

BIRDS OF LADAKH

- 1) Common name: Lammergeier/Himalayan Bearded Vulture
Scientific name: *Gypaetus barbatus*
Local name: Skiaklag, Tangkar, Chargot
Breeding season: January-March
Areas of encounter: Upper Suru Valley, Zaskar, Nubra Valley, Hemis National Park, Sumdo/Puga, Hanley, Tsokar, Sham Valley.



- 2) Common name: Golden Eagle
Scientific name: *Aquila chrysaetos*
Local name: Laknak, Gyab-lak
Breeding season: March-June
Areas of encounter: It is found across Ladakh.



- 3) Common name: Chukar Partridge
Scientific name: *Alectoris chukar*
Local name: Srakpa
Breeding season: April-July
Areas of encounter: The birds can be sighted around Leh, Nubra Valley and some areas in Eastern Ladakh.



- 4) Common name: Himalayan Griffon
Scientific name: *Gyps Himalayensis*
Local name: Thang-kar
Breeding season: January-April
Areas of encounter: Hanley, Rupshu, Hemis National Park, Indus Valley, Zaskar may have the bird, but it is frequent in the upper Suru Valley.

- 5) Common name: Common Kestrel
Scientific name: *Falco tinnunculus*
Local name: Tha
Breeding season: May-June
Areas of encounter: It is abundant in the upper Suru Valley, around the confluence of Nubra and Shayok rivers, Leh, Mahe, Loma, Chushul, Chumur and Tsomoriri.



- 6) Common name: Upland Buzzard



Scientific name: *Buteo hemilasius*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: April-June

Areas of encounter: It can be seen around Tsokar, Puga, Hanley, Loma and Chushul in summer, and Choglamsar/Leh and Thiksey areas in autumn.

- 7) Common name: Common Hoopoe

Scientific name: *Upupa epops*

Local name: Hututusay, Utu-tutse, Pupuk-shele

Breeding season: May-June

Areas of encounter: This bird can easily be observed all over Ladakh.



- 8) Common name: Common Kingfisher



Scientific name: *Alcedo atthis*

Local name: Nya-Za

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: It is seen mainly along the Indus, in the Shey marshes, but also in the Hundar, Diskit in Nubra and Panikhar area in Kargil, Hanley and Chushul.

- 9) Common name: Bar-headed Goose

Scientific name: *Anser indicus*

Local name: Ngangpa, Ngang-kar

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: During summer season, the bird can be easily sighted at Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Hanley, and Chushul and also along upper Indus Basin.



- 10) Common name: Ruddy Shelduck



Scientific name: *Tadorna ferruginea*

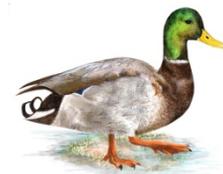
Local name: Cha Muru, Maroo

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: It is common in high-altitude wetlands from Tso-kar eastwards, and can occasionally be met with in the upper Suru Valley.

- 11) Common name: Mallard

Scientific name: *Anas platyrhynchos*



Local name: Chhupsrak Goljang

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: They are to be met within the Shey and Diskit marshes and Trisul Tso in spring, with few individuals still around till June and again by October. Single summer sightings have been made in the Harong marshes in Eastern Ladakh.

12) Common name: Northern Pintail



Scientific name: *Anas acuta*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: During spring, Leh Kartse Zing (a pond west of Leh Airport). Wetlands around Shey are important stopover sites. Single birds over-summer in Startsapuk-Tso.

13) Common name: Garganey

Scientific name: *Anas querquedula*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: The wetlands of Eastern Ladakh, Shey marshes, but also in marshes around Diskit Nubra and to a lesser extent in central and upper Suru Valley.



14) Common name: Red-crested Pochard



Scientific name: *Rhodonessa rufina*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: The pools and marshes of Shey and Kartse Zing (west of Leh Airport) are the main areas where it can be sighted; single observations have been reported from Startsapuk-Tso and lower Hanley Valley.

15) Common name: Common Merganser

Scientific name: *Mergus merganser*

Local name: Chhusrak Zalmo, Chhusrak Thago

Breeding season: May-June

Areas of encounter: This bird can be found on the Indus and its tributaries, typically from Leh eastwards on feeder streams into Tsomoriri, at Puga and Yaya Tso, and in the upper Suru Valley and around Nubra Diskit. During winter, it frequents the lower ice-free waters of the Indus around Shey marshes.



16) Common name: Eurasian Cuckoo



Scientific name: *Cuculus canorus*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: May-June

Areas of encounter: Lower Suru Valley, Indus and Nubra Valley up to Diskit and Panamik in summer. During migration, it passes through the Shey-Thiksey area and the Hanley plains.

17) Common name: Alpine Swift

Scientific name: *Tachymarptis melba*

Local name: *Kalakugti*

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: Indus Valley from Leh to Dungti/Loma and Suru Valley near Sanku.



18) Common name: Eurasian Eagle Owl



Scientific name: *Bubo bubo*

Local name: Ugpa, Uk-pa

Breeding season: March-April

Areas of encounter: Roosts are reported from around Hundar, Sumdo, Lal Pahadi and Hanley in Eastern Ladakh, or along the Indus, opposite Leh Airport.

19) Common name: Little Owl

Scientific name: *Athene noctua*

Local name: Ugpa/Uk-pa

Breeding season: April-July

Areas of encounter: it can be sighted in Hanley, Chushul, Tsokar and Nubra Valley.



20) Common name: Rock Pigeon



Scientific name: *Columba livia*

Local name: Phurgon

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: Has been sighted around Upshi and Nubra Valley. Mixed flocks of Rock and Hill Pigeons have been recorded at alpine slopes near Kardungla.

21) Common name: Snow Pigeon

Scientific name: *Columba leuconota*

Local name: Bujul, Phurgon

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: It is common in upper Drass, Suru and Zaskar Valleys, and less so in upper Rumbak Valley and Stok Valley.



22) Common name: Oriental Turtle Dove

Scientific name: *Streptopelia orientalis*

Local name: Gondil, Gondiling

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: It can be sighted around lower Suru Valley. It has been reported from Ridzong, Choglamsar, Leh, Shey, Thiksey, and Hundar, Diskit and Panamik areas of Nubra Valley.



23) Common name: Black-necked Crane

Scientific name: *Grus nigricollis*

Local name: Cha Thung Thung, Thung Thung Karmo

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: The birds can be sighted in many wetlands in Eastern Ladakh. Typical areas of encounter are Tsokar, Puga, Staklung, Hanley, Chushul and Yaya Tso.



24) Common name: Common Coot

Scientific name: *Fulica atra*

Local name: Chanak, Hanta Chaluk

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: It can be sighted in Shey marshes; in spring the birds have been observed mainly in the Wetlands of Leh-Shey-

Thiksey and Diskit-Hundar areas, as well as from Tsokar in summer.



25) Common name: Tibetan Sandgrouse

Scientific name: *Syrrhaptes tibetanus*

Local name: Kagaling

Breeding season: June

Areas of encounter: Chushul, Hanley, Tsokar and Chumur. In winter it can be found around Leh, Shey and Thiksey area.



26) Common name: Common Greenshank



Scientific name: *Tringa nebularia*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: In spring, single records originate from Shey marshes and in summer, the bird can occasionally be encountered between Panikhar and Zuildo, or rarely from Padum; in autumn, they are to be met occasionally between Sangku and Panikhar.

27) Common name: Common Sandpiper

Scientific name: *Actitis hypoleucos*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: May-June



Areas of encounter: It breeds in the Drass Valley, Suru Valley at altitudes up to about 3200 m. They can also be spotted occasionally in spring along the Indus between Leh and Thiksey; in autumn in Chushul, Hanley, Chumur and Tsomoriri.

28) Common name: Ibisbill



Scientific name: *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

Local name: Tunglakma

Breeding season: April-June

Areas of encounter: Can be sighted near Indus River close to Shey and Palam Bridge. It can also be found in some other river valleys of Ladakh.

29) Common name: Black-winged Stilt

Scientific name: *Himantopus himantopus*

Local name: Tabia

Breeding season: not recorded



Areas of encounter: It can be sighted in Choglamsar, Shey and Thiksey. The Hundar-Diskit marshes, the Hanley and Chumur plains are other areas where the bird can be seen.

30) Common name: Little Ringed Plover



Scientific name: *Charadrius dubius*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: May-June

Areas of encounter: It is observed mostly in Choglamsar, Leh-Shey-Thiksey area, but also up to Tsomoriri and Tsokar.

31) Common name: Brown-headed Gull
Scientific name: *Larus brunnicephalus*
Local name: Nyagar Raktse, Nyazor
Breeding season: mid-June to July



Areas of encounter: In spring and autumn, the bird frequents areas along the Indus from below Leh eastwards to Loma, up to Hanley, Chumur, Chushul areas, and it breeds regularly in Tsomoriri, Tsokar and Yaya Tso.

32) Common name: Common Tern



Scientific name: *Sterna hirundo*
Local name: Niaza
Breeding season: June-July

Areas of encounter: It can be met with throughout Ladakh, but particularly around Panikhar and Zuildo, between Hundar and Panamik, up the Indus from south of Leh eastwards to Loma, and further up in the eastern high-altitude wetlands of Hanley, Chushul, Lam Tso in Chumur, Tsomoriri and Tsokar.

33) Common name: Great-crested Grebe

Scientific name: *Podiceps cristatus*
Local name: Changa Rankes, Chanak Raktse
Breeding season: June- August



Areas of encounter: Tsokar, Tsomoriri and Yaya Tso.

34) Common name: Long-tailed Shrike



Scientific name: *Lanius schach*
Local name: not recorded
Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: In Zanskar Padum, Sheela, Zangla and Hunder-Disket in Nubra, Shey-Thiksey, between Sangku and Kargil.

35) Common name: Black-billed Magpie

Scientific name: *Pica pica*
Local name: Cha Thago, Katang Puti, Khatang Butse
Breeding season: March-May



Areas of encounter: Found across Ladakh.

36) Common name: Hume's Groundpecker



Scientific name: *Pseudopodoces humilis*
Local name: Chilva

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: Mainly observed from upper Rupshu eastwards into the Changthang plains including upper Tsokar, Chumur and Hanley plains.

37) Common name: Eurasian Golden Oriole

Scientific name: *Oriolus oriolus*

Local name: Seri Mayon

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: Upper Suru, Rumbak, Markha Valley, Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Chumur, Hanley, Chushul, Rupshu and Changthang plains. In winter they come down to Indus, Nubra and Suru Valleys.



38) Common name: White-throated Dipper

Scientific name: *Cinclus cinclus*



Local name: Chhucha, Tumbu Tangkar

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: Single sightings in Markha Valley, Rumbak, Ulley, Nimu, Hanley and Mahe Bridge.

39) Common name: Blue Rock Thrush

Scientific name: *Monticola solitarius*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: During autumn migration, sightings have been recorded in Nubra Valley, mainly the Panamik-Hunder area; there is a single record in Shey, Thiksey area.



40) Common name: Orange-flanked Bush Robin

Scientific name: *Tarsiger cyanurus*



Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: It is found in Leh Kartsey zing (pond), Markha Valley, Hanley, Chumur, Tsokar and it is quite common in high-altitude plains of eastern Ladakh. And also it is quite common in Shey and Thiksey areas.

41) Common name: Black Redstart

Scientific name: *Phoenicurus ochruros*



Local name: Sentik Nagpo

Breeding season: June-August

Areas of encounter: It is common all over Ladakh.

42) Common name: White-winged Redstart



Scientific name: *Phoenicurus erythrogaster*

Local name: Sentik

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: In summer it is observed throughout high altitude and in winter Shey, Thiksey, Chushot, Spituk, Palam, Nubra Diskit, Hunder and Zanskar region.

43) Common name: Dessert Wheatear

Scientific name: *Oenanthe deserti*

Local name: Ichu Lugzi

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: Changthang plains, Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Sumdo, Chushul and Tangtse region, from Upshi to Shey and Diskit, Panamik areas of Nubra.



44) Common name: Great Tit



Scientific name: *Parus major*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: May-July

Areas of encounter: In Nubra Diskit, Hunder, Panamik, Rumbak, Markha Valley, Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Chumur, In winter it comes down to Leh, Shey, Thiksey, Spituk.

45) Common name: Eurasian Crag Martin

Scientific name: *Hirundo Rupestris*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: mid-May to August

Areas of encounter: Panikhar to Zuildo in Upper Suru Valley, Upshi-Mahe, Lal Pahadi-Hanley-Chumur, Tangtse-Chushul, but also in the Rumbak, Markha and Wakha Valleys.



46) Common name: Wire-tailed Swallow



Scientific name: *Hirundo smithii*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: not recorded

Areas of encounter: Single sightings have been reported from Padum (June) and Shey, Thiksey area (June and August).

47) Common name: Mountain Chiffchaff

Scientific name: *Phylloscopus sindianus*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: end May-July

Areas of encounter: It is one of the most common species throughout the lower region in Ladakh.



48) Common name: Horned Lark

Scientific name: *Eremophila alpestris*

Local name: Okpo Thakir

Breeding season: May-early August

Areas of encounter: Around Changla, Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Hanley, Markha Valley; in winter it may also be found along hillsides of Indus and Nubra Valley.



49) Common name: Tibetan Snowfinch

Scientific name: *Montifringilla adamsi*

Local name: Richi, Ri Ichu

Breeding season: Late May-early August

Areas of encounter: Chushul, Hanley, Chumur, Tsomoriri, Tsokar; in winter it also comes towards the west, including Zanskar, Rumbak and Indus Valley.



50) Common name: White Wagtail

Scientific name: *Motacilla alba*

Local name: Snama Thakling

Breeding season: June-July

Areas of encounter: During migration, it is abundant throughout Ladakh.



51) Common name: Citrine Wagtail

Scientific name: *Motacilla citreola*

Local name: Starzi

Breeding season: June-July

Areas of encounter: During summer, it is common in upper Suru



Valley, Drass and Indus Valley, Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Leh, Shey, Thiksey, Spituk and Nubra Valley.

52) Common name: Robin Accentor



Scientific name: *Prunella rubeculoides*

Local name: Tseldir, Bangtsil

Breeding season: June-August

Areas of encounter: During summer, the birds can be seen around upper Markha or Rumbak Valley, the Rupshu and Kharnak areas; during winter, the birds come down to the upper Indus and side valley floors.

53) Common name: Fire-fronted Serin

Scientific name: *Serinus pusillus*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: July-August



Areas of encounter: The bird is common from Khaltse to Leh-Shey-Thiksey region, Rumbak, Markha region but also Panamik, Tangtse, around Lamayuru, Suru, Drass and Zanskar region.

54) Common name: European Goldfinch



Scientific name: *Carduelis carduelis*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: July-August

Areas of encounter: The bird is common in lower Drass Valley and between Kargil and Panikhar and the Padum area, and rare in the Leh-Shey-Thiksey area.

55) Common name: Mongolian Finch

Scientific name: *Bucanetes mongolicus*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: July-August



Areas of encounter: The bird may be sighted around upper Markha and Indus Valley (Loma region) and the Lal Pahaldi, Hanley and Chumur plains; in winter and spring, around Leh to Thiksey.

56) Common name: Common Rosefinch



Scientific name: *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Local name: Idmar

Breeding season: Late July-August

Areas of encounter: Best for sighting are lower Drass, Suru, Zanskar and Nubra Valleys, less so the lower Indus including larger side valleys and

the Shey-Thiksey area, and lower Markha Valley.

57) Common name: Great Rosefinch

Scientific name: *Carpodacus rubicilla*

Local name: Lama Chipa, Ichu Gomar

Breeding season: July-August

Areas of encounter: It might be observed in Upper Suru, Zanskar, Markha and Indus Valley, the Upshi-Chumathang, Sumdo-Puga-Tsokar, Tsomoriri, Hanley and Chushul areas.



58) Common name: Rock Bunting

Scientific name: *Emberiza cia*

Local name: not recorded

Breeding season: June-August

Areas of encounter: It can be sighted in Suru Valley, Drass Valley, Zanskar Valley, Diskit in Nubra Valley, upper Rumbak, Stok, Matho and above the Leh.



59) Common name: Red-billed Chough

Scientific name: *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Local name: Chungka Khamar

Breeding season: March-June

Areas of encounter: All over Ladakh.



60) Common name: Tibetan Snowcock

Scientific name: *Tetraogallus tibetanus*

Local name: Ticok, Te-kok, Congmo

Breeding season: April-June

Areas of encounter: Around Chang La, Taglang La, Runtse, Tsokar and Tsomoriri.

