but the vast majority of visitors had stayed at the lower levels of the park.

Indian Fritillary was in the clearing, and we saw a black winged clubtail, a 'black witch' moth, and we were buzzed by a red and black dragonfly. The butterfly Scarce Catseye was admired, purple above with beautiful ocelli below, and we saw two species of *Arhopala*, one being deep purple. We saw Red-base Jezebel and the moth *Histia flabellicornis*, a Mullerian mimic of several poisonous swallowtails. Bar-backed Partridge called from the forest.

Bamboo Forester was another fine satyrid. We saw a female Baron, Common Maplet, several sapphires, Yamfly, and a species of wasp beetle. An *Asarum* was in distinctive leaf. Tokay Gecko called. The walk was punctuated by stick insects, beetles, a beautiful homopteran bug, cicadas on a trunk, and the stunning dragonfly *Neurothemis fulvia.*

Three very special skippers today were *Odontoptilum angulatum*, *Abraximorpha davidii*, and *Arnetta atkinsoni.* The *Abraximorpha* as it's name suggests remarkably resembles a clouded magpie moth.

Back at the HQ restaurant we enjoyed a rather large lunch.

Various stops on the drive down produced a perched Golden Birdwing; a stick insect with a relatively broad body; a snail with its body partly covering the shell; Common Nawab; a yellow flowered species of Solanaceae; another mantid; and the species of very large stick insect we'd seen earlier, fine in the sunlight. *Prionolomia gigas* was a great find, an impressively large bug with ornamented thorax and enlarged hind legs.

Another walk around the lake yielded again many of the butterflies listed above, the numbers great. Two highlights were the lovely Siam Jungleglory, *Thauria lathyi*, and stunning Orange Oakleaf. There were many Little Maps and Marbled Mapwings, and a few Common Maps. Many *Acraea issoria* flew in more open areas. The dragonfly *Pseudothemis jorina* was over the lake, a very distinctive species with a cream white base to the abdomen, a species we see also in northern Thailand. White-throated Fantail and Striped Tit Babbler were active in the trees.

On Saturday we tried to avoid the crowds, and initially did so by heading for the less visited botanic garden. The vast number of visitors to Cuc Phuong, almost all in fact, were nationals, with very few foreigners here other than us, and many Vietnamese, young people especially, had come to see the spectacle of the butterflies at this season.

Things began today with the hawk moth *Ambulyx liturata*. Under trees near the gate were White-rumped Shama and scurrying Eastern Striped Squirrels, and I was delighted to spot a camouflaged Orange-winged Flying Lizard on a tree trunk.

The walls of an education centre had a fine selection of moths, including the sphingid *Daphnusa ocellaris* and a beautiful moon moth, as well as leaf crickets and stick insects. Here were again many Marbled Maps and the lovely satyrid *Neope muirheadi* was admired.

Reaching the gates of the botanic garden we found them locked, so Hana went in search of the key. She returned on a cart driven by my old friend Mr Bay, it was great to see each other again after some years, and hugs ensued. We climbed onto the cart and were first taken back to the HQ, where we had a group photo by the archway. We then walked the lovely flowery road towards the primate centre. The stunning

Paris Peacock nectared, Yellow-bellied Prinia and Pin-striped Babblers worked through the trees, and *Lethe confusa*, Chocolate Soldier, and Lemon Pansy were on the wing.

At the gate of the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre was nesting Stripe-throated Bulbul. We waited here for some time for a guide but no-one was available so we walked across the road to the Chelonian Centre, which we had completely to ourselves. Here a selection of Indochinese terrapins and tortoises were housed, with many informative displays on the threats to these vulnerable animals, many of which are severely endangered in the wild. Here we saw a perched blue-tipped black-winged spreadwing damsel.

There was now only enough time for a whirlwind visit to the Primate Centre before it closed for the morning, but we wouldd return tomorrow for a longer visit.

Bay now gave us the key to the botanic garden, and of course we had the garden to ourselves. Of note here were yet more stick insects, two Sika Deer, a thorn spider, Centaur Oakblue, and Rufescent Prinia. Hana told us about the ghosts in the forest! Endemic White-winged Magpies flew between the trees. I was pleased to spot an extremely well camouflaged large lichenose moth larva appressed to a tree trunk.

Lunch was eaten at the HQ restaurant. I went to see if the photo of me leading a group was still at the HQ, as a surprise to me on my last visit was to find my photograph, on the wall outside the visitor centre, advertising birdwatching at Cuc Phuong. The photo had been taken by Mr Bay. It was no longer here but apparently it's online.

Heavy rain came during lunch so we decided to return to the hotel to sit it out. It continued however so it was only Hana and me who returned to the park in the afternoon. With Bay we went to the orchid greenhouses, where only a few were in flower, and visited the important Pangolin rescue centre. The continuing heavy rain precluded any thing else so it was an early finish with the opportunity to catch up with notes.

On Sunday morning we returned to the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre, this time with a knowledgeable and informative guide. The Primate Centre has been established to care for rescued animals taken from markets, poachers, or those keeping them as pets. Vietnam supports many extremely rare primates, several of them endemic, and most can be seen at close quarters in this vitally important and very well run centre. Two species of Douc Langurs were here, namely Red-shanked and Grey-shanked, both very beautiful. We were to see Black-shanked Douc Langurs in the wild later in the trip at Cat Tien. Several species of Gibbon were here, gibbon taxonomy rather complex, with several recent splits. All have predominantly black males with beautiful cream to golden females. Western Black-crested Gibbon, Northern and Southern Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbons, and Northern and Southern White-cheeked Crested Gibbons were all here.

The world's most endangered primate is the Cat Ba Langur, with only some ninety remaining in the wild, the only ones in captivity anywhere being here. Delacour's Langur was of particular interest as it occurs in the Cuc Phuong area and we would go in search of it this afternoon.

We next visited the Pangolin Centre, where much information is given on these persecuted mammals, a poignant visit. Chinese Pangolin and Sunda Pangolin occur in Vietnam and both are critically endangered.

A last walk around the lake (for this visit), again yielded remarkable butterfly numbers, with much puddling, and many on fallen fruits. Highlights were Double-branded Blue Crow and White-edged Blue Baron.

Various stops higher along the road yielded Puff-throated Bulbul, Dwarf Crow, Common Duffer, Angled Castor, and the skippers *Seseria sambara* and *Koruthaialos rubecula*. A *Macrocilix* was a relative of the drepanid Chinese Character.

Back at the lodge we ate an early lunch and checked out. We moved to a rather good hotel in the busy town of Tam Coc, nearer to Van Long nature reserve, which we would visit this afternoon, and we would also be closer to the airport for our drive there the following morning. Once outside the park, the countryside of this part of Tonkin is heavily disturbed by human activity. Agriculture is intensive, with rice paddies dominant. Some villages boast impressive large churches.

First we checked into the hotel, then drove to Van Long. On arrival we stood on the dam and looked out over the large expanse of water, with patches of vegetation, and a backdrop of beautiful limestone hills. Egrets were numerous, namely Little, Intermediate, Great and Cattle, as well as Chinese Pond Herons. Little Grebes in breeding plumage dived in the shallow water. The abundant pink spongy masses on the emergent vegetation were clusters of snail eggs.

There were a number of Black-backed Swamphens, White-breasted Waterhen, and the prosaic Moorhen. Plain Prinias and Yellow-bellied Prinias were in the tall grass.

It was time to board a small punt for the afternoon boat trip through the limestone scenery, in the hope of seeing Delacour's Langur, for which Van Long is a prime site. The journey was very pleasant and relaxing as we drifted low through the channels. Two Yellow Bitterns were the highlight, some thirty Asian Openbills were impressive, and Blue Rock Thrush frequented the limestone cliffs. We saw Greater Coucal, Flavescent Bulbul, and the danaid Common Crow.

As we approached their favoured area we began to avidly scan the cliffs for signs of Delacour's Langurs. It wasn't long before we located the first, and were soon spotting more, appearing now and again between the crags and vegetation. This is a most distinctive primate with striking black and white pelage, and a long bushy tail, unique among the regions' langurs. We enjoyed superb prolonged views.

Mission very successfully accomplished it was time to head home as the late afternoon turned cooler, and we arrived back at Tam Coc after dark in time to pack for our journey tomorrow. Dinner was enjoyed in the hotel.

Days 7 to 9 Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th Dalat

On Monday we left early, in the dark, for the journey to Hanoi airport. We arrived with time to spare, certainly better than being late. All went well, the flight was punctual, and on arrival at Nha Trang airport we were reunited with Hana who'd taken an earlier flight. Dalat Airport was currently closed so we were using Nha Trang instead. Aboard the bus we started the journey west, the coast and scenery impressive.

Lunch was eaten overlooking a river. Rain came again. A fine forested drive took us over a pass. We arrived in bustling Dalat late afternoon. My, how it had changed since my last visit, Dalat was

unrecognisable to me, so much development had taken place. Always a popular hill resort the town seems to have become a victim of its success. Our hotel, a new one for me, was lovely, the rooms superb in colourful gardens.

We ate in the hotel restaurant which we had to ourselves.

It was a very mixed visit to Dalat this year, some of the best sites no longer accessible, and much rain. The only area in which we had prolonged adverse weather, Dalat will not be included on future May tours. But I leave here an account of what we did see this visit.

A valley near town that supports some of the best surviving broadleaved forest in the area proved no longer accessible, try as we might to find access. Instead we drove to Bi Doup National Park where accessible sites again proved tricky, but we did find some good spots. The weather was mixed. The lovely *Thaumantis diores*, The Jungleglory, was admired and we saw *Ypthima confusa*, The Confusing Threering. There were several of a pink species of *Russula*, an *Amanita* very much like Tawny Grisette, and large and small boletes in the pine forest. Among flowers were *Hypoxis aurea*, species of *Sisyrinchium* and *Senecio*, and a numerous pink flowered melastome shrub, *Melastoma malabathricum.* Annam Tits were in the pines and we saw Brown Shrike.

We were taken into town for lunch, not an ideal choice, but after lunch we could take Pauline to a dentist, her lost filling very efficiently fixed.

In the afternoon we made our first visit to Datanla Falls. From the restaurant verandah were Burmese Shrike, Verditer Flycatcher, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, and White-throated Fantail. Blue-winged Minlas came remarkably close, the subspecies here showing no blue in the wing, and now split as Plain Minla. Beautiful Mrs Goulds Sunbirds nectared very closely, these now split as Annam Sunbird. Black-throated Tit and Chestnut-vented Nuthatches were in the pines.

We walked down to the waterfalls. Orange-headed Thrush was on the track and allowed very close views, we saw Grey Bushchat and White-cheeked Laughingthrush, and another *Thaumantis diores* was admired. The waterfalls were impressive.

Here a slide tunnel (actually an open monorail) provides endless fun for most visitors who speed down to the waterfall on it, or at a more leisurely speed, up from it. Having walked all the way down, it seemed a good idea to save time and energy by using it to get back to the top. All did this whilst I walked back up.

The mountain of Lang Bian rises above Dalat and provides great views of the city. This we visited on the second morning. At the gates we transferred from our vehicle to a jeep which took us up through pine forest to the track we were to walk. The UAZs which had been used on all previous visits had been replaced by a vast number of new vehicles.

The walk took us initially through *Pinus kesiya* forest, becoming montane broadleaf forest on the upper slopes. The endemic White-spectacled Sibia was seen well. The beautiful *Amanita caesarea* was a great find. There were several flowers including an *Arisaema*, *Hypoxis aurea*, and *Gentiana langbianensis.* I was very pleased to find filmy ferns, *Hymenophyllum*, and a lovely small non-pinnate fern on a trunk.

Chestnut-vented and Yellow-billed Nuthatches worked trunks, and Blyth's Leaf Warbler were peripatetic in the trees. A flock of Grey-crowned Tits worked through the pines.

There were fine views down to Dalat from the superb broadleaf forest. We saw honey fungus, an attractive cicada, the morphos *Faunis eumaeus* and *Thaumantis diores*, and a delicate small species of *Viola*, *Viola nagasawae*. On damp banks was a branched sundew, *Drosera lunata*.

White-faced Jays, with their distinctive face pattern, now split from Eurasian Jay, were noisy in the pines. White-browed Shortwing called and Black-naped Woodpecker (split from Grey-faced Woodpecker) was a highlight.

We returned to Datanla Falls for lunch, again having great views of most birds seen yesterday from the balcony, especially Annam Sunbirds.

That afternoon we took a boat across Ho Tuyen Lam lake to a waterside lodge where we walked trails, a pink melastome much in evidence. We saw Little Cormorant, Chinese Pond Heron, Cinnamon Bittern, Hoopoe, Black-collared Starling, and a black and white *Abraxas.*

We enjoyed another great dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Days 10 to 15 Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd, Saturday 23rd, Sunday 24th, Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th May Cat Tien National Park

We left our fine hotel after another great breakfast and took the road south. Abundant Mottled and Yellow Emigrants were a feature of the journey, migrating in vast numbers.

In Bao Loc we detoured to Dambri waterfalls, where the collection of kitsch shops, swan pedalos, bars and restaurants continues to grow. At the ticket booth I rescued some trapped dragonflies. A circuit down to the waterfall and back by the lift (really!) produced several things that made it a worthwhile visit, and the falls themselves were indeed impressive. Dull and wet weather meant few other visitors today. An *Impatiens* flowered abundantly in the spray of the waterfall and there was a good selection of ferns. The jester seen here was possibly *Symbrenthia silana.* Lunch was rather good. I took a stroll around the lake seeing all the following bulbuls, Black-headed, Black-crested, Stripe-throated, Flavescent, Yellow-vented, and Streak-eared, and the following drongos, Black, Ashy, Lesser Racket-tailed, and Hair-crested.

Back on the road, one area we drove through had fine forested slopes, apparently unexplored and unspoilt due to their inaccessibility. Otherwise it was bustling towns and villages. A stop was made for an ATM, and having left the highway, at a small village shop to stock up on water and supplies.

On arrival at Cat Tien I was amazed to find a bridge being built over the Dong Nai River. Access has always been by ferry, and I wonder what effect this bridge will have on traffic into Cat Tien when it is opened, thought to be later in 2026. Anyway, access is still via the ferry for now. At the boat landing we loaded all our belongings (in my case many) onto the ferry. Pied Kingfishers were much in evidence. A short river crossing saw us arriving on the Cat Tien side where we waited in the newly opened visitor centre for the golf cart from the lodge. Immediately I was meeting old friends among the rangers. Initially Hana went with all the luggage to the lodge, and then returned for us.

Trundling along the forest road we were now in fine lush broadleaved forest. We settled into our comfortable rooms at the tranquil lodge and enjoyed a good first dinner in the forest. Common Treefrogs called.

The centrepiece of the tour, Cat Tien National Park produced many fine things this visit. We were based at the comfortable Forest Floor Lodge, on the banks of the Dong Nai river and surrounded by fine forest. We were the only visitors during our stay. Our five days here consisted of a rich variety of jeep drives and walks, as we explored the forest, grasslands, wetlands, and trails the park has to offer.

The first morning I alone took a pre-breakfast walk. Just as I walked out of the gates was Blue-winged Pitta on the road, and I had superb if brief views. Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbons called. Thick-billed Pigeons were in the trees, Oriental Pied Hornbill whooshed over the forest, Green-eared Barbet and Coppersmith called, and I saw both well. Productive for woodpeckers, I saw Rufous Woodpecker, Greater Yellownape, Laced Woodpecker, and Bay Woodpecker.

Back at the lodge it was time for breakfast after which we set out along the forested road east. A selection of crow species, often at moisture on the roads, were here. On the forest floor showy yellow gingers, *Curcuma xanthella*, were much in evidence and an impressive *Hymenocallis* was in flower. Psyche flew daintily at the forest edge and also on the wing were Grey Count, Fluffy Tit, Common Posy, Slate Flash, and Purple Leafblue, the last rather common here.

Birds continued with Black-headed Bulbul, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Grey-faced Tit Babbler, Emerald Dove, Stripe-throated Bulbul, Great Iora, White-rumped Shama, and Dollarbird.

The variety continued with a beautiful delicate white fungus, forest damsels, Orange-flanked Skink, Clouded Monitor, and Pallas's Squirrel.

Following lunch we explored the lodge gardens which proved very productive. Things began with Common Tree Frog on the lodge walls. We saw the butterflies Knight and Red-spot Duke, and I was delighted to find a tiny green mantid. Two blue headed calotes were strikingly coloured, *Calotes mystaceus*, Blue Crested Lizard or Indochinese Forest Lizard. A small well patterened snake was seen all too briefly. We found jumping spiders, more forest damsels, and the red winged dragonfly *Neurothemis fulvia.* Butterflies continued with Magpie Crow and Yellow Jezebel. On patterned *Lagerstroemia* bark was the always impressive Tokay Gecko.

That afternoon we first met the jeep driver who'd help us during the rest of our stay, Mr Lai. Driving the Heaven's Rapids road, a highlight was a large troop of Silvered Langurs that we watched for a long time, spread out as they were in various directions in the tree tops, we watched their behaviour. We also saw Pig-tailed Macaques on the forest floor. Emerald Dove was on the track and a highlight was Collared Falconet that I spotted perched on the support wires of a newly erected communication tower.

On Saturday morning we drove to the grasslands west of the HQ area. Things began with Sambar, which we'd see many of on a night drive here.

We walked stretches of the road that traverses the grassland. Southern Sooty-headed Bulbul and Streak-eared Bulbul were in fruiting trees, Lineated Barbet called and was seen well, there were Racket-tailed Treepie, both Golden-fronted and Blue-winged Leafbirds, Common Iora, Plaintive Cuckoo, and Vinous-

breasted Starling. Great Hornbill flew impressively over the trees. Red Junglefowl was in the grassland. Perched Chestnut-headed Bee-eaters were admired, Red-wattled Lapwing gave noisy alarm calls, Chinese Francolin called, and we saw Red-breasted Parakeet and Paddyfield Pipit. Both Emigrants continued numerous in the open habitat. Red Muntjac was the second deer of the morning.

The beautiful pink flowered tree *Cassia javanica* was numerous and a feature at this season. A highlight came with a female Green Peafowl, and we were to see several more, females and males, during our stay. Crested Serpent Eagle called in flight and a large Clouded Monitor made its way slowly along the road.

Woolly-necked Storks were impressive and by a series of ponds were several small damsels, and a Cinnamon Bittern. At the ranger's station a noisy bird flock were mobbing something but I just could not locate it, an owl, or a snake.

That afternoon we drove the Dac Lua road to its furthest point. Things began well with a female Siamese Fireback on the road and nesting Dusky Broadbills. There were indeed many broadbill nests along this road, some in use, some in disrepair. The next highlight was Black-shanked Douc Langurs, and we had prolonged great views of these beautiful primates, a large troop. Butterflies included Knight and the grass yellow *Eurema andersoni.* An *Amanita* was more or less over, and we found a snake casualty on the road, small, and red ventrally.

Bulbuls today, other than those already mentioned, were Black-headed, Black-crested, Red-whiskered, Stripe-throated, Flavescent, Ochraceous, and Grey-eyed. We again saw Blue-winged and Golden-fronted Leafbirds, and Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike and Plain-throated Sunbird.

We waited until dusk before heading back on our first night drive. It was rather quiet but we did see Common Palm Civet at the forest edge and a perched Large Tailed Nightjar.

On Sunday we walked the Crocodile Lake trail to the eponymous lake, a round trip of ten kilometeres at a very leisurely pace. We left at 0730 after breakfast. Hot weather again that day meant little bird activity in the forest but we ended the day having seen some fine things. Greater Coucal flew across as we drove, and Emerald Dove was on the track.

Notable this morning was the number and variety of snails, especially at the start of the trail. Every few steps I was pointing out another snail, and there were some beautiful species. Also of note was that we hardly saw snails anywhere else at Cat Tien, a very few maybe. I later remembered that I have a very well-produced identification chart of Vietnamese snails!

Not far from the start of the trail we reached an impressive 400 year old Tung tree, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, a fine spot for a break in its shade. Among the many labelled trees along the trail were *Vitex tripinnata*, *Chikrasia tabularis*, *Cananga latifolia*, *Mangifera dongnaiensis*, *Aglaia grandis*, *Pterospermum grewiifolium*, *Hydnocarpus saigonensis*, *Lagerstroemia ovalifolia*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Lagerstroemia floribunda*, *Sterculia thorelli*, *Diospyros variegata*, *Dalbergia olivieri*, and *Syzygium jambos.*

A variety of bugs, beetles (tortoise beetles and a click beetle among them), damsels, millipedes (one black and orange) punctuated the walk. The beautiful dragonfly *Neurothemis fulvia* was here again. Green-legged Partridge called and White-rumped Shamas came onto the path. A very large *Calocasia* was

admired and a variegated leaved *Philodendron* was adpressed to trunks. There was a good selection of fungi including an attractive species of *Marasmius*. Indochinese Flying Lizard was a great find and Common Sun Skinks and Bowring's Supple Skinks were on the forest floor. I was very pleased to find red giraffe-necked weevils.

Now and again Red-spot Marquis, *Lexias albomaculata*, and Common Map landed on the trail, and we saw Common Hedge Blue and Orange Gull. Endemic Grey-faced Tit-Babblers worked the vegetation very close to us.

The highlight was surely a Green Pit Viper that I was delighted to spot. We had prolonged views of this beautiful snake with fine photo opportunities. In fact it was still in the same spot on my walk back. But a Lantern Bug came a close second as a highlight, a superb insect, this *Pyrops spinolae*. A beautiful black moth with blue edges was Midamia Moth, *Cyclosia midamia*, a zygaenid. There were many bright red heteropteran bugs in various instars.

Nearing the lake we had close views of three Black and Red Broadbills, and Clippers and Common Imperial were on the wing.

At the lake we rested in the shade of the rangers hut and watched Black-backed Swamphens and the endangered Siamese Crocodile in the water, two seen today. Can there really be 700 of them in the lake now, as we were told, that's of course impossible! There was a selection of dragonflies including Variegated Glider and the black winged *Rhyothemis plutonia*.

It was time for a very good lunch.

We opted for a short boat trip around the lake and this gave us close views of Purple Heron, Anhinga, Cotton Pygmy Goose, Little Cormorants, Bronze-winged Jacana, Black-backed Swamphens, Indochinese Roller, and nesting Asian Golden Weavers.

Wandering around the lake with memories of this lovely place I saw a very small snake that soon sped away.

Chris and Pauline opted to return by motorbike rather than walk the trail again, the rest of us walked back, seeing few other visitors until later on, even for an hour or so not seeing another person at all, having the beautiful forest to ourselves, a fine experience.

As already mentioned I admired again the Green Pit Viper. Streak-necked Bulbuls were nesting. Butterfly wise I saw Common Imperial, Common Posy, Common Nawab, Common Wanderer, Intermediate Maplet, Blue-spot Archduke, and a species of *Arhopala.* The lovely blue *Lycaenopsis haraldus* was a great find, a striking species with the underside white with white-ringed black marginal spots. Tawny Rajah was attracted to bait on the trail.

Back at the trailhead I saw Violet Cuckoo perched atop a tree. The jeep was not there to meet me so I started the long walk towards the lodge. At this time on a Sunday afternoon there was no traffic on the road, so hitching a lift was not an option. I had no phone signal, so faced a many kilometre walk as dusk fell. Hearing a jeep approaching, never have I been more pleased to see anyone than I was to see Hai and Hana!

We enjoyed another great dinner at the lodge.

The butterflies at Cat Tien were excellent this visit. Among swallowtails were Common Bluebottle, Common Jay, Tailed Green Jay, Common Birdwing, Golden Birdwing, Common Rose, Red Helen, Great Mormon, Common Mormon, Green Dragontail, and most notably Banded Swallowtail.

Among pierids were Striped Albatross, Orange Gull, Common Gull, Common Wanderer, Great Orange Tip, Psyche, Yellow Orange Tip, *Eurema andersoni,* and Tree Yellow.

Danaids were well represented, and locally numerous, with Common Crow, Blue Spotted Crow, Striped Blue Crow, Double-branded Blue Crow, Dwarf Crow, and Magpie Crow all here, and Dark Blue Tiger, Glassy Tiger, and Common Tiger all seen.

Among Nymphalids were Rustic, Common Yeoman, Common Clipper, Grey Count, Redtail Marquis, Vagrant, Knight, Black-tip Archduke, Common Nawab, and Black Prince. Yellow Pansy and Chocolate Soldiers flew in open grasslands, and Common Palmfly was admired. The beautiful *Amatheuxidia amythaon*, The Koh-i-Nor, was a highlight.

Blues were many and varied with Banded Blue Pierrot, Elbowed Pierrot, Plains Cupid, Lesser Grass Blue, Tiny Grass Blue, Forget-me-not, Zebra Blue, Common Caerulean, Metallic Caerulean, Transparent Six-line Blue, Tailless Lineblue, Dingy Lineblue, Common Ciliate Blue, Gram Blue, Forest Quaker, The Quaker, Common Hedge Blue, Common Lineblue and Banded Lineblue. We saw Yamfly, Common Posy, Slate Flash and Common Tit.

Purple Leaf Blue was rather common along the trails. Among skippers were *Notocrypta paralysos*, *Matapa aria*, *Coladenia agni*, *Halpe porus*, and *Pyroneura niasana*.

On Monday morning we walked west from the lodge to the HQ seeing a selection of beetles, odonata, and orthoptera. Spangled Drongo and Asian Fairy Bluebird were here. The Lagerstroemia trial had more labelled trees including *Xerospermum noronhianum*, *Trivalvaia costata*, *Adina cordifolia*, *Caranga latifolia*, *Mammea siamensis*, *Machilus cochinchinensis*, *Caryota mitis*, *Cycas pectinata*, *Huberantha cerasoides*, *Albizia duclouxii, Lagerstroemia speciosa*, and *Garcinia ferrea*. Gibbons called.

A species of *Boletus*, very cep like, grew below a notice board. Near the HQ buildings were Zebra Doves on the ground, a species I don't remember seeing at Cat Tien in the past, the species having only recently become established in Vietnam. Lime Butterfly was on the wing.

Back at the lodge we met for another walk around the gardens. A remarkable caterpillar was Drury's Jewel Moth, *Cyclosia papilionaris.* The oakblue *Arhopala atosia* and the awl *Hasora anura* were here, and Tickell's Blue Flycatcher was seen.

In the afternoon we ventured west into the grasslands and as far as the boundary of the park. A total of nine Green Peafowl was a highlight, and we also saw Cinnamon Bittern, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Grey-faced Tit Babbler, Black-hooded Oriole, Bronzed Drongo, Racket-tailed Treepie, and Vinous-breasted Starling.

We waited until dusk before returning slowly on a night drive. Great was a Leopard Cat, in fact probably two animals, at the forest edge. We see this beautiful small cat on most visits. Fantastic was a perched Asian Barred Owlet that Hai pointed out, and Great Eared Nightjar was impressive.

The dominant sighting by far was Sambar, there were very many, several hundreds at least. Eye shine of them was continuous and sweeping spotlights across the grasslands revealed tens of them on most open areas.

Our last morning saw us revisiting a variety of sites, initially Heaven's Rapids. Many Germains' Swiftlets were in the air and we saw Rufous Woodpecker, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Black-hooded Oriole, and Ashy, Crow-billed, and Bronzed Drongos. Among the butterflies were *Lethe mekara*, *Cirrochroa tyche*, and *Doleschallia bisaltide.*

Back on the Dac Lua road, at the crocodile lake trailhead were many Crows and Tigers, particularly attracted by the moisture under one of the shelters. Just inside the forest here I had good if brief views of Germain's Peacock Pheasant. We had more great views of Black-shanked Douc Langurs.

At the HQ we visited the informative museum. Hoopoe was on the lawn. At the rescue centre we saw a selection of species that had been rescued from various sources. Great here was a troop of Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbons, in the wild although in the environs of the enclosures, which held some less fortunate although rescued individuals.

A boat trip along the Dong Nai River was a fine way to end our visit here this year. Kingfishers were a feature with at least four Blue-eared Kingfishers, White-throated Kingfisher, Stork-billed Kingfisher, and Pied Kingfisher all here.

Two Woolly-necked Storks was a highlight, and Dollarbird was much in evidence.

Sunset over the forest was beautiful.

Days 16 Wednesday 27th May Journey to Ho Chi Minh City

We said our sad farewells to the lodge and travelled in the golf cart down to the HQ. Southern Yellow-cheeked Gibbons were in full voice this morning, really not far away at the forest edge. Having taken the ferry, we met our new driver, and minor roads took us through small villages to join the main road south.

Lunch was eaten in an extensive roadside place with a large choice of cuisines.

In the historic old part of Ho Chi Minh City we settled into the colonial Majestic Hotel.

Again the group decided against a city tour so the afternoon was free for relaxation, practicalities, and paperwork. A realisation that some didn't have passport photos with them (for Cambodia visa on arrival and Angkor Pass, although it transpired they are no longer necessary) meant arranging a taxi to a small photo studio across town that was very helpful.

I later went for a long walk visiting familiar landmarks and memories. Dinner was enjoyed in the hotel,

Day 17 Thursday 28th May Transfer to Siem Reap

Breakfast was enjoyed on the roof of the Majestic. We checked out and drove the short distance to Ho Chi Minh airport. Check in was quiet, although they insisted on charging me for my second check in bag despite my insisting it was already paid for!

Then it was sad farewells and thank you to Hana who had been immensely helpful and had greatly contributed to the success of the tour.

The flight was short, with views over the Cambodian countryside as we approached Siem Reap.

Siem Reap has a large new international airport, opened since my last visit. It was remarkably spacious and quiet, and almost deserted, ours the only flight arriving at this time. Visas were very easily obtained on arrival and immigration cleared with no queues at all. N.B. Passport photos are no longer necessary for the visa on arrival. We walked out into the heat of Cambodia. No transport from the hotel was there to meet us, so I quickly organised a taxi, and in fact I ended up employing Kim, the driver, for our whole visit.

The new airport is some way east of town and the journey allowed us to appreciate Cambodian rural life, agriculture, ox-carts, small villages. Once in town it was a delight to return to Angkor Village where several staff welcomed me back. This fine beautiful hotel boasts beautiful wooden construction, with beautiful ponds and gardens. Having settled in we met for a delicious lunch. There followed a siesta.

Later in the afternoon we took a tuc tuc to the new (well, since my last visit) ticket office and visitor complex. We had to wait a while for the ticket booth to open, but there was plenty of interest here. Once open, photos were taken (no longer necessary to carry passport photos) and passes issued. Not cheap, I bought 7 day passes necessary for our stay).

Dinner was another delicious meal in the open sided restaurant, by the tranquil water, the lights of the resort beautiful against the atmospheric dark skies.

Day 18 Friday 29th May Angkor Temples

Following a very good breakfast, Kim was at the resort to meet us, together with an archaelogical guide for a morning tour of Angkor Wat. I was not going with them as I had various things to sort in town for our excursions over the next days.

So it was first to Angkor Wat itself. Entering via the east gate to experience the best of the light on the temple, this also avoided the heaviest crowds. Nearly three hours were spent exploring the site, marvelling at the fine detail, and at the whole. The guide imparted a great deal of information about the temple, and explained the details of the carvings and decorations.

The bas-reliefs on the outer walls of the central temple stretch for 800m and depict events from the epic Mahabarata, from the Ramayana, from celebrated battles, and of various Hindu themes. The central temple has three stories and there was time to climb to the top for those who wished to. Angkor Wat was probably built by Suryavarman II as a funerary temple to honour Vishnu. It dates from the early twelfth century.

Common and White-vented Mynas were among the birds here.

Lunch was again at Angkor Village.

In the afternoon, we all went to Angkor Thom, approaching via the south gate which is lined with stunning statues of gods and demons. The gate itself is decorated with stone elephant trunks and faces of the bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara. Beside the moat were various dragonflies and Common Jay, Spotted Jay, Spotted Zebra, and Peacock Pansy were on the wing. On the water were Cotton Pygmy Geese.

The Bayon is considered by many as second only to Angkor Wat in importance. The structure comprises 54 gothic towers decorated with massive faces of Avalokiteshvara. Very photogenic, it is again decorated with many fine bas-reliefs. We walked from here to the Baphuon, the Terrace of the Elephants, and the Terrace of the Leper King. The scale of these ruins is always impressive and we could easily avoid the crowds here.

Long-tailed Macaques are a constant presence here.

Next were the ruins of Ta Prohm, famously mostly unexcavated and covered in jungle. This is a supremely photogenic place with twisted tree roots anchored into the walls of many of the ruins. Red-breasted Parakeets were numerous, and we also saw Alexandrine Parakeet. Variable Squirrels, here bright chestnut with a white tail ring (*Callosciurus finlaysonii annellatus*) scampered over the leaf litter and Shikra sped over the canopy.

Day 19 Saturday 30th May Angkor Temples

Today we drove to the extensive site of Preah Khan, less visited, amid fine forest. We walked the trails around the perimeter walls and through the main site. The outer walls are adorned with many fine statues of Garuda, a mythical half-man half-bird creature. It was the array of invertebrates that really kept us amused here. There was a great variety of bugs, orthopterans, larvae, etc. Among the dragonflies were Pruinosed Bloodtail and very many Variegated Flutterers. Butterflies were a feature and included Common Rose, Common Jay, Psyche, Common Wanderer, Grey Pansy, Clipper, Grey Count, Common Yeoman, Common Palmfly, Knight, Lesser Grass Blue, and Common Ciliate Blue.

The reservoir at Sras Srang had many Little Cormorants, as well as Indian Cormorant, Darters, and Little Grebe.

Lunch was again at the hotel.

In the afternoon we visited sites in and around Siem Reap by tuc tuc. Of great interest was the APOPO project where African Giant Pouched Rats are trained to detect landmines using their remarkably acute olfactory senses. A rat can cover an area the size of a tennis court in twenty minutes, which would take a human with a metal detector several days. An incredible success. The animals are trained in Tanzania and then deployed to Cambodia. An informative talk and tour was given, then we were introduced to an animal at work, and then one to hold for those who wished. The visit ended with a poignant film about the vital work of the centre. Admirable was the obvious respect that the trainers and handlers have for the rats, they consider them colleagues, and such a difference is their work making to life here as more and more

areas are cleared of these hateful weapons. The rats are called Herorats and the project is advertised all over town, indeed the country, visitors contributing to funding this vital project.

Late afternoon saw us strolling in the Royal Gardens, busy with families and those exercising in the park. We were here to see the very large roost of the endemic Lyle's Flying Fox. There were vast numbers in the trees and we watched them for some time, squabbling and moving from branch to branch, several now taking to the wing as dusk approached.

Dinner in the hotel was again excellent, in the open sided restaurant.

Day 20 Sunday 31st May Phnom Kulen and Banteay Srei

Today we visited Phnom Kulen, a forested reserve in the hills near Siem Reap. Remarkably busy on a Sunday, next time we'll go on a weekday, but this, a new site for us, proved to be excellent for butterflies. There were so many visitors today that there were many people directing vehicles along the beautiful forested road. They however were helpful at letting us stop when I wanted to explore a forest trail.

Mud puddling swallowtails were a feature, with all of the following, quite something. Yellow Helen, Red Helen, Common Mime, Lime Butterfly, Great Mormon, Siamese Raven, Common Bluebottle, Common Jay, Spotted Jay, Tailed Green Jay, Fivebar Swordtail, and Chain Swordtail.

There were Painted Jezebels, Spotless Grass Yellows, Chocolate Albatross, Great Orange-tips, Common Tiger, White Tiger, Long-branded Blue Crow, Common Yeoman, Leopard, and Commander. Among lycaenids were Yamfly, Tiny Grass Blue, Straight Pierrot, and Common Pierrot.

An impressive waterfall is the focus for most of the Cambodian visitors here, and it was extremely busy, the path to it lined with stalls selling all sorts, food, crafts, etc. etc. Nevertheless walking this trail and venturing just slightly away from it produced many butterflies.

A riverside walk took us away from the Sunday crowds towards a small shrine. The lovely skipper *Pirdana hyela*, Green-striped Palmer, was a highlight, and of great interest was a large *Scolopendra* centipede devouring a snail. There was the usual rich selection of other invertebrates too.

Heavy rain came and we sheltered under the roof of a stall where a lady was selling various herbs and potions.

Kim drove us to a restaurant where we enjoyed a very good lunch before visiting the site of Banteay Srei, some 25 km north-east of the main structures. For many years little visited, this is not now the case!

Dating mainly from the tenth century, the temples of Banteay Srei are dedicated to Shiva and Parvati. Constructed with sandstone which allows such detailed fine carving the intricate extensive bas reliefs have given it the name 'Jewel of Khmer art'. The detail was especially fine in the late afternoon light. It was rediscovered only in 1914 and extensive restoration began in 1930. It's small scale in relation to the vast complexes of Angkor makes it easy to complete a walk around the whole site.

Of note here were rather large distinctive green ants.

Day 21 Monday 1st June Phnom Krom, Beng Mealea, Flight to Ho Chi Minh City

Our flight was not until the evening so we had most of the day for further exploration. We enjoyed a leisurely start and a slow breakfast. First we drove towards the northern shores of Tonle Sap, where remarkable stilt houses lined the channels. Reaching the lake itself however was not easy.

Next we drove to the top of the hill of Phnom Krom, which afforded fine views of the lake and the area in all directions. Here were impressive temple ruins as well as a functioning series of temples, and shrines.

Then it was to the hotel to finish packing, and to enjoy a last delicious lunch. There followed thankyous and farewells, for now, to all the staff.

We headed for the until recently very little visited site of Beng Mealea. This was a superb site, and perhaps the most striking of all Angkor sites that we visited. Ta Prohm multiplied, this was a superb series of incredibly impressive sandstone features, nearly all unrestored. Trees grow out of tumbling huge building blocks, their roots creeping over the stones. An extensive site, a very small area has recently been restored. This was a superb site that I look forward to re-visiting next time. It was also productive for butterflies and dragonflies.

We had time in hand but it was time to get to the airport. There we said farewells and thank yous to Kim.

Something of a shock when we learnt our flights had been rescheduled as our original flight had been cancelled. All OK however when I insisted that we had to get to Saigon this evening, and we were put on the next flight. Flights tomorrow were not an option!

The duty-free area of the new airport was quite something, state of the art, with impressive shops and few other passengers. The departure gates area too was almost empty.

A short, fairly empty, and smooth flight, the views of the lights of sprawling Ho Chi Minh were impressive.

Our transport drove us the short distance to an airport hotel. Dinner was on the top floor.

We reflected on a remarkable tour, the butterflies, and the wonderful variety of other invertebrates especially, with some fine birds, mammals, and reptiles too, amid the stunning scenery of Vietnam and Cambodia, and the wonderful insight into the frenetic life here, and not least a great visit to Angkor, finding new sites too after all these years.

Days 22 Tuesday 2nd June Departure

Departures were at different times, the terminal just a short drive from the hotel.

Vietnam and Cambodia 2026 Systematic Lists

Compiled by Paul Cardy

Itinerary

Tuesday 12th May. Departure.
Wednesday 13th May. Arrival in Hanoi.
Thursday 14th May. To Cuc Phuong. Mac Lake.
Friday 15th May. Cuc Phuong. Bong valley trail, road.
Saturday 16th May. Cuc Phuong HQ area, botanic garden, Endangered Primate Rescue Centre, Chelonian Project.
Sunday 17th May. Cuc Phuong. Endangered Primate Rescue Centre. Pangolin Centre. Van Long.
Monday 18th May. To Hanoi. Flight to Nha Trang. To Dalat.
Tuesday 19th May. Bi Doup National Park. Datanla Falls.
Wednesday 20th May. Mt.Lang Bian. Datanla Falls. Ho Tuyen Lam.
Thursday 21st May. Dambri Falls. To Cat Tien.
Friday 22nd May. Cat Tien. Dac Lua Road. Heaven's Rapids.
Saturday 23rd May. Cat Tien. Grassland. HQ. Dac Lua Road. Forest night drive.
Sunday 24th May. Cat Tien. Crocodile Lake.
Monday 25th May. Cat Tien. Walk to HQ. Grasslands. Night drive.
Tuesday 26th May. Cat Tien. Heaven's Rapids. Dac Lua road. HQ. Dong Nai River.
Wednesday 27th May. Cat Tien to Ho Chi Minh City.
Thursday 28th Mayy. To Siem Reap, CAMBODIA.
Friday 29th May. Angkor Temples. Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, Ta Prohm.
Saturday 30th May. Angkor Temples. Preah Khan. Sras Srang. Siem Reap. APOPO. Royal Gardens.
Sunday 31st May. Phnom Kulen. Banteay Srei.
Monday 1st June. Phnom Kraom. Beng Mealea. Flight to Ho Chi Minh City.
Tuesday 2nd June. Departure.

Systematic List Number 1 Birds

The nomenclature and systematic order follow 'Birds of Vietnam' Lynx, Second Edition 2025, and 'Birds of Cambodia', Lynx 2019.

Bar-backed Partridge	*Arborophila brunneopectus*	Heard at Cuc Phuong
Green-legged Partridge	*Tropicoperdix chloropus*	Heard at Cat Tien
Green Peafowl	*Pavo muticus*	Some fine sightings at Cat Tien
Germain's Peacock Pheasant	*Polyplectron germaini*	**Near Endemic.** Cat Tien
Chinese Francolin	*Francolinus pintadeanus*	Heard at Cat Tien
Red Junglefowl	*Gallus gallus*	Cat Tien
Siamese Fireback	*Lophura diardi*	Cat Tien
Cotton Pygmy-Goose	*Nettapus coromandelianus*	On moats at Angkor, and at Crocodile Lake
Little Grebe	*Tachybaptus ruficollis*	Van Long and Siem Reap
Rock Dove	*Columba livia*	Feral Pigeon widespread
Oriental Turtle Dove	*Streptopelia orientalis*	Scattered records
Red Collared Dove	*Streptopelia tranquebarica*	Cat Tien
Spotted Dove	*Streptopelia chinensis*	Widespread
Grey-capped Emerald Dove	*Chalcophaps indica*	A few at Cat Tien

Zebra Dove	*Geopelia striata*	Cambodia, also at Cat Tien this visit
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	*Treron curvirostra*	Cat Tien
Great Eared Nightjar	*Eurostopodus macrotis*	Several at Cat Tien
Large-tailed Nightjar	*Caprimulgus macrurus*	Cat Tien
Germain's Swiftlet	*Aerodramus germani*	Numerous at Cat Tien
Brown-backed Needletail	*Hirundapus giganteus*	Cambodia
Asian Palm Swift	*Cypsiurus balasiensis*	Scattered records
House Swift	*Apus affinis*	Scattered records
Greater Coucal	*Centropus sinensis*	Widespread
Green-billed Malkoha	*Phaenicophaeus tristis*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Western Koel	*Eudynamys scolopaceus*	Heard often in Dalat area
Violet Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*	A female at Cat Tien
Banded Bay Cuckoo	*Cacomantis sonneratii*	Heard often
Plaintive Cuckoo	*Cacomantis merulinus*	Heard often, seen at Cat Tien
Violet Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*	A female at Cat Tien
Large Hawk Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx sparverioides*	Heard
White-breasted Waterhen	*Amaurornis phoenicurus*	Van Long
Black-backed Swamphen	*Porphyrio indicus*	Van Long
Common Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	Van Long
Asian Openbill	*Anastomus oscitans*	Several at Van Long
Woolly-necked Stork	*Ciconia episcopus*	A few at Cat Tien
Yellow Bittern	*Ixobrychus sinensis*	Van Long
Cinnamon Bittern	*Ixobrychus cinnamoneus*	Cat Tien grassland and Hoy Tuyen Lam
Black-crowned Night Heron	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	Along Dong Nai at Cat Tien
Chinese Pond Heron	*Ardeola bacchus*	Widespread and common
Javan Pond Heron	*Ardeola speciosa*	South Vietnam and Cambodia
Eastern Cattle Egret	*Bubulcus coromandus*	Widespread
Purple Heron	*Ardea purpurea*	Cat Tien
Great Egret	*Ardea alba*	Scattered records
Intermediate Egret	*Ardea intermedia*	Scattered records
Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*	Scattered records
Little Cormorant	*Microcarbo niger*	Cambodia, Dalat, Cat Tien
Indian Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*	Cambodia and Cat Tien
Oriental Darter	*Anhinga melanogaster*	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Red-wattled Lapwing	*Vanellus indicus*	Cat Tien grasslands
Bronze-winged Jacana	*Metopidius indicus*	Crocodile Lake
Asian Barred Owlet	*Glaucidium cuculoides*	Seen well at Cat Tien
Crested Serpent Eagle	*Spilornis cheela*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Shikra	*Accipiter badius*	Ta Prohm
Oriental Pied Hornbill	*Anthracoceros albirostris*	Cat Tien
Great Hornbill	*Buceros bicornis*	Cat Tien
Eurasian Hoopoe	*Upupa epops*	Dalat area and Cat Tien
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	*Merops leschenaulti*	Cat Tien
Indochinese Roller	*Coracias affinis*	Cat Tien
Dollarbird	*Eurystomus orientalis*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Blue-eared Kingfisher	*Alcedo meninting*	4 along the Dong Nai at Cat Tienyu
Pied Kingfisher	*Ceryle rudis*	Cat Tien
Banded Kingfisher	*Lacedo pulchella*	Heard at Cat Tien

Stork-billed Kingfisher	*Pelargopsis capensis*	Along Dong Nai River at Cat Tien
White-throated Kingfisher	*Halcyon smyrnensis*	Mostly Cat Tien
Coppersmith	*Psilopogon haemacephalus*	Cat Tien, and Cambodia
Blue-eared Barbet	*Psiolopogon cyanotis*	Cat Tien
Green-eared Barbet	*Psilopogon faiostrictus*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Lineated Barbet	*Psilopogon lineatus*	Cat Tien, and in Cambodia. Mostly heard.
Necklaced Barbet	*Psilopogon auricularis*	**Near Endemic.** Lang Bian, Dalat
Blue-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon asiaticus*	Heard at Cuc Phuong
Annam Barbet	*Psilopogon annamensis*	**Near Endemic.** Dalat area
Bay Woodpecker	*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*	Cat Tien
Rufous Woodpecker	*Micropternus brachyurus*	On 2 days at Cat Tien
Greater Yellownape	*Chrysophlegma flavinucha*	Cat Tien
Laced Woodpecker	*Picus vittatus*	Cat Tien
Black-naped Woodpecker	*Picus guerini*	Lang Bian
Freckle-breasted Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos analis*	Cat Tien
Collared Falconet	*Microhierax caerulescens*	Cat Tien, very good views
Vernal Hanging Parrot	*Loriculus vernalis*	Cat Tien, in flight
Alexandrine Parakeet	*Psittacula eupatria*	Ta Prohm
Red-breasted Parakeet	*Psittacula alexandri*	Cat Tien, and numerous at Ta Prohm
Blue-winged Pitta	*Pitta moluccensis*	Cat Tien
Dusky Broadbill	*Corydon sumatranus*	Cat Tien
Black-and-red Broadbill	*Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*	On 4 days at Cat Tien
Barn Swallow	*Hirundo rustica*	Scattered records
Striated Swallow	*Cecropis striolata*	Cat Tien
Paddyfield Pipit	*Anthus rufulus*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Grey-chinned Minivet	*Pericrocotus solaris*	Dalat area
Scarlet Minivet	*Pericrocotus speciosus*	Scattered records
Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike	*Hemipus picatus*	Cat Tien
Black-crested Bulbul	*Rubigula flaviventris*	Cat Tien
Red-whiskered Bulbul	*Pycnonotus jocosus*	Scattered records
Northern Sooty-headed Bulbul	*Pycnonotus chrysorrhoides*	Red vented, Cuc Phuong.
Southern Sooty-headed Bulbul	*Pycnonotus aurigaster*	Yellow vented, Cat Tien and Dambri Falls
Stripe-throated Bulbul	*Pycnonotus finlaysoni*	Daily at Cat Tien
Flavescent Bulbul	*Pycnonotus flavescens*	Van Long and Cat Tien
Yellow-vented Bulbul	*Pycnonotus goiavier*	Cambodia and Cat Tien
Streak-eared Bulbul	*Pycnonotus blanfordi*	Daily at Cat Tien, and in Cambodia
Black-headed Bulbul	*Brachypodius atriceps*	Cat Tien and Angkor
Puff-throated Bulbul	*Alophoixus pallidus*	Cuc Phuong
Ochraceous Bulbul	*Alophoixus ochraceus*	Cat Tien
Grey-eyed Bulbul	*Iole propinqua*	Cat Tien
Ashy Bulbul	*Hemixos flavala*	Cuc Phuong
Blue-winged Leafbird	*Chloropsis cochinchinensis*	Cat Tien
Golden-fronted Leafbird	*Chloropsis aurifrons*	Cat Tien
Common Iora	*Aegithina tiphia*	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Great Iora	*Aegithina lafresnayei*	Daily at Cat Tien
Blue Rock Thrush	*Monticola solitarius*	Van Long and Dalat
Orange-headed Thrush	*Geokichla citrina*	3 at Datanla Falls
Yellow-billed Whistling-thrush	*Myophonus flavirostris*	Dalat

Rufescent Prinia	*Prinia rufescens*	Cuc Phuong
Yellow-bellied Prinia	*Prinia flaviventris*	Van Long and Dalat
Plain Prinia	*Prinia inornata*	Van Long
Common Tailorbird	*Orthotomus sutorius*	Widespread in small numbers
Dark-necked Tailorbird	*Orthotomus atrogularis*	Cat Tien
Eastern Crowned Warbler	*Phylloscopus coronatus*	Hanoi
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus reguloides*	Lang Bian
Verditer Flycatcher	*Eumyias thalassina*	Dalat area
Indochinese Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis sumatrensis*	Cat Tien
Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	*Culicicapa ceylonensis*	Dalat area
Oriental Magpie Robin	*Copsychus saularis*	Widespread in small numbers
White-rumped Shama	*Copsychus malabaricus*	Daily at Cat Tien, and Cuc Phuong
Grey Bushchat	*Saxicola ferrea*	Dalat area
White-throated Fantail	*Rhipidura albicollis*	Cuc Phuong and Dalat area
White-cheeked Laughingthrush	*Garrulax vassali*	Datanla Falls
Abbott's Babbler	*Malacocincla abbotti*	Heard at Angkor Wat
Rufous-capped Babbler	*Cyanoderma ruficeps*	Cuc Phuong
Pin-striped Tit Babbler	*Mixornis gularis*	Daily at Cuc Phuong
Grey-faced Tit Babbler	*Macronous kelleyi*	**Near Endemic.** Small active flocks on three days at Cat Tien
Blue-winged Minla	*Siva orientalis*	Datanla Falls (Plain Minla)
White-spectacled Sibia	*Heterophasia robinsoni*	**Endemic.** Ho Tuyen Lam
Grey-crowned Tit	*Aegithalos annamensis*	On 2 days in Dalat area
Japanese Tit	*Parus minor*	Cuc Phuong
Langbian Tit	*Parus legendrei*	**Endemic.** Dalat area
Chestnut-vented Nuthatch	*Sitta nagaensis*	A few in the Dalat area
Yellow-billed Nuthatch	*Sitta solangiae*	Lang Bian
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	*Chalcoparia singalensis*	Cat Tien
Brown-throated Sunbird	*Anthreptes malacensis*	Cat Tien
Purple-naped Sunbird	*Hypogramma hypogrammicum*	Cat Tien
Van Hasselt's Sunbird	*Leptocoma brasiliana*	Cat Tien
Olive-backed Sunbird	*Cinnyris jugularis*	Cuc Phuong
Annam Sunbird	*Aethopyga annamensis*	**Near Endemic.** A few in Dalat area, with some fine views. (Gould's Sunbird).
Langbian Sunbird	*Aethopyga johnsi*	**Endemic.** Dalat area.
Crimson Sunbird	*Aethopyga siparaja*	Cuc Phuong and Ba Vi
Little Spiderhunter	*Arachnothera longirostra*	Cuc Phuong
Streaked Spiderhunter	*Arachnothera magna*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Purple-naped Spiderhunter	*Kurochkinegramma hypogrammicum*	Cat Tien
Modest Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum obsoletum*	A few at Cat Tien
Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*	Cat Tien
Plain Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum minullum*	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum cruentatum*	Cat Tien
Black-hooded Oriole	*Oriolus xanthornus*	Several at Cat Tien
Asian Fairy Bluebird	*Irena puella*	Cat Tien
Brown Shrike	*Lanius cristatus*	Dalat area

Burmese Shrike	*Lanius collurioides*	Dalat area
Black Drongo	*Dicrurus macrocercus*	Scattered records
Blackish Drongo	*Dicrurus longicaudatus*	North Vietnam
Chinese White-faced Drongo	*Dicrurus innexus*	Dalat area
Sooty Drongo	*Dicrurus leucophaeus*	Dambri Falls
Crow-billed Drongo	*Dicrurus annectens*	Cat Tien
Bronzed Drongo	*Dicrurus aeneus*	Common at Cat Tien
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus remifer*	Scattered records
Hair-crested Drongo	*Dicrurus hottentottus*	Dambri Falls
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus paradiseus*	Scattered records
White-faced Jay	*Garrulus leucotis*	Dalat area
Red-billed Blue Magpie	*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*	Ba Vi
White-winged Magpie	*Urocissa whiteheadi*	A few at Cuc Phuong
Racket-tailed Treepie	*Crypsirina temia*	Daily at Cat Tien
Eastern Jungle Crow	*Corvus macrorhynchos*	Cambodia
Black-collared Starling	*Gracupica nigricollis*	Ho Tuyen Lam
Common Myna	*Acridotheres tristis*	Common in Cambodia and Dalat area
Vinous-breasted Starling	*Acridotheres burmannicus*	Cat Tien
Great Myna	*Acridotheres grandis*	Reasonably common in Cambodia
Common Hill Myna	*Gracula religiosa*	Cat Tien and Angkor
Golden-crested Myna	*Ampeliceps coronatus*	Cat Tien
Asian Golden Weaver	*Ploceus hypoxanthus*	Nesting at Crocodile Lake, Cat Tien
Scaly-breasted Munia	*Lopchura punctulata*	Cambodia
Tree Sparrow	*Passer montanus*	Very common and widespread

Systematic List Number 2 Butterflies

The taxonomy follows 'Butterflies of Vietnam (an illustrated checklist)' by Monastyrskii and Devyatkin, 2nd Edition 2015. Invaluable is the excellent 'Butterflies of Vietnam' series, by Monastyrskii. 'Volume 1. Nymphalidae: Satyrinae' 2005. 'Volume 2. Papilionidae' 2007. 'Volume 3. Nymphalidae: Danainae, Amathusiinae' 2011. 'Volume 4 (I and II) Nymphalidae: Libytheinae to Limenitidinae' 2019. 'Volume 5. Pieridae', 2024. Also of great use is 'Butterflies of Thailand, Second Edition' by Ek-Amnuay, 2015.

Papilionidae

Troides helena	Common Birdwing	*ssp.euthycrates* Cuc Phuong *ssp.cerberus* Cat Tien
Troides aeacus	Golden Birdwing	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Pachliopta aristolochiae goniopeltis	Common Rose	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Chilasa clytia	Common Mime	Cambodia
Papilio demoleus malayanus	Lime Butterfly	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Papilio demolion	Banded Swallowtail	Cat Tien
Papilio mahadeva	Siamese Raven	Cambodia
Papilio helenus	Red Helen	Widespread and often common
Papilio nephelus chaon	Yellow Helen	Cuc Phuong and Cambodia
Papilio polytes romulus	Common Mormon	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Papilio memnon agenor	Great Mormon	Widespread, very common at Cuc Phuong
Papilio protenor euprotenor	Spangle	Cuc Phuong
Papilio paris	Paris Peacock	Cuc Phuong
Graphium sarpedon	Common Bluebottle	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Graphium doson axion	Common Jay	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Graphium eurypylus	Great Jay	Cuc Phuong
Graphium chironides	Veined Jay	Cuc Phuong
Graphium arycles arycleoides	Spotted Jay	A few in Cambodia
Graphium agamemnon	Tailed Green Jay	In small numbers at Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, and Cambodia
Graphium antiphates	Fivebar Swordtail	Cuc Phuong and Cambodia
Graphium aristeus hermocrates	Chain Swordtail	Cambodia
Graphium macareus indochinensis	Lesser Zebra	Cuc Phuong
Graphium megarus megapenthes	Spotted Zebra	Cuc Phuong and Angkor
Graphium xenocles lindos	Great Zebra	Cuc Phuong
Lamproptera curius walkeri	White Dragontail	Many at Cuc Phuong
Lamproptera meges	Green Dragontail	Many at Cuc Phuong, a few at Cat Tien

Pieridae

Delias pasithoe thyra	Red-base Jezebel	Cuc Phuong
Delias descombesi	Red-spot Jezebel	Cat Tien
Delias agostina annamitica	Yellow Jezebel	Cat Tien
Delias hyparete indica	Painted Jezebel	Scattered records, widespread

Leptosia nina	Psyche	Widespread in small numbers
Prioneris thestylis	Spotted Sawtooth	Cuc Phuong
Pieris canidia	Indian Small White	Cuc Phuong
Pieris rapae	Small White	Dalat area
Cepora nerissa dapha	Common Gull	Cuc Phuong where common, and Cat Tien
Cepora nadina	Lesser Gull	Cuc Phuong
Cepora iudith	Orange Gull	Several at Cat Tien, and in Cambodia
Appias lyncida	Chocolate Albatross	Cuc Phuong and Cambodia
Appias libythea olferna	Striped Albatross	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Appias nero	Orange Albatross	Several at Cuc Phuong
Appias albina darada	Common Albatross	A few mud-puddling at Cat Tien
Appias paulina adamsoni	Lesser Albatross	A few at Cat Tien
Appias indra	Plain Puffin	Cuc Phuong
Appias lalage	Spot Puffin	A few records
Ixias pyrene	Yellow Orange Tip	Widespread and very common
Hebomoia glaucippe	Great Orange Tip	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Pareronia anais	Common Wanderer	Several at Cat Tien and in Cambodia
Dercas verhuelli	Common Tailed Sulphur	Cuc Phuong
Catopsilia pomona	Lemon Emigrant	Widespread and abundant
Catopsilia pyranthe	Mottled Emigrant	Widespread and abundant
Eurema andersonii	One-spot Grass Yellow	Scattered records
Eurema blanda silhetana	Three-spot Grass Yellow	Scattered records
Eurema hecabe	Common Grass Yellow	Widespread and locally common
Eurema laeta	Spotless Grass Yellow	Phnom Kulen
Eurema brigitta	Small Grass Yellow	Grassland at Cat Tien, etc.
Gandaca harina burmana	Tree Yellow	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, and Cambodia
Dercas verhuelli	Common Tailed Sulphur	Recorded

Nymphalidae

Danainae

Danaus chrysippus	Plain Tiger	Bi Doup
Danaus genutia	Common Tiger	Widespread in small numbers
Danaus melanippus	White Tiger	Phnom Kulen
Tirumala septentrionis	Dark Blue Tiger	Scattered records
Tirumala limniace	Broad Tiger	Cuc Phuong
Parantica aglea melanoides	Glassy Tiger	Widespread and reasonably common
Parantica sita	Chestnut Tiger	Cuc Phuong and Dalat
Ideopsis vulgaris	Dark Blue Glassy Tiger	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Euploea camaralzeman	Blue King Crow	Phnom Kulen
Euploea core godartii	Common Crow	Widespread
Euploea algea limborgii	Long-branded Blue Crow	Cat Tien, Cuc Phuong, Phnom Kulen
Euploea doubledayi	Greater Striped Black Crow	Phnom Kulen
Euploea sylvester harrisii	Double-branded Blue Crow	Cuc Phuong
Euploea mulciber	Striped Blue Crow	Common at Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong, also Ba Vi
Euploea tulliolus	Dwarf Crow	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Euploea midamus chloe	Blue Spotted Crow	Daily at Cat Tien
Euploea klugii	Brown King Crow	Cuc Phuong

Euploea radamanthus	Magpie Crow	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong

Satyrinae

Melanitis leda	Evening Brown	Daily at Cuc Phuong
Melanitis phedima	Dark Evening Brown	Cuc Phuong
Elymnias hypermnestra	Common Palmfly	Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, Cambodia
Elymnias patna stictica	Blue-striped Palmfly	On 2 days at Cuc Phuong
Elymnias malelas	Spotted Palmfly	Cuc Phuong
Lethe confusa	Banded Treebrown	Daily at Cuc Phuong
Lethe verma	Straight Treebrown	Recorded
Lethe naga	Naga Treebrown	Ba Vi
Lethe mekara crijnana	Common Red Forester	Cat Tien
Lethe kansa	Bamboo Forester	Cuc Phuong
Mycalesis perseus	Common Bushbrown	Scattered records
Mycalesis mineus	Dark Brand Bushbrown	Scattered records
Mycalesis intermedia	Intermediate Bushbrown	Cuc Phuong
Mycalesis perseoides	Burmese Bushbrown	Scattered records
Mycalesis mucianus	a bushbrown	Ba Vi
Orsottriaena medus	a bushbrown	Ba Vi, Cuc Phuong, and Cambodia
Coelites nothis	Scarce Catsye	Cuc Phuong
Neope muirheadi lahittei	Black-spotted Labyrinth	Cuc Phuong
Ypthima baldus	Common Fivering	Widespread and common
Ypthima singorensis	Singor Fivering	Scattered records
Ypthima huebneri	Common Fourring	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Ypthima confusa	Confusing Threering	Bi Doup

Amathusiinae

Faunis eumeus	Large Faun	Ba Vi and Datanla Falls
Stichophthalma suffusa tonkiniana	Vietnamese Junglequeen	Many at Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Stichophthalma fruhstorferi	Oriental Junglequeen	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Amathuxidia amythaon	The Koh-I-Noor	Cat Tien
Thaumantis diores splendens	Jungleglory	Bi Doup, Datanla Falls, Lang Bian
Thauria lathyi	Siam Jungleglory	Cuc Phuong on 2 days
Discophora sondaica	Common Duffer	Cuc Phuong

Libytheinae

Libythea myrrha sanguinalis	Club Beak	Cuc Phuong

Apaturinae

Rohana parisatis	Black Prince	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Rohana tonkiniana	Tonkin Black Prince	Cuc Phuong
Hestinalis nama	The Circe	Ba Via nd Cuc Phuong

Charaxinae

Polyura athamas	Common Nawab	Cat Tien
Polyura nepenthes	Shan Nawab	Cuc Phuong

Charaxes bernardus	Common Tawny Rajah	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien

Nymphalinae

Symbrenthia lilaea	Common Jester	Cuc Phuong
Symbrenthia silana	a jester	This may have been the species seen at Dambri Falls
Junonia iphita	Chocolate Soldier	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Junonia atlites	Grey Pansy	Cuc Phuong and Cambodia
Junonia almana	Peacock Pansy	Angkor Wat
Junonia lemonias	Lemon Pansy	Scattered records
Junonia hierta	Yellow Pansy	Cat Tien
Hypolimnas bolina	Great Eggfly	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Doleschallia bisaltide	Autumn Leaf	2 at Cuc Phuong
Kallima incognita	Orange Oakleaf	Cuc Phuong (*K.inachus*)

Cyrestinae

Cyrestis themire	Little Map	Many at Cuc Phuong
Cyrestis cocles	Marbled Mapwing	Abundant at Cuc Phuong, and only 2 at Cat Tien
Cyrestis thyodamas	Common Map	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Cyrestis nivea	Straight-lined Map	Ba Vi
Chersonesia risa	Common Maplet	Cuc Phuong
Chersonesia intermedia	Intermediate Maplet	Cat Tien

Biblidinae

Ariadne ariadne	Angled Castor	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Ariadne specularia	Banded Castor	Cat Tien

Pseudergolinae

Stibochiona nicea	The Popinjay	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong

Heliconiinae

Acraea issoria	Yellow Coster	Daily at Cuc Phuong
Cethosia cyane	Leopard Lacewing	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Argyreus hyperbius	Indian Fritillary	Cuc Phuong
Terinos clarissa	Malayan Assyrian	Cuc Phuong
Vindula erota	Common Cruiser	Cuc Phuong
Cirrochroa tyche	Common Yeoman	Widespread and often numerous, Cuc Phuong, Cat Tien, and Cambodia
Vagrans egista	Vagrant	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Cupha erymanthis	The Rustic	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Phalanta phalantha	Leopard	Cambodia
Phalanta alcippe	Small Leopard	Cuc Phuong

Limenitidinae

Athyma kanwa	Dot-dash Sergeant	Ba Vi
Athyma selenophora	Staff Sergeant	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Athyma zeroca	Small Staff Sergeant	Cuc Phuong

Athyma cama	Orange Staff Sergeant	Cuc Phuong
Athyma nefte	Colour Sergeant	Cuc Phuong
Moduza procris	The Commander	Phnom Kulen
Pantoporia hordonia	Common Lascar	Cat Tien
Neptis clinia susruta	Clear Sailor	Cuc Phuong
Neptis hylas kamarupa	Common Sailor	Widespread
Neptis nata	Sullied Brown Sailor	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Neptis miah	Small Yellow Sailor	Ba Vi
Lebadea martha	The Knight	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Parthenos sylvia	The Clipper	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Tanaecia julii	Common Earl	Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Tanaecia jahnu	Plain Earl	Cuc Phuong
Cynitia lepidea	Grey Count	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Cynitia cocytus	Lavender Count	Cat Tien
Euthalia monina	Malay Baron	Cuc Phuong
Euthalia aconthea	Baron	Cambodia
Euthalia alpheda	Streaked Baron	Cuc Phuong
Euthalia phemius	White-edged Blue Baron	Cuc Phuong
Euthalia lubentina	Common Gaudy Baron	Ba Vi
Dophla evelina	Red-spot Duke	Cuc Phuong
Bassarona teuta	Banded Marquis	Cat Tien
Bassarona recta	Red-spot Marquis	Cat Tien
Lexias dirtea	Black-tip Archduke	Cat Tien
Lexias pardalis	Common Archduke	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong
Lexias albopunctata	Blue-spot Archduke	Cat Tien

Riodinidae

Zemeros flegyas	The Punchinello	Ba Vi and Cuc Phuong

Lycaenidae

Miletinae

Miletus sp.		Cuc Phuong (only in flight). 4 species are known from Cuc Phuong.
Miletus sp.		Cat Tien (only in flight), more than one species seen?

Curetinae

Curetis sp.	a sunbeam	Crocodile Lake trail, Cat Tien, not seen closely enough to identify to species

Polyommatinae

Castalius rosimon	Common Pierrot	Cambodia
Discolampa ethion	Banded Blue Pierrot	Cat Tien
Caleta roxus	Straight Pierrot	Cambodia
Caleta elna	Elbowed Pierrot	Cat Tien
Everes lacturnus	Indian Cupid	Scattered records
Pithecops corvus	Forest Quaker	Cat Tien

Lycaenopsis haraldus	Felder's Hedge Blue	Cat Tien
Neopithecops zalmora	The Quaker	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Megisba malaya	The Malayan	Scattered records
Actyolepis puspa	Common Hedge Blue	Cat Tien
Udara dilecta	Pale Hedge Blue	Cuc Phuong
Celastrina lavendularis	Plain Hedge Blue	Scattered records
Celatoxia marginata	Margined Hedge Blue	Recorded
Zizina otis	Lesser Grass Blue	Cat Tien, Cuc Phuong, and Cambodia
Zizeeria maha	Pale Grass Blue	Scattered records
Zizeeria karsandra	Dark Grass Blue	Scattered records
Zizula hylax	Tiny Grass Blue	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Chilades pandava	Plains Cupid	Cat Tien grasslands
Euchrysops cnejus	Gram Blue	Cat Tien
Catachrysops strabo	Forget-me-not	Cat Tien
Syntarucus plinius	Zebra Blue	Cat Tien
Jamides bochus	Dark Caerulean	Cuc Phuong
Jamides celeno	Common Caerulean	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Jamides alecto	Metallic Caerulean	Cat Tien
Nacaduba kurava euplea	Transparent Six-line Blue	Cat Tien
Nacaduba beroe	Opaque Six-line Blue	Scattered records
Prosotas nora	Common Lineblue	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Prosotas dubiosa	Tailless Lineblue	Cat Tien
Prosotas lutea	Banded Lineblue	Cat Tien
Petrelaea dana	Dingy Lineblue	Cat Tien
Anthene emolus	Common Ciliate Blue	Locally numerous
Anthene lycaenina	Pointed Ciliate Blue	Locally numerous

Lycaeninae

Heliophorus ila pseudonexus	Restricted Purple Sapphire	Cuc Phuong
Heliophorus epicles latilimbata	Common Purple Sapphire	Possibly this also at Cuc Phuong

Thecliinae

Arhopala pseudocentaurus pirithous	Centaur Oakblue	Cuc Phuong
Arhopala atosia	Tailed Disc Oakblue	Cat Tien lodge
Arhopala spp.		Other species at Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien not identified
Amblypodia anita	Leaf Blue	Many at Cat Tien, also Angkor Wat
Loxura atymnus	Yamfly	Cat Tien and Cambodia
Yasoda androconifera	Fruhstorfer's Yamfly	Cuc Phuong
Drupadia ravindra	Common Posy	Cat Tien
Tajuria ister	The Uncertain Royal	Cuc Phuong
Hypolycaena erylus	Common Tit	Cat Tien
Hypolycaena amasa	Fluffy Tit	Cuc Phuong and Cat Tien
Rapala manea schistacea	Slate Flash	Cat Tien

Hesperiidae

Coeliadinae

Hasora anura	Slate Awl	Cat Tien lodge

Pyrginae

Coladenia agni	Conjoined-spotted Pied Flat	Cat Tien?
Seseria sambara indosinica	Small White Flat	Cuc Phuong
Tagiades japetus	Common Snow Flat	Cat Tien
Tagiades menaka	Spotted Snow Flat	This at Cat Tien?
Tagiades sp.	a snow flat	Cuc Phuong
Abraximorpha davidii	Mimic Flat	This remarkable species was seen at Cuc Phuong
Odontoptilum angulatum	Chestnut Angle	Cuc Phuong

Hesperiinae

Halpe porus	Moore's Ace	Several at Cat Tien
Koruthaialos rubecula	Narrow-banded Velvet Bob	Cuc Phuong
Psolos fuligo		Cat Tien
Ancistroides nigrita	Chocolate Demon	Cuc Phuong
Notocrypta paralysos	Common Banded Demon	Cat Tien
Notocrypta curvifascia	Restricted Demon	Ba Vi
Arnetta atkinsoni	Atkinson's Bob	Cuc Phuong
Pyroneura niasana	Burmese Lancer	Cat Tien
Erionota thrax	Common Banana Skipper	Ba Vi
Matapa aria	Common Red-eye	Cat Tien
Pirdana hyela rudolphii	Green-striped Palmer	This fine species at Phnom Kulen
Potanthus mingo ajax	Zigzag-banded Dart	Cuc Phuong
Potanthus spp.		
Telicota spp.		
Parnara spp.		
Pelopidas spp.		
Caltoris spp.		

Systematic List Number 3 Mammals

The systematic order and taxonomy follow 'A Field Guide to the Mammals of South-east Asia' by Charles M.Francis, New Holland 2008. Updated with 'Handbook of the Mammals of the World' Volumes 1 to 9 (HMW).

Lyle's Flying Fox	*Pteropus lylei*	A very large roost in the Royal Gardens at Siem Reap, Cambodia
Bat spp.		Several other species of bat were seen during the trip, both insectivorous and frugivorous. Several bats in various ruins at Angkor.
Annamese Silvered Langur	*Trachypithecus margarita*	**Endemic.** Seen well at Cat Tien.
Delacour's Langur	*Trachypithecus delacouri*	**Endemic.** Several seen well on the forested cliffs at Van Long. One of the world's most endangered primates.
Black-shanked Douc Langur	*Pygathrix nigripes*	**Endemic.** Cat Tien. Seen on three days, some very good views. An endangered species.
Long-tailed Macaque	*Macaca fascicularis*	Cuc Phuong, and daily at Angkor
Northern Pig-tailed Macaque	*Macaca leonina*	Cat Tien
Southern Yellow-cheeked Crested	*Nomascus gabriellae*	**Endemic.** Seen well at Cat Tien, where Gibbon also heard daily
Common Palm Civet	*Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*	1 on a night drive at Cat Tien
Leopard Cat	*Prionailurus bengalensis*	1 (perhaps 2) on a night drive at Cat Tien
Wild Boar	*Sus scrofa*	Sign at Cat Tien
Red Muntjac	*Muntiacus muntjak*	1 at Cat Tien
Sambar	*Cervus unicolor*	Very many (100s) on the night drives at Cat Tien, in the open habitat to the west of HQ. Also seen in the forest.
Sika Deer	*Cervus nippon*	2 at Cuc Phuong
Black Giant Squirrel	*Ratufa bicolor*	Heard often, seen at Cat Tien
Pallas's Squirrel	*Callosciurus erythraeus*	Several at Cat Tien and Cuc Phuong
Finlayson's Squirrel	*Callosciurus finlaysonii*	Several in Cambodia, ssp.*annellatus*
Maritime (Eastern) Striped Squirrel	*Tamiops maritimus*	Rather common at Cuc Phuong
Cambodian Striped Squirrel	*Tamiops rodolphii*	Common in central and south Vietnam, and in Cambodia
Asian Red-cheeked Squirrel	*Dremomys rufigenis*	Cat Tien

Systematic List Number 4 Amphibians and Reptiles

For reptiles the standard work is 'A Field Guide to the Reptiles of South-east Asia' by Indraneil Das, New Holland 2010.

Common Indian Toad	*Bufo melanostictus*	Cuc Phuong
Common Tree Frog	*Polypedates leucomystax*	Around the lodge at Cat Tien
House Gecko	*Hemidactylus frenatus*	Common and widespread
Frilly House Gecko	*Hemidactylus platyurus*	Scattered records
Tokay Gecko	*Gekko gecko*	Heard in many places, several seen at Cat Tien
Common Sun Skink	*multifasciata*	Cat Tien
Little Ground Skink	*Eutropis macularia*	Cat Tien?
Long-tailed Ground Skink	*Eutropis longicaudata*	Cat Tien
Bowring's Supple Skink	*Lygosoma bowringii*	Cat Tien. Tail of juvenile bright red.
Garden Calotes	*Calotes versicolor*	Cambodia
Blue Forest Calotes	*Calotes mystaceus*	A few at Cat Tien
Indochinese Flying Lizard	*Draco indochinensis*	Cat Tien
Orange-winged Flying Lizard	*Draco maculatus*	Dambri Falls and Cuc Phuong
Clouded Monitor	*Varanus nebulosus*	A few at Cat Tien
Siamese Crocodile	*Crocodylus siamensis*	2 at Crocodile Lake at Cat Tien. A highly endangered species
Ruby-eyed Green Pit Viper	*Trimeresurus rubeus*	Seen very well at Cat Tien
snake species		Three other species at Cat Tien, one a road casualty