

Exploring
Biodiversity

common birds of nainital **Rajbhawan**



Uttarakhand Forest Department

Sparrow-sized Birds (10–15 cm)



Black-throated Tit
Aegithalos concinnus



Green-backed Tit
Parus monticolus



Oriental White-eye
Zosterops palpebrosus



Bar-tailed Treecreeper
Certhia himalayana



Crimson Sunbird
Aethopyga siparaja



Grey Bushchat
Saxicola ferrea



Russet Sparrow
Passer rutilans



Sport-winged Tit
Parus melanolophus



Black-lored Tit
Parus xanthogenys



Grey-hooded Warbler
Seicercus xanthoschistos



White-tailed Nuthatch
Sitta himalayensis



Purple Sunbird
Nectarinia asiatica



Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher
Culicicapa ceylonensis



House Sparrow
Passer domesticus



Common Rosefinch
Carpodacus erythrurus



Rufous-bellied Niltava
Niltava sundara



Barn Swallow
Hirundo rustica



Verditer Flycatcher
Eumyias thalassina

Myna-sized Birds (16-27 cm)



Himalayan Bulbul
Pycnonotus leucogenys



Long-tailed Minivet
Pericrocotus ethologus



Streaked Laughingthrush
Garrulax lineatus



Black Bulbul
Hypsipetes leucocephalus



Rufous Sibia
Heterophasia capistrata



Jungle Owlet
Glaucidium radiatum



Rufous-bellied Woodpecker
Dendrocopos hyperythrus



Common Myna
Acridotheres tristis



Grey-headed Woodpecker
Picus canus



Himalayan Woodpecker
Dendrocopos himalayensis



Great Barbet
Megalaima virens



White-throated Kingfisher
Halcyon smyrnensis

Pigeon-sized Birds (28-50 cm)



White-crested Laughingthrush
Garrulax leucolophus



Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush
Garrulax erythrocephalus



Hill Partridge
Arborophila torqueola



Blue Whistling Thrush
Myophonus caeruleus



Black Drongo
Dicrurus macrocercus



Grey-winged Blackbird
Turdus bouboul



Oriental Turtle Dove
Streptopelia orientalis



Rock Pigeon
Columba livia



Common Kestrel
Falco tinnunculus



Black-headed Jay
Garrulus lanceolatus



Eurasian Jay
Garrulus glandarius



Slaty-headed Parakeet
Psittacula himalayana



Large-billed Crow
Corvus macrorhynchos



Grey Treepie
Dendrocitta formosae

Vulture-sized Birds (51-110cm)



Red-billed Blue Magpie
Urocissa erythrorhyncha



Kalij Pheasant
Lophura leucomelanos



Steppe Eagle
Aquila nipalensis



Cheer Pheasant
Catreus wallichii



Himalayan Griffon
Gyps himalayensis



Lammergeier
Gypaetus barbatus



Rajbhawan is the official accomodation for the Governor of Uttarakhand in Nainital. The beautiful estate is spread across 86.85 hectare and consists of a two-storied mansion, lush gardens, swimming pool, golf course and dense montane forest. The forest, rich in both floral and faunal biodiversity, has a large number of visiting and resident wildlife including birds, mammals, reptiles and butterflies.

Des and Don'ts for Birdwatching

- Equip yourself with good pair of binoculars, camera and a field guide for birds.
- Best time for birdwatching is mornings and evenings.
- Wear dull coloured clothes that blend with the surroundings.
- Walk slowly and quietly while maintaining absolute silence.
- Observe birds from distance and don't go too close to them.
- Listen for calls and songs of birds.
- Learn to spot small movements in foliage from the corners of your eyes.
- Observe the behaviour and habitat of birds.
- Do not touch or disturb nest, eggs, chicks or birds on nest.
- Do not feed birds or other wildlife.
- Do not litter the surroundings.
- Do not damage plants by plucking leaves, flowers etc.
- Do not smoke or ignite fire in forest.
- Note down all your observations in a field diary.
- Attract birds to your yard by planting trees & shrubs and putting bird feeders, bird boxes and bird baths.

About this brechure

This is a photographic quick reference guide to 50 common birds found in Rajbhawan, Nainital. The area is rich with different habitats and a large number of birds can be seen in and around the campus. The birds are grouped in four categories based on sizes to help birders in easy identification.

enjoy but don't disturb!

Concept, Design & Photographs by -

Amit Verma, IFS
Neha Verma, IFS
amitneha@yahoo.com
www.amitneha.com