

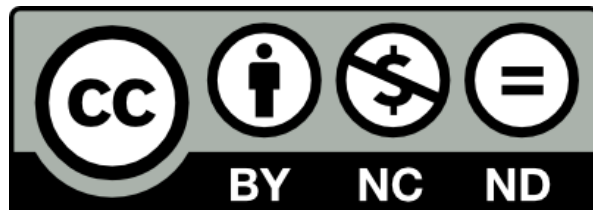
Common Birds of Goa

Pronoy Baidya, Ronit Dutta
Mandar Bhagat & Amit Bandekar



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This ebooklet is for use in its original state and is aimed as a learning material for beginner birdwatchers. Please note that this is for free and wide circulation, however DO NOT use this for commercial purposes. Please contact us to acquire our permission before printing this ebooklet for personal use.



Pronoy Baidya
Ronit Dutta
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Amit Bandekar

Foreword

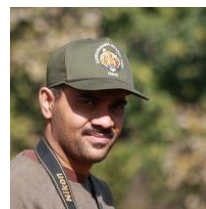
Goa Bird Conservation Network (GBCN) begun 10 years ago as an informal network and today with members from all over the State, is on its way to being registered as a formal society. The network is an excellent example of how citizen's can, on coming together, start documenting and monitoring the biodiversity of their surroundings, create awareness, contribute to national/international database and while doing this, most importantly motivate the youth to take up the ever-enjoyable and meaningful activity that birdwatching is.

One such endeavor is this ebook, a free downloadable document, compiled by Pronoy, Ronit, Mandar & Amit. The photoguide though titled “Common Birds of Goa”, covers 183 species, with excellent images by the authors. Though this ebooklet is only one of the many activities that the network does, it certainly is one of the most important and lest the title fools you, the ebooklet can be used effectively in any part of the country, especially South India.

The ebooklet will certainly aid the beginners in bird identification and will serve as an excellent resource to carry on the smart phone instead of a cumbersome book.

Prag Rangnekar

IBCN- Goa State Coordinator



Preface

Goa Bird Conservation Network (GBCN) has been at the forefront in the state for spreading the joys of bird watching and awareness regarding the need for bird conservation in the last decade. In 2013, with the advent of social networking, GBCN has been able to connect with more than 600 goans, who have love for nature in general and birds in particular. The network has been able to provide them a platform for learning various aspects of birds and bird watching online through [GBCN Group](#), the Facebook group of GBCN and through www.gbcn.in a central repository for information on birds of the state. The monthly birdwalks of GBCN has taken this learning process a step further by giving everyone a chance to go bird watching with experts and enjoy the great goan outdoors. The network has run various monitoring programs in association with [IBCN](#) and [BirdCount India](#) in the past and during this it was realized that the first hurdle any birdwatcher faces is the lack of a simple resource for identifying birds and so our idea of coming out with this ebooklet was born. This ebooklet has pictures of 183 of the common birds that one may find in the state, depending on where the birder is.

In spite of this ebooklet being a photographic guide, the authors strongly recommend illustrated books on birds to the readers since they contain different sub species, morphs and sexual dimorphism illustrations of species more in detail when compared to a photographic guide.

The authors sincerely hope that this ebooklet will form the first step for identifying birds for all beginner birders of Goa.

Pronoy Baidya

Introduction

Goa, India's smallest state is cosily tucked in between the Western Ghats in the east and the warm sands of the Arabian Sea in the west. Physio-graphically, Goa is broadly divided into three regions viz. Coastal Plains, Interior Highlands and the Western Ghats. This unique geographical location of the state has given rise to a range of habitats which harbour a good diversity of avifauna. The sandbars, tidal mudflats, coastal islands and estuarine mangroves of the coastal plains in the state is home to some of the most fascinating resident birds like the Collared Kingfisher and the Lesser Adjutant while in winter gulls, terns, plovers and other migrant raptors throng these areas in large numbers during the migratory season.

The inland wetlands, agricultural fields, grasslands and lateritic plateaus are the important bird habitats in the interior highlands of Goa. These inland wetlands are home to resident waterfowl like the Lesser Whistling Duck, Cotton Pygmy Goose, Purple Swamphen and other species. In the winters, thousands of migrant waterfowl like the Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Garganey, etc. visit these wetlands. Occasionally, rarities like the Pied Avocet and Common Shelduck can also be sighted at some of these areas. The lateritic plateaus on the other hand are very unique and less explored bird habitats of the interior highlands in the state. Species like the Desert Wheatear, Jungle Bush-quail, Short eared Owl, Savanna Nightjar, Oriental Skylark, Malabar Lark and other Pipits can be found in these areas. The Western Ghats section of Goa forms the most important bird habitat of the state.

continued..

Of the 18 Western Ghats endemic birds, 11 are reported from the state chief among them being the Nilgiri Wood-pigeon and Grey headed Bulbul which are listed in the IUCN Red Data Book as Vulnerable and Near Threatened species respectively. Wynaad Laughingthrush, White-bellied Treepie and Rufous Babbler are some of the elusive endemic species while the Malabar Grey Hornbill, Crimson backed Sunbird and Vigor's Sunbird are abundant in the state.

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Lesser Whistling Duck



Indian Spot-billed Duck



Cotton Pygmy-Goose-Male



Cotton Pygmy-Goose-Female



Ruddy Shelduck



Ruddy Shelduck in Flight



Comb Duck/Knob-billed Duck-Male



Comb Duck/Knob-billed Duck-Female



Garganey-Male



Garganey-Female



Northern Pintail-Male



Northern Pintail-Female



Green-winged Teal/Common Teal-Male



Green-winged Teal/Common-Teal-Male&Female



Red Spurfowl



Grey Junglefowl



Indian Peafowl



Little Grebe-Breeding



Little Grebe-Non breeding



Painted Stork



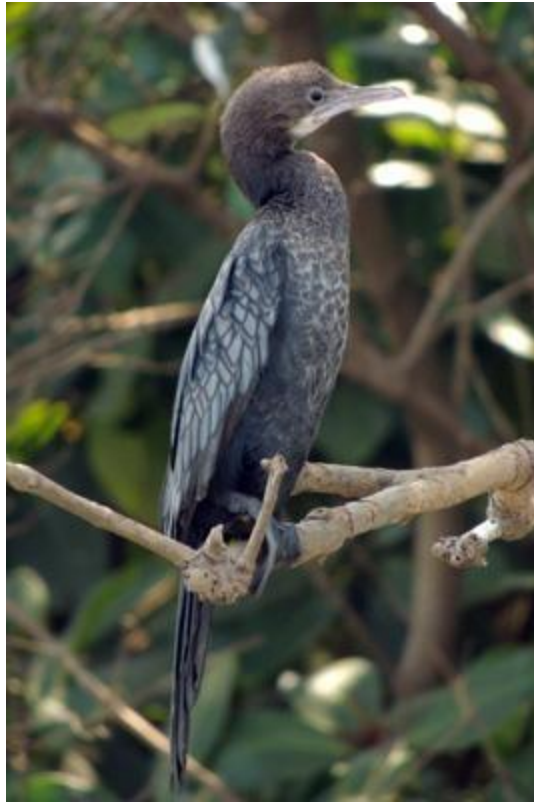
Asian Openbill



Woolly-necked Stork



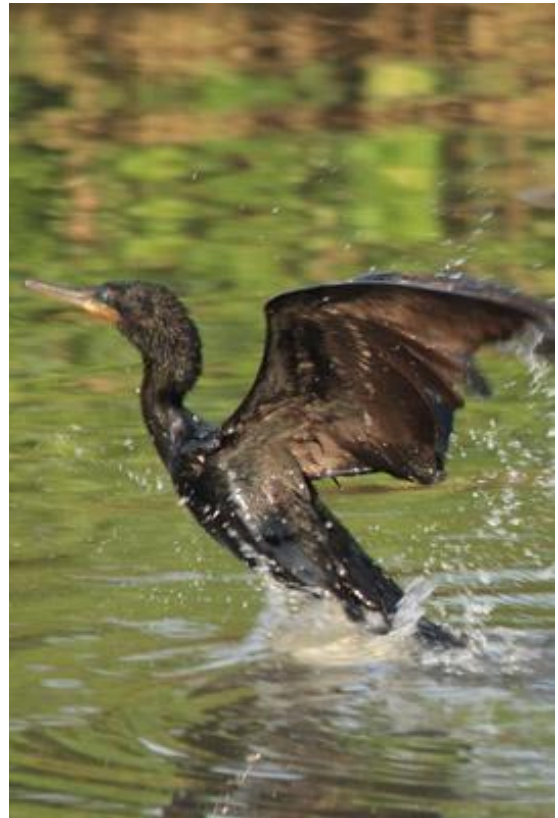
Lesser Adjutant



Little Cormorant



Little Cormorant Basking



Indian Cormorant



Oriental Darter



Grey Heron



Purple Heron



Great Egret



Intermediate Egret



Little Egret



Western Reef-Heron



Cattle Egret-Breeding



Cattle Egret-Non breeding



Indian Pond-Heron-Breeding



Indian Pond-Heron-Non breeding



Striated Heron



Black-crowned Night-Heron



Glossy Ibis



Black-headed Ibis



Osprey



Osprey in Flight



Black-shouldered Kite/Black-winged Kite



Black-shouldered Kite/Black-winged Kite



Oriental Honey-buzzard-Male&Female



Oriental Honey-buzzard in Flight



Crested Serpent-Eagle-Adult&Juvenile



Crested Serpent-Eagle in Flight



Greater Spotted Eagle-Dark&Fulvescens Morph



Greater Spotted Eagle-Dark Morph in Flight



Greater Spotted Eagle- Fulvescens morph in Flight



Crested Hawk-Eagle-Adult&Juvenile



Booted Eagle- Pale Morph



Booted Eagle- Dark Morph



White-eyed Buzzard



Eurasian Marsh-Harrier-Female



Eurasian Marsh-Harrier-Male in Flight



Eurasian Marsh-Harrier-Female in Flight



Shikra-Male



Shikra-Female



Black Kite



Black Kite in Flight



Brahminy Kite-Adult



Brahminy Kite-Adult in Flight



Brahminy Kite-Juvenile



Brahminy Kite-Juvenile in Flight



White-bellied Sea-Eagle



White-bellied Sea-Eagle in Flight



White-breasted Waterhen



Purple Swamphen



Eurasian Moorhen/Common Moorhen



Eurasian Coot/Common Coot



Yellow-wattled Lapwing



Red-wattled Lapwing



Lesser Sand Plover



Greater Sand Plover



Kentish Plover-Breeding



Kentish Plover-Non Breeding



Little Ringed Plover



Black-winged Stilt



Black tailed Godwit



Pheasant-tailed Jacana- Breeding



Pheasant-tailed Jacana-Non Breeding



Bronze-winged Jacana-Adult



Bronze-winged Jacana-Juvnile



Common Snipe



Eurasian Curlew



Whimbrel



Little Stint



Temminck's Stint



Common Redshank



Marsh Sandpiper



Common Greenshank



Wood Sandpiper



Common Sandpiper



Small Pratincole



Brown-headed Gull-Adult



Brown-headed Gull-Nonbreeding



Gull-billed Tern-Breeding



Gull-billed Tern-Nonbreeding



Whiskered Tern



River Tern



Rock Pigeon



Spotted Dove



Grey-fronted Green Pigeon-Male



Grey-fronted Green Pigeon-Female



Orange- breasted Green Pigeon



Pied Cuckoo



Banded Bay Cuckoo



Common Hawk-Cuckoo



Grey-bellied Cuckoo



Common Cuckoo



Asian Koel-Male



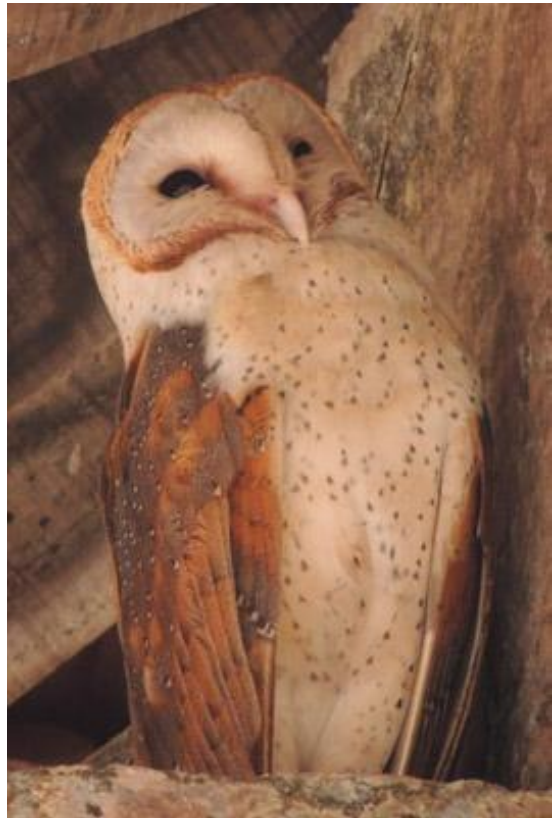
Asian Koel-Female



Blue-faced Malkoha



Greater Coucal



Barn Owl



Brown Boobook/Brown Hawk Owl



Jungle Owlet



Spotted Owlet



Malabar Trogon-Male



Malabar Trogon-Female



Common Kingfisher



White- throated Kingfisher



Stork-billed Kingfisher



Pied Kingfisher



Small Green Bee-eater



Chestnut-headed Bee-eater



Blue-tailed Bee-eater



Blue-bearded Bee-eater



Eurasian Hoopoe



Indian Roller



Malabar Grey Hornbill



Indian Grey Hornbill



Malabar Pied-Hornbill



Great Hornbill



White cheeked Barbet



Coppersmith's Barbet



Black- rumped Flameback



Rufous Woodpecker



Eurasian Kestrel/Common Kestrel-Male



Eurasian Kestrel/Common Kestrel-Female



Rose-ringed Parakeet



Plum-headed Parakeet-Male&Female



Indian Pitta



Common Woodshrike



Ashy Woodswallow



Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike-Male&Female



Common lora-Male



Common lora-Female



Small Minivet-Male



Small Minivet-Female



Orange Minivet-Male



Orange Minivet-Female



Brown Shrike



Long tailed Shrike



Indian Golden Oriole



Black- hooded Oriole



Ashy Drongo



Black Drongo



Greater Racket-tailed Drongo



Spot-breasted Fantail/White-spotted Fantail



Asian Paradise-Flycatcher-Female



Asian Paradise-Flycatcher-Male, White & Rufous Morph



Rufous Treepie



House Crow



Indian Jungle Crow



Malabar Crested Lark



Oriental Skylark



Red-whiskered Bulbul



Red-vented Bulbul



White-browed Bulbul



Yellow-browed Bulbul



Flame-throated Bulbul



Red-rumped Swallow



Barn Swallow



Wire-tailed Swallow



Dusky Crag-Martin



Clamorous Reed Warbler



Blyth's Reed Warbler



Zitting Cisticola



Common Tailor Bird



Grey-breasted Prinia



Ashy Prinia



Plain Prinia



Tawny-bellied Babbler



Puff-throated Babbler



Jungle Babbler



Indian Robin-Male



Indian Robin-Female



Oriental Magpie-Robin-Male



Oriental Magpie-Robin-Female



Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher



White-bellied Blue-Flycatcher-Male&Female



Blue-capped Rock-Thrush-Male



Blue-capped Rock-Thrush-Female



Orange-headed Thrush



Malabar Whistling Thrush



Indian Blackbird-Male



Indian Blackbird-Female



Pied Bush Chat-Male



Pied Bush Chat-Female



Siberian Stonechat-Male



Siberian Stonechat-Female



Jungle Myna



Common Myna



Rosy Starling



Chestnut-tailed Starling



Malabar Starling-Female&Male



Indian Black-lored Tit



Jerdon's Leafbird-Male



Jerdon's Leafbird-Female



Pale-billed Flowerpecker



Nilgiri Flowerpecker



Purple- rumped Sunbird-Male



Purple rumped Sunbird-Female



Purple Sunbird-Male



Purple Sunbird-Female



Long-billed Sunbird/Loten's Sunbird-Male



Long-billed Sunbird/Loten's Sunbird-Female



Crimson-backed Sunbird-Male



Crimson-backed Sunbird-Female



Vigors's Sunbird-Male



Vigors's Sunbird-Female



House Sparrow-Male



House Sparrow-Female



Baya Weaver-Breeding



Baya Weaver-Nonbreeding



Scaly breasted Munia-Male&Female



White rumped Munia



Tricoloured Munia



Oriental Pipit /Paddy-field Pipit



Western Yellow Wagtail



White-browed Wagtail

Suggested Books

- Birds of the Indian Subcontinent: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and the Maldives by Carol Inskipp, Richard Grimmett, and Tim Inskipp
- A Field Guide to the Birds of the Indian Subcontinent by Krys Kazmierczak
- Birds of South Asia: The Ripley Guide. Volumes 1 & 2 by Pamela C. Rasmussen and John C. Anderton
- Birds of the Indian Subcontinent: A Field Guide (Bombay Natural History Society) by Manakadan Ranjit, J.C. Daniel and Nikhil Bhopale
- The Book of Indian Birds by Salim Ali
- Birds of Goa by Heinz Lainer and Rahul Alvares
- Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan: Together with those of Bangladesh, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan and Sri Lanka 10 Volume Set (Vol 1-10) by Salim Ali and S. Dillon Ripley
- Birds of Prey of the Indian Subcontinent by Rishad Naoroji
- Watching Birds by Jamal Ara
- Joy of bird watching by Vishwa Mohan Tiwari



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