

## Your guide to birding

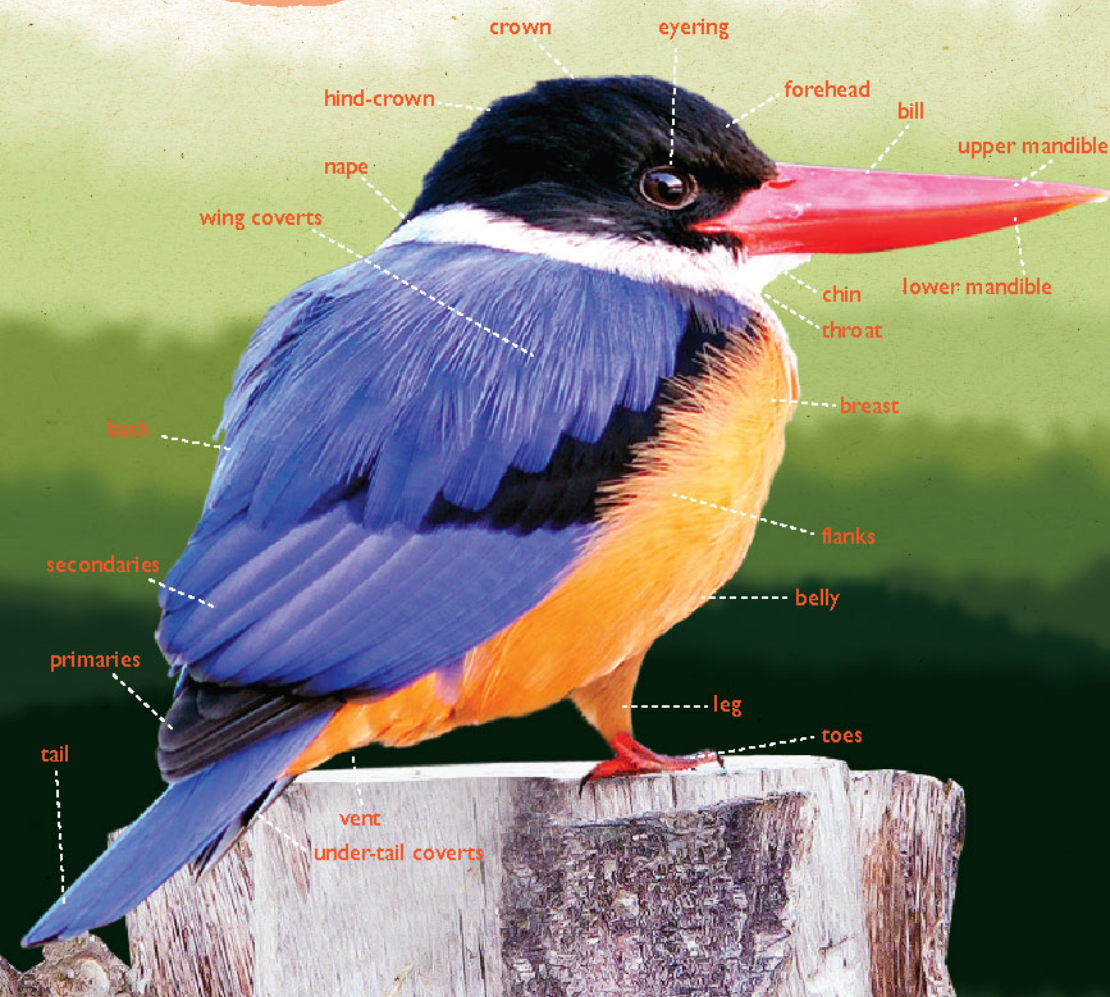
Take nothing but  
Pictures.  
Leave nothing but  
Footprints

What to bring

- Binoculars
- Illustrated Field Guide
- Notebook
- Pencil / Pen
- Digital Camera
- Water & Snacks
- A Travel Sized First Aid Kit

What to wear

- A Hat
- Comfortable Clothing
- Sunglasses
- Hiking Boots
- Sunblock
- Bug Spray



## When best to go Birding in Penang

• Resident Birds: All year round • Migrant Birds: September – March

## Types of Habitats

### Hill Forest

- Green Broadbill • Green Iora • Grey-bellied Bulbul • Grey-throated Babbler
- Japanese Sparrowhawk • Plain-tailed Cuckoo • Common Flameback • Crested Hawk-eagle
- Collared Scops Owl • Chestnut-headed Bee-eater

### Lowland Forest

- Crimson Sunbird • Forest Wagtail • Olive-backed Sunbird • Asian Koel
- Ruddy Kingfisher • Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler • Moustached Hawk-cuckoo
- White-bellied Sea Eagle • Tickell's Blue Flycatcher
- Pink-necked Green Pigeon • Asian Paradise Flycatcher

### Wetland

- Brahminy Kite • Purple Heron • Lesser Whistling Duck
- White-breasted Waterhen • Great Egret • Wood Sandpiper

### Paddy Field

- White-breasted Waterhen
- Blue-tailed Bee-eater • Peaceful Dove
- Black Kite • Little Heron • Little Egret

### Mangrove Forest & Mudflat

- Asian Dowitcher
- Spotted Greenshank
- Chinese Egret
- Brown-headed Gull
- Ruddy Turnstone
- Mangrove Pitta
- Stork-billed Kingfisher



## Migrant Birds

- Penang Hill (Hill Forest)**
- Grey-faced Buzzard *Buteo indicus*
  - Eastern Crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus coronatus*

- Penang Botanic Gardens (Lowland Forest)**
- Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus*

- Penang National Park (Lowland Forest)**
- Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*
  - Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis*

### Sungai Burong (Paddy Field / Mangrove Forest)

- Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*
- Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*
- Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

### Teluk Air Tawar (Mangrove Forest / Wetland)

- Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
- Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*
- Brown-headed Gull *Larus burnicephalus*
- Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Euryornithus pyraeus*
- Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes*

### Air Hitam Dalam Education Forest (Wetland)

- Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
- Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

### Bukit Juru Forest Reserve (Lowland Forest)

- Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*
- Oriental Reed-warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis*

### Bukit Mertajam Amenity Forest (Lowland Forest)

- Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis*

### Byram [Pulau Burung] (Mangrove Forest / Wetland)

- Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*

### Bukit Panchor State Park (Lowland Forest / Wetland)

- Chestnut-winged Cuckoo *Clamator coromandus*

Fork-tailed Swift

Chinese Egret

Spoon-billed Sandpiper

Asian Dowitcher

Black-tailed Godwit

Grey-headed Lapwing

Ruddy Turnstone

Forest Wagtail

Eurasian Curlew

Black Kite

Oriental Reed-warbler

Barn Swallow

Dusky Warbler

Eastern Crowned Warbler

Chestnut-winged Cuckoo

Japanese Sparrowhawk

Brown Shrike

Arctic Warbler

Brown-headed Gull

# Birdwatching in Penang

Expand your wings & explore the world of birdwatching



**Penang State Tourism Development Office**  
Level 53, KOMTAR, 10503 Penang, Malaysia  
T 604 650 5136 / 261 9012 F 604 261 8744  
E info@visitpenang.gov.my  
www.visitpenang.gov.my



**Penang State Forestry Department**  
Level 20, KOMTAR, 10000 George Town, Penang, Malaysia  
T 604 650 5250 / 262 5272 F 604 263 6335  
E jhnp@penang.gov.my  
http://jhn.penang.gov.my/index.php/en/



**Malaysian Nature Society**  
E mnspenang@yahoo.com



## Birdwatching in Penang

Located on the northwest coast of Peninsular Malaysia by the Straits of Malacca, Penang is home to an estimated 420 species of birds including rare bird species as well. Penang Island and its mainland, Seberang Perai is known for its abundant variety of bird species, making it an avian paradise for beginner and experienced bird watchers alike. Some of the diverse birds include lowland forests, mangrove forests, tidal mudflats, wetlands and paddy fields.

There is also a diverse range of bird species found throughout Penang, such as eagles, owls, song birds, waders and water birds, which include resident and migrant birds as well.

Penang truly is a destination for birding enthusiasts and visitors who enjoy Penang's rich bird life. So what are you waiting for?

Grab your binoculars and let the birding begin!

## Do's

**STUDY**  
Study bird sounds; listen to the call of the birds, their features, colours, habits and habitats.

**LOOK**  
Keep your eyes open, it can be hard to see in the forest so keep an eye out for movement in the trees.

**BRING**  
Hang on to your binoculars at all times and keep hydrated, go birding with friends, always notify your next of kin, hire a guide if you're afraid of getting lost.

**IDENTIFY**  
Identify the birds you come across and log them in your notebook, use your illustrated bird field guide to identify if necessary.

**CREATE**  
Make sure you create a log in your notebook of the days birding trip, with sketches of birds new to you and also birds you could not identify and other observations. The sketches will later be useful in identifying birds unfamiliar to you.

**OBSERVE**  
Observe in silence, be quiet and don't make any sudden moves when watching birds in the wild, this can scare them away.

**CONSIDER**  
Be considerate at all times, especially when using flash photography, do not use a powerful flash and keep away from birds that appear to be nesting.



Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis*

## Don't's

- Do not disturb the birds
- Do not throw anything at the birds
- Do not go near nesting birds
- Do not feed birds in the wild
- Do not litter
- Do not use playbacks (playing a recording of a bird's song) too often to attract birds





Grey-bellied Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus cyaniventris*

Olive-backed Sunbird  
*Cinnyris jugularis*

Barn Owl  
*Tyto alba*

Black Kite  
*Milvus migrans*

Green Iora  
*Aegintha virens*

Green Broadbill  
*Calyptomena viridis*

Banded Broadbill  
*Eurylaimus javanicus*

Brahminy Kite  
*Haliastur indus*

Moustached Hawk-cuckoo  
*Hierococcyx vagans*

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater  
*Merops leschenaulti*

Red-bearded Bee-eater  
*Myiodynastes amictus*

Asian Koel  
*Eudynamis scolopacea*

Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker  
*Prionochilus maculatus*

Collared Kingfisher  
*Todiramphus chloris*

White-bellied Sea Eagle  
*Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Plaintive Cuckoo  
*Cacomantis merulinus*

Stork-billed Kingfisher  
*Pelargopsis halcyon capensis*

Japanese Sparrowhawk  
*Accipiter gularis*

Crimson Sunbird  
*Aethopyga siparaja*

Buff-necked Woodpecker  
*Meiglyptes tukia*

Forest Wagtail  
*Dendronanthus indicus*

Grey-throated Babbler  
*Stachyris nigricaps*

Rufous-backed Tit-babbler  
*Macronus pilosus*

Stripe-throated Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus finlaysoni*

Ruddy Kingfisher  
*Halcyon coromanda*

Pink-necked Green Pigeon  
*Treron vernans*

Blue-tailed Bee-eater  
*Merops philippinus*

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher  
*Cyanus tickelliae*

Black-and-yellow Broadbill  
*Eurylaimus ochromalus*

Crested Myna  
*Acridotheres cristatellus*

Brown-headed Gull  
*Chroicocephalus burnicephalus*

Little Heron  
*Butorides striatus*

Lesser Whistling Duck  
*Dendrocygna javanica*

Changeable Hawk-eagle  
*Nisaetus cirrhatius*

Mangrove Pitta  
*Pitta megalyrrhoa*

Black-capped Kingfisher  
*Halcyon pileata*

Bat Hawk  
*Macheiramphus alcinus*

Little Egret  
*Egretta garzetta*

Lesser Adjutant  
*Leptoptilos javanicus*

Ruddy Turnstone  
*Arenaria interpres*

Spotted Greenshank / Nordmann's Greenshank  
*Tringa guttifer*

Asian Dowitcher  
*Limnodromus semipalmatus*

Red-wattled Lapwing  
*Vanellus indicus*

Greater Painted-Snipe  
*Rostratula benghalensis*

Great Argus  
*Argusianus argus*

White-breasted Waterhen  
*Amaurornis phoeniceus*

Crested Serpent Eagle  
*Spilornis cheela*

Teluk Air Tawar  
(Mangrove Forest/Wetland)

Air Hitam Dalam  
Education Forest  
(Wetland)

Tasek Gelugor

Bukit Mertajam  
Amenity Forest  
(Lowland Forest)

Bukit Mertajam Amenity Forest  
T/F: +604 539 1743  
E: jhnp@penang.gov.my  
http://index.php/en/

Butterworth

Bukit Mertajam

Bukit Juru Forest Reserve  
T/F: +604 539 1743  
E: jhnp@penang.gov.my  
http://index.php/en/

Simpang Ampat

Bukit Panchor  
State Park  
(Lowland Forest / Wetland)

Byram  
(Pulau Bunting)  
(Wetland / Mangrove Forest)

Bukit Panchor State Park  
T/F: +604 593 2977  
E: jhnp@penang.gov.my  
http://index.php/en/

Nibong Tebal

# A Paradise of Birds

Graced with nature's bounty and beauty,  
Penang truly is a sanctuary to our lovely feathered friends.

