

Tropical Birding Tours

Japan: Birding in the Winter



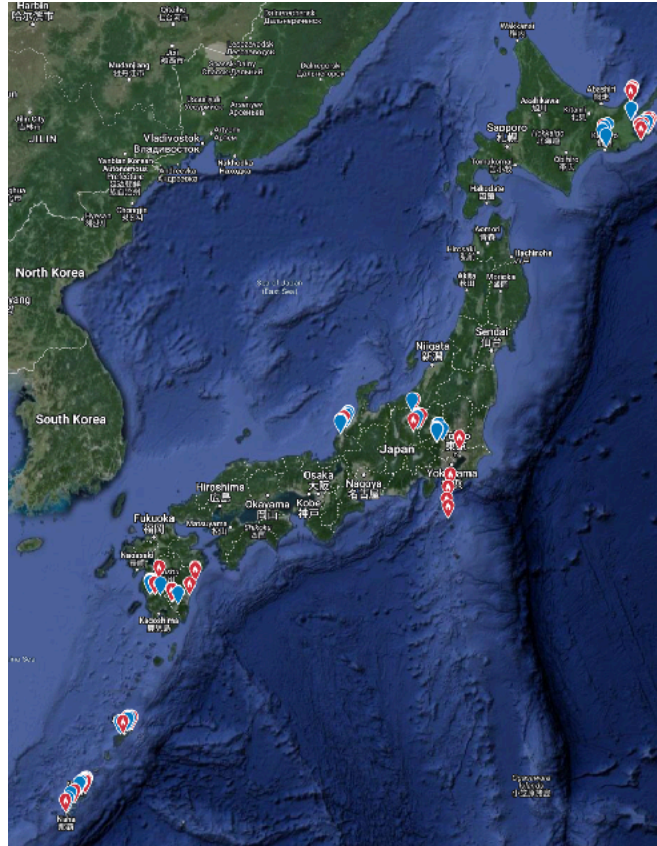
Tour Guide: Charley Hesse

Additional Driver/Assistant: Ben Knoot

*Trip report written by Ben Knoot.

Tour Introduction

Japan in winter is a dream destination for most birders and rightfully so. The wonderful bird and animal life is totally unique and cultural experiences of this exquisite island really put this place on the map in terms of a highly desirable location. The tour took us to some amazing places on myriad of islands in this fascinating and beautiful chain. Just look at our tour map!



This tour included both the pre and post extensions and as such, really allowed the guests to traverse a huge part of this country. We visited both mild and very cold locations with the aim of seeing as many birds and as much wildlife as possible. Starting our tour in Okinawa was very special and we saw some incredible birds here like the striking Okinawa Rail (on the last morning of course!) We then continued on to Amami to end the extension with things like the enigmatic Amami Black Rabbit.

Once we were ready to kick off the main tour, we settled in to meet our new guests and began what would be an epic journey through the regions of Honshu, Kyushu and Hokkaido. Throughout our travels we experienced some fantastic birds, wildlife, scenery and of course, the food, a major part of this tour. We even had specific foods marked off on the checklist! I think I can safely say for everyone that Japan was one heck of an experience. Enjoy the report. Cheers!

Itinerary

January 15th - EXTENSION/Naha

January 16th - Okinawa

January 17th - Okinawa to Amami

January 18th - Amami Oshima

January 19th - Amami Oshima

January 20th - Amami to Tokyo

January 21st - Begin Main Tour/Tokyo to Karuizawa

January 22nd - Karuizawa

January 23rd - Karuizawa to Nagano

January 24th - Western Honshu Wetlands

January 25th - Honshu to Hokkaido

January 26th - Nemuro Peninsula

January 27th - Notsuke Peninsula to Rausu

January 28th - Rausu Bay Eagle Tour

January 29th - Rausu to Akan

January 30th - Akan to Izumi

January 31st - Izumi

February 1st - Izumi to Mi-ike

February 2nd - Mi-ike to Kadogawa & Boat Tour

February 3rd - EXTENSION/Kyushu to Tokyo to Miyakejima (ferry)

February 4th - Miyakejima to Tokyo

Tour Summary

January 15th (Day 1): Day one...always one full of anticipation and excitement as the tour finally gets underway. Our first stop of the morning was a cool little city hotspot called “[Triangle Pond](#)”. In this relatively open little area we had some great birds like; [Temminck’s](#) and [Long-toed Stint](#), [Little Ringed Plover](#), [Eurasian and Black-faced Spoonbill](#), [Zitting Cisticola](#), [Common Redshank](#), a quick fly-by view of [Cinnamon Bittern](#) and the first of many [Eurasian Tree Sparrows](#), [Large-billed Crows](#), and [Warbling White-eye](#).



Warbling White-eye: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

As we continued our drive through Okinawa, we later visited a local “[Rice Paddy Field](#)” where we got some cool shorebirds like; [Green Sandpiper](#), [Common Greenshank](#), [Black-winged Stilt](#) and [Common Snipe](#). We also ran into our first [Light-vented Bulbul](#), [Gray-faced Buzzard](#), [Eurasian Kestrel](#), [Blue Rock-Thrush](#), [Gray Wagtail](#), [White Wagtail](#) and [American Pipits](#). We would see plenty of these birds in the future so we didn’t linger long.

Continuing up towards our hotel, we visited a local road and we were pleased to find several of our targets, including [Whistling Green Pigeon](#), [Pale Thrush](#) and [Okinawa Robin](#)...a sweet haul before checking into our accommodations for the evening.

January 16th (Day 2): Today we set out early into [Okuni forest](#). Our time in Okinawa was pretty much devoted to finding as many endemics as possible. We started off well by getting some quick views of [Okinawa Woodpecker](#), [Okinawa Robin](#) and [Black Wood-Pigeon](#). Over all the birding here was a bit slow but it was a lovely morning in a beautiful forest. We returned to our odd little hotel ([Ada Garden Hotel](#)) where we found a [Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker](#), [Ryukyu Minivet](#), and a [Japanese Tit](#) right from the parking lot.



Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

After a lovely breakfast, we set off for some birding and a few opportune stops along roadways provided us with great looks at our first [Varied Tit](#), [Red-flanked Bluetail](#) and [Yellow-browed Warblers](#) in addition to the birds we'd seen before. We spent the rest of the day driving around looking for new birds. We saw a few new ducks which we'd see plenty of during the trip but other than that, we didn't experience much else new except the stunning Okinawa island herself which was more than worth the excessive driving.

Our night time excursion however was very successful. We checked out the [Yanbaru Discovery Center](#) and were rewarded with a pleasant [Japanese Scops Owl](#) for our efforts. Our final visit for the evening was the [Aha Dam](#). We had two targets here and thankfully, we got them both! The [Eurasian Woodcock](#) and the [Northern Boobook](#) showed off perfectly for some great views and we even added a surprise visit from a small group of [Ryukyu Flying Fox](#)! How cool! A solid evening out but now it was time to head back to the hotel, grab some “zzzz’s” and prep for our next morning.



Ryukyu Flying Fox: Photo by guide - Ben Knot

January 17th (Day 3): Our final day on Okinawa and we had a big problem. We still hadn't seen one of the most iconic and sought after birds we were after. But luckily, our guide Charley was on it like no-one's business. We got up early and went out under the cover of darkness and after a few hundred meters of walking the road and using our thermal cameras, Charley spotted our quarry, the striking **Okinawa Rail**. An amazing start to the day for sure!



Okinawa Rail: Photo by guide - Ben Kroot

The rest of the day was spent driving around until we needed to go back to the airport. We added **Japanese Cormorant** and **Pacific Reef Heron**. Once we landed on **Amami Island**, we spent the evening driving up a mountain road where we found dozens of **Amami Woodcock** and several **Ryukyu Scops Owl**. The highlight for me personally on this road was the enigmatic and endemic **Amami Black Rabbit**. That was a real treat.

After this great night, we checked into our hotel for the evening, had a lovely dinner and then called it a night. We had a wonderful forest reserve to explore in the morning so it was imperative we got a good night's rest and an early start in the morning.



Japanese Cormorant: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 18th (Day 4): The morning was spent in [Amani Nature Forest Reserve](#). It was a bit chilly and a bit windy but we still managed some great new birds. Again, targeting the endemics to the island was the top priority. During some morning birding we managed **Whistling Green Pigeon**, **Black Wood Pigeon**, **White-backed (Amami) Woodpecker**, **Lidth's Jay**, **Japanese Bush Warbler**, **Ryukyu Robin** and many **Brown-eared Bulbuls**. This forest was absolutely stunning and was so far one of the birdiest sections of the tour...so a great time was had by all here! On our way to our next destination we saw an **Eastern Buzzard**.



Lidth's Jay: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Brown-eared Bulbul: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

Once we arrived at the [Akina Rice Paddy Fields](#), we found a few new species like; [Eastern Yellow Wagtail](#), [Gray Heron](#) and a [Common Sandpiper](#). Another stop off in the [Kinsakubaru Virgin Forest](#) for an evening stroll gave us a great look at [Ryukyu Robin](#) and a beautiful [Ryukyu Scops Owl](#).



Ryukyu Scops Owl: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 19th (Day 5): The morning was spent in more forest chasing more birds like [Black Wood Pigeon](#), [Whistling Green Pigeon](#), [Ryukyu Robin](#) and [Ryuku Minivet](#). After a nice breakfast we ventured towards the [Ose Coast](#) where we did indeed find some new birds! Birds like; [Northern Shoveler](#), [Gadwall](#), [Eurasian Wigeon](#), [Northern Pintail](#), [Green-winged Teal](#), [Greater Scaup](#), [Little Grebe](#), [Oriental Turtle Dove](#), [Eurasian Coot](#), [Black-bellied and Pacific Golden Plover](#), [Siberian Sand Plover](#), [Kentish Plover](#), [Gray-tailed Tattler](#), [Ruddy Turnstone](#), [Dunlin](#), [Osprey](#), [Common Kingfisher](#) and [Little Ringed Plover](#). It was really nice to get the scope out and watch our little shorebird friends run around doing their thing! I personally had a lot of fun watching a [White Wagtail](#) hunt along a small stream.



White Wagtail: Photo by guide - Ben Knot

One of our last stops for the morning was the rather large [Sunno Dam](#). We had a bit of a storm front moving in on us so the birding was a bit chilly but we still managed some cool birds, mostly ducks like; [Eastern Spot-billed Duck](#), [Mallard](#), [Common Pochard](#) and a few [Tufted Duck](#).

We managed to see some great [Black-faced Spoonbill](#) around lunch time. One last visit to the [Kinsakubaru Virgin Forest Reserve](#) for the evening revealed an [Amani Thrush](#) (unfortunately, a visual only really for myself), and for the evening, an [Amami Woodcock](#) and [Ryukyu Scops-Owl](#).

January 20th (Day 6): Today our main goal was to get back to Tokyo after one last morning around Amami. Our main and really only stop of the morning was to the fun [Mizumoto Park](#). Here we were hoping for some great birds and we did well, picking up; [Great Cormorant](#), [Gray Heron](#), [Bull-headed Shrike](#), [Japanese Tit](#), [White-cheeked Starling](#), [Dusky Thrush](#), [Red-flanked Bluetail](#), [Japanese Wagtail](#), [Oriental Green](#) and a heard only [Masked Bunting](#). The rest of the day was spent traveling towards Tokyo.



Great Cormorant: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 21st (Day 7): Our first great siting for today was a group of **Chinese Bamboo Partridge** that we had the pleasure of seeing while on our way to our first location. Along the same road, we also scored **Chinese Hwamei and Meadow Bunting**. Once in the parking lot of **Saitama Prefectural Forest**, we saw our first big target, the **Eurasian Bullfinch**. Some great views of several adult birds feeding on a berrying tree was a great start to our walk. Now in the park proper, we had some great views of birds like; **Pallas's Rosefinch, Brambling, Japanese Tit, Varied Tit and Eurasian Jay**. Our time here was spent in the cold and slightly drizzly conditions as we waited underneath a shelter with a few other Japanese photographers. They were all incredibly nice, helping us get on these beautiful birds with a make-shift feeder station they had set up. Very fun indeed.

We left here and on several random opportunistic stops later we bagged **Rustic Bunting, Daurian Redstart, Eurasian Tree Sparrow and Oriental Greenfinch** before reaching our afternoon birding stop, the **Former Kumanodaira Station**. Here we picked up; **Copper Pheasant (for guide and one client), Black Kite, Eastern Buzzard, White-backed Woodpecker, Large-billed Crow, Brambling, large-billed Crow** and a stunningly beautiful, **Hawfinch**. What a great afternoon!



Varied Tit: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Brambling: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 22nd (Day 8): The morning started off well. We visited [Nagakura Park](#). This wonderful little city park that was little more than a field of grass, some trees and some classic Japanese shrines and lovely architecture. Here we nailed; [Oriental Turtle-Dove](#), [Great Spotted Woodpecker](#), and my personal favorite (my and many of our guests last species of waxwing) the [Japanese Waxwing](#). What a lovely morning indeed.

Our next stop was the [Karuizawa Wild Bird Sanctuary](#). We had some fun luck here with [Eurasian Nuthatch](#), [Eurasian Wren](#), [Brown Dipper](#), [Japanese Grosbeak](#) and the fantastic little [Long-tailed Tit](#).



Eurasian Nuthatch: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

We had one bird to catch up with on our next stop and at the [Megane Bridge in Annaka](#) we were to locate and have some fantastic views of the high altitude [Japanese Accentor](#). After a fantastic lunch we hit [Saku Regulating Pond](#) for the last stop of the day. Here we saw [Eurasian Wigeon](#), [Northern Shoveler](#), [Falcated Duck](#), [Green-winged Teal](#), [Smew](#), [Gadwall](#), [Common Merganser](#), [Northern Pintail](#), [Mallard](#), [Eurasian Coot](#), [Great Crested Grebe](#), [Long-billed Plover](#), [Green Sandpiper](#), [Eurasian Sparrowhawk](#), [Azure-winged Magpie](#), [Carrion Crow](#) and [Gray Wagtail](#).



Azure-winged Magpie: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 23rd (Day 9): Our main target for the morning was the spectacular **Green Pheasant**. After a few solid hours of searching the farm fields, we finally managed to pick up a really nice male around the **Karuizawa Garden Farms**.

After some good success here, we journeyed towards a highly coveted experience of this tour and this region of Japan. We arrived and after about a mile walk, finally enjoyed the great experience of the **Japanese Macaque or Snow Monkey** in the great **Snow Monkey Park**. Watching the social interactions was definitely the highlight of this place, especially the little ones! There weren't a lot of birds here but we did add **Eurasian Siskin** to our growing list of birds.

The rest of the day was spent traveling so there wasn't really any additional sightings of note. We saw a lot of the great birds again and were excited to continue taking in this wonderful country. After a delicious lunch, we continue on towards our next overnight halt.



Japanese Macaque (Snow Monkey): Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 24th (Day 10): Today was mostly a wetland water bird day. And what I mean by that is cold frozen wetland birds... haha - gosh it was a cold morning! We started off in the fields that were covered in ice and snow but we still managed **Greater White-fronted Goose, Carrion Crow, Eurasian Skylark and Great Egret.**

We then visited a small pond with an even smaller blind in **Sakai-Otsutsumi**. Here we saw, **Baikal Teal, Falcated Duck, Common Snipe** and in the fields adjacent to the pond one of the guests spotted a great group of **Gray-headed Lapwing**. The main stop for the morning was the wonderful **Kamoike Observation Center**. Here the large and most importantly, heated, center was a great place to scope the large lake for more of our quarry. Here thousands of **Baikal Teal** graced us with an incredible show of flock flight. We also saw **Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose, Little Grebe, Common Gull**, and a **Eurasian Goshawk** which every once in a while would give chase to the poor Baikal Teal. A great display of nature. The rest of the day was spent driving around looking for targets at no specific destination...more just opportunistic but we did manage to find; **Tundra Swan, Rook, and Herring Gull**. We finished up for the afternoon and called it a day.

January 25th (Day 11): Today was almost exclusively a travel day as we moved to the chilly island of Hokkaido. We had a quick flyby view of **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** but other than that, we pretty much traveled direct to our hotel for the evening.

January 26th (Day 12): Today was our first day to explore this island. We started off in the **Ochiisi Port** where we saw; **Long-tailed Duck, Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Thick-billed Murre, Slaty-backed gull, Pelagic Cormorant, Red-breasted Merganser, and Harlequin Duck.** And around the corner at the **Hanasaki Port**, we added, **Stejneger's Scoter, Black Scoter, Glaucous and Glaucous-winged Gull.** The next spot, the **Okineppu Harbour** gave us our first look at a pair of winter plumage **Red-necked Grebe.**

After lunch we continued to bird **Cape Nosappu** and we added; **Common Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Black-headed Gull, Common Redpoll, White-tailed Eagle, Whooper Swan** our first of many **Red-crowned Crane and Spectacled Guillemot.** A sweet day!



White-tailed Eagle: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 27th (Day 13): The morning was spent rather triumphantly at the [Shunkunitai Nature Center](#). I say triumphantly because this was the first time we really got a nice mixed flock species that were eye level in some good light to enjoy **AND** we had a killer session with **Black Kite, Carrion Crow, White-tailed and Steller's Sea Eagles** coming down to bait placed on the ice. The morning was freezing but the semi-frost bitten hands were overshadowed by the pure chaos we all witnessed. Here we saw; **Long-tailed Tit, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Eurasian Treecreeper, Marsh Tit, Willow Tit, Coal Tit, Japanese Tit, Goldcrest, Eurasian Nuthatch, and Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker.** Epic morning, truly.



Black Kite: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Steller's Sea Eagle: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



White-tailed Eagle: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Long-tailed Tit: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

We took a coastal drive to see what else we could find and added a nice **Hen Harrier** to our list. The evening was a special one for sure. On the grounds of our hotel, just after a lovely traditional Japanese dinner, we waited in the dining area for a very special bird to make an appearance. We had a long wait but luckily the dining area had some hot tea, and the beers kept flowing. We were entertained by a few Red Fox that came into the area. One of whom was a bit beat up...he was not shy. Unfortunately, the one that was in pristine condition was a bit more shy. It also didn't help that the owners of the lodge would consistently scare off the foxes but the reason why soon became clear. About three hours into our wait, we heard the unmistakable call of our target. A quick scan with the thermal scope revealed a pair of **Blakiston's Fish Owl** perched high on the hill adjacent to the hotel. We had to wait another 30-min or so for one of the birds to come down to the pond where this bird normally hunts and stages. It slowly wandered over to the pond where in just a few minutes of staring at the water, dove in and grabbed itself a nice meal to start its evening. A wonderful way to end a pretty spectacular day.



Blakiston's Fish Owl (Both): Photo by guide - Ben Knot





Red Fox: Photo by guide - Ben Knot

January 28th (Day 14): This morning was a highly anticipated one for me personally and a real treat for the guests. I have always wanted to photograph the **Steller's Sea and White-tailed Eagles** coming down to grab fish off the water. I have always known they were baited and that's just the reality of how you get photos like the ones below. It is also the best and really the only way to guarantee you even get to see these true kings of the frozen north "hunt" for their food. So, in the early hours of the morning, we set out in the **Rausu Fishing Port** and did just that! What an incredible few hours of watching hundreds of eagles descend on baited fish. We also added **Common Murre** to our lists. So cool.

The rest of the morning was spent roaming around various fishing ports, harbors, river mouths and ocean viewing pullouts. We saw many of the same species and managed to add a few new birds like; **Common Merganser, Arctic Loon and Ancient Murrelet**. We then visited one of our classic lunch places...a 7-11. That may seem odd to you but in reality, that was typically one of the best options and 7-11's in Japan are not like the ones we are used to in the US. They have amazing food sections with great meals. So this meal option is actually rather quite good. The rest of the day was about transfer and travel.



White-tailed Eagle (both): Photo by guide - Ben Knoot





Steller's Sea Eagle (both): Photo by guide - Ben Knoot





Steller's Sea Eagle (both): Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



January 29th (Day 15): Time to pack up and head on to our next location. This area was really quite fun but before we left for the day, we enjoyed a nice viewing of the local **Brown Dipper** doing its thing in the little creek on the grounds of the **Washi-no-yado Inn**. Very fun!



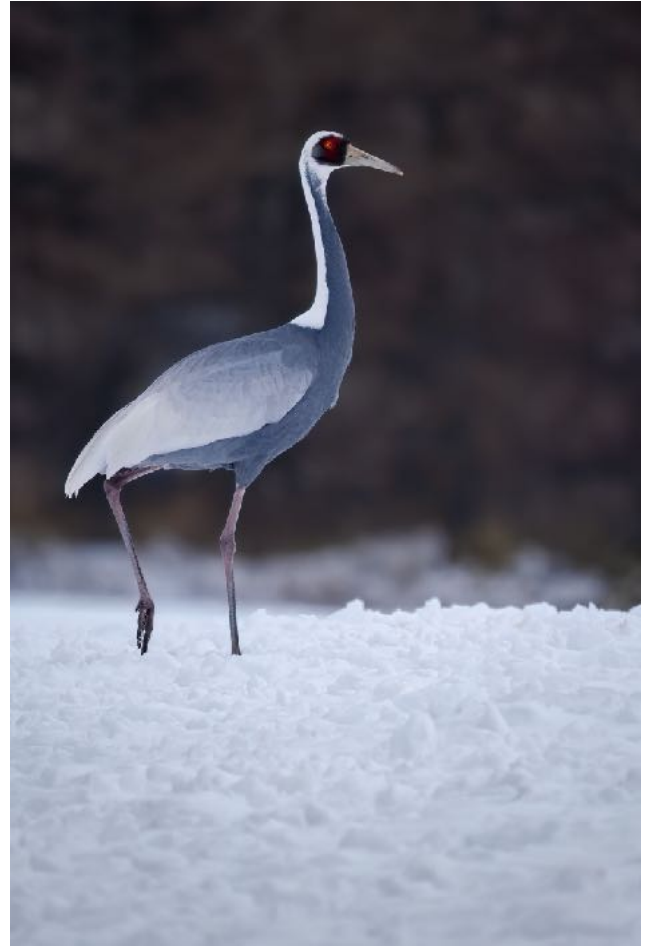
Brown Dipper: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

The rest of the morning was spent on the **Notsuke Peninsula** scouring every bush and rock for more target species. We added a huge flock of **Common Redpoll** a few good **Red-throated Loon**, and even better views of the funky little **Spectacled Guillemot**.

After a nice lunch, we went to another highly anticipated event. We arrived in the early afternoon to the **Tsurui Ito “Red-crowned Crane” Feeding Site** and enjoyed the spectacle of hundreds of beautiful Red-crowned Cranes in the snowy fields as they trumpeted, danced and fed without a care in the world. Among the **Red-crowned Cranes** there was also a loan **White-naped Crane** which genuinely was my favorite of the group. Such a stunning bird! Nearby we also bagged a stunning **Eurasian Jay**. We unfortunately did not get any snow fall but the spectacle was a fantastic way to end our day.



Red-crowned Crane: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



White-naped Crane: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Eurasian Jay: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

January 30th (Day 16): Today was primarily a transfer day. We traveled from Akan to Izumi.

January 31st (Day 17): Now in Izumi, the land of cranes, we enjoyed our time here thoroughly, even though there was a bit of mist and well, heavy rain...haha - The show here comes in the form of thousands upon thousands of **Hooded Crane** that gather in the **East Reclamation Area** to feed. Among those, we also found several **Common Crane**, **White-naped Crane**, **Sandhill Crane** and one lone **Siberian Crane**. We also added **Rook**, **Eurasian Kestrel**, **Oriental Greenfinch** and **American Pipit**.



Siberian Crane: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Oriental Greenfinch: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot



Eurasian Tree Sparrow: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

The next bit of our morning was spent in the region of [Mizushima](#). Here along the coast we added several great birds to our trip. Birds like; [Common Shelduck](#), [Northern Shoveler](#), [Great Crested Grebe](#), [Black-bellied Plover](#), [Common Sandpiper](#), [Common Greenshank](#), [Osprey](#), [Common Kingfisher](#), [Blue Rock Thrush](#), [Black-tailed Gull](#), [Reed Bunting](#) and the main target for this location, the [Saunders's Gull](#) which we had some great looks at...especially alongside a [Black-headed Gull](#), a great comparison. A wonderful area but it was time to leave and head over for lunch. Not 7-11 this time but one of our typical diner experiences, another a great lunch with automated services ... haha quite a hoot! Now a visit to the [Euchi River Reedbeds](#).



Saunders's Gull: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

Here we didn't have too much luck with anything new but did add some [Eurasian Spoonbills](#) to compare with our [Black-faced Spoonbills](#) as well as some [Masked Buntings](#) to our growing list of seedeaters.

Continuing on with our afternoon we visited the [Izumi Crane Observation Center](#) where we saw more of the cranes and added [Little Egret](#), [Northern Lapwing](#), [Common Snipe](#), [Daurian Jackdaw](#), [Russet Sparrow](#) and [Eurasian Skylark](#). We ended the day in rain and checked in to our hotel for the evening and after a nice dinner, went to sleep.



Hooded Crane: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

February 1st (Day 18): Another visit to the [Euchi River Reedbeds](#) for a bird we had missed last time. After a bit of searching we did find a [Ruddy-breasted Crake](#) and then the tiny little [Chinese Penduline Tit](#), the bird we had missed! Always nice to rectify a miss with some killer views.

The rest of the day was spent in search of new species in various locations. The first stop was the [Katamachi Bridge](#) and immediately we bagged our target, the stunning and huge **Crested Kingfisher**. We also added some **Barn Swallow** and **Asian House Martin** near another bridge just down the road. At the stunning [Lake Miike](#) we found a solitary **Eared Grebe** which even though wasn't a new bird for most of our life lists, it was a new one for the trip so wahoo! Further finds at the lake included **Yellow-throated Bunting**, **Ryukyu Minivet** and **Olive-backed Pipit**.

Once we finished up here, we had a nice dinner then we called it an evening.

February 2nd (Day 19): The first stop for the morning was [Kirishimahigashi Shrine](#). That is an incredible name isn't it?! Here added **Brown-headed and Pale Thrush** and a **Daurian Redstart**. The next stage of our trip was the [Kadogawa Harbor](#) to try for a very tricky bird. Unfortunately, though we searched and searched, we could not find our quarry, the Japanese Murrelet. A nice boat ride but nothing new. The last stop of the day was in [Cape Hyuga](#) where we luckily found our target, the **Black Wood Pigeon**. Off to bed after another good day in Japan.



Daurian Redstart: Photo by guide - Ben Knoot

February 3rd (Day 20): We had one location for the day as it was mainly a transfer day. We hit the [Hitotsuse River Estuary](#). Not much new other than a **Chestnut-eared Bunting**. The main tour ended this day and the guests who were on the extension, boarded an overnight ferry (a first for many of us) to the island of Miyakejima. The ferry ride is about 8hrs so it is a perfect opportunity to sleep.

February 4th (Day 21): We set out quickly right after landing at the ferry terminal. We only had a little more than half a day so we had to be fast. Our birding location was the [Miyake Nature Center](#). Unfortunately, it was raining pretty consistently which didn't land me any pics but we did manage to see our primary targets; **Owston's Tit, Izu Thrush, Izu Robin** and **Gray Bunting**.

The afternoon ferry ride back to the mainland was productive, netting us; **Laysan, Black-footed and Short-tailed Albatross** and several **Streaked Shearwater**. We arrived back on the mainland extremely content about our trip, feeling like we really experienced Japan and a ton of what this amazing country has to offer. A BIG THANKS to Charley for a wonderful guiding job and to a fantastic group of guests for the wonderful company and conversation on tour.

[Species List](#)

For a complete list of species and locations, please visit the eBird Checklist here:

<https://ebird.org/tripreport/195219?view=checklists>