



# Field Guide To Birds

In Plantation Bay  
Resort and Spa





## BRIGHT-CAPPED CISTICOLA

*Cisticola exilis* [Family Sylviidae]

**Local Name:** Pirot

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* observed from July – August

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 7:00am/ 4:30pm – 5:30pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, Natural lagoon

Bright-Capped Cisticolas are quite noisy and have a distinct call. They are small birds with a grayish brown back. Its crown is a bright golden rust color. The under parts are white with cinnamon flanks. They can be seen on exposed perches, i.e. tips of stems and telephone/cable wires.

In Plantation Bay, try to wait for them under utility wires or in bushes particularly on the grassy lot near the mangrove area. If you're lucky, you may catch them performing its high arched court-ship flight: the bird will fly as high as 15 meters and suddenly drop down. July is the breeding month for this bird.



# ASIAN GLOSSY STARLING

*Aplonis panayensis* [Family Sturnidae]

**Local Name:** Galansiyang

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 6:30am/ 4:30pm – 5:30pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah park, West lagoon area,  
Galapagos beach, Natural lagoon



Starlings are sociable and are found residing in cities, forest edges, and lowlands. They always roost in flocks and are particularly noisy when settling in for the night.

Asian Glossy Starlings have distinctive blood red eyes. Adults are all black with a green gloss. The under parts are white with fine streaks of black on the face and throat, and broad streaks on the breast and belly. Young or

immature black starlings are brownish black with a green gloss.

In Plantation Bay, this bird can be found perching on telephone wires, and trees in large flocks. They were observed feeding on fruits of Ficus trees that are abundant inside the resort particularly during early morning (5:30am – 6:30am) and late afternoon (4:30pm – 5:30pm). They are among the most common species of birds residing in the resort.



## BARRED RAIL

*Gallirallus torquatus* [Family Rallidae]

**Local Name:** Tikling de banda

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

5:30am – 6:00am/ 4:30pm – 5:30pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

The Barred Rail favors foraging along edges of wetlands and inter-tidal flats.

The Barred Rail has brownish olive upperparts and heavily striped white under parts. It is characterized by a distinct broad white cheek stripe separating the throat, the lore\*\* and the nape. It has a broad breast band that is chestnut-colored in males and brownish-red in females. This bird is shy but cannot easily be driven away.

In Plantation Bay, a few Barred Rails can be encountered along the edges of the mangrove area near the perimeter fence across the road going to the hotel lobby from the gate entrance. It is present all year round in the early morning (5:30am – 6:00am) and late afternoon (5:00pm – 6:00pm).

Note: This bird is the source and inspiration of the Filipino cultural dance, Tinikling.



\*\*The lore is the area between the eye and the beak of a bird.

# BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON

*Nycticorax nycticorax* [Family Ardeidae]

**Local Name:** Lapay

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed from October

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 7:00am

**Location in the resort:**

Natural Lagoon



Black-Crowned Night Herons are usually found in all variety of wetlands, including mangroves, where it feeds during the night. At daytime, they usually roost in trees near the water, either singly or in groups.

These birds are medium-sized, stout, short-necked herons, with long narrow white crest feathers and a distinctive black crown. The upper back is black glossed with green while the rest of the upper-parts including the wings, tail, and sides are grey. The forehead, the line over the eye, center of the breast, throat and belly are white.

The eyes are red with a yellowish green skin around it. The bill is black with a green lower base. The legs are pale olive yellow to orange.

In Plantation Bay, the Black-Crowned Night Heron can be spotted roosting on prop roots of mangrove plants in November and December. It is very shy and will fly away when human presence is nearby. To get close to it, you should, as much as possible, be very quiet.



# BROWN SHRIKE

*Lanius cristatus* [Family Laniidae]

**Local Name:** Tibaas

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed to arrive on late August

**Best time of the day:**

\* present all throughout the day

**Location in the resort:**

West Lagoon area, Savannah Park, Mogambo Springs, Havana, Galapagos beach, Hotel lobby, Natural lagoon



Brow Shrikes are very aggressive and territorial. They will drive other birds away from the area they occupy. They have pale grey foreheads that gradually turn to grayish brown from the head to the back. The lores and mask are black, bordered above by a white eyebrow with a reddish-brown rump and tail. Males have pale golden-buffed breast and belly while females have striped breasts and flanks but not as golden as the males.

This bird is a resident migrant in the Philippines and they can be found in all types of habitats from forest to grasslands to open areas. They start to arrive in late August and will depart by late May.

In Plantation Bay, this bird can be seen all throughout the day perching on tree branches.



## CHESTNUT MUNIA

*Lonchura malacca* [Family Estrildidae]

**Local Name:** Maya

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* observed to be abundant from

July but becoming fewer starting September

**Best time of the day:**

\* present throughout the day

**Location in the resort:**

\* present in all corners of the resort

Chestnut Munias can be seen in flocks. They are common in grasslands, rice fields, and open areas.

The Chestnut Munia's head, breast, center of the belly, and undertail coverts are black. The back, sides, wings, and tail are chestnut in color. This bird is characterized by a thick silvery grey bill.

In Plantation Bay, this bird can be found perching and nesting on mangrove tree branches but in small groups of four or five and in all the trees, shrubs, and grasses in the resort. Their numbers were observed to be high from early July to late August and very low from early October to December.

Note: This species was once considered the National Bird of the Philippines until it was replaced by the Philippine Monkey-eating Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*).



# COMMON REDSHANK

*Tringa totanus* [Family Scolopacidae]

**Local Name:** ---

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* started to arrive in late August

**Best time of the day:**

9:00am – 11:00am

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



Common Redshanks are commonly found on intertidal flats and exposed coral flats. They can be seen alone or in small groups.

The Common Redshank is characterized by light grayish brown upperparts with white lower back and rump. The tails are barred dark and grayish brown. The sides of the face and breast are white with narrow dark shaft streaks. These birds can be distinguished from other similar species with its

medium straight bill that has an orange colored base and dark brown distal with a somewhat long orange red to red exposed coral flats.

In Plantation Bay, these birds can be spotted feeding on nearby tidal flats across the hotel entrance gate or in the natural lagoon across the hotel lobby. They are among the migratory shore bird visitors of the resort.



## COMMON SANDPIPER

*Actitis hypoleucos*

[Family Scolopacidae]

**Local Name:** ---

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* started to arrive in late August

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 8:00am/ 3:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

This Common Sandpiper is characterized by its short yellowish tan legs and unmistakable bobbing motion while walking, i.e. unusual bouncing of tail while foraging, and distinctive stuttering of wing beats in flight. It is commonly found in a variety of wetlands, ponds, and tidal flats.

Common Sandpipers have bronze to brownish-grey upperparts and dark shaft streaks. The sides of the face, neck, and the breast are with fine brown streaks. The rest of the under parts are white.

In Plantation Bay, this can be found in the mangrove area in front of the hotel lobby and sometimes seen walking on the paved road. They are very active early in the morning and late in the afternoon. However, few individuals can be found foraging on the exposed tidal flats at mid-day. They are among the migratory shorebirds residing in the resort.



# EURASIAN TREE SPARROW

*Passer montanus* [Family Ploceidae]

**Local Name:** Gorion; Mayang-bahay

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year round

**Best time of the day:**

\* present all day long

**Location in the resort:**

\* found in all corners of the resort



The Eurasian Tree Sparrow likes to be where people congregate and can be seen almost anywhere in the country. The top of its head is chestnut in color. The back and scapulars are brown, and broadly streaked with black. The lower back and rump are olive brown. The tail and wings are brown. The ear coverts and throat are black. The breast, belly, and under tail coverts are white to light grey. The bill is black and the legs are

pinkish brown.

In Plantation Bay, this bird is found everywhere and anytime of the day. They tend to aggregate in areas with left-over food from dining guests.



## GREY-STREAKED FLYCATCHER

*Muscicapa griseisticta*

[Family Muscicapidae]

**Local Name:** ---

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed in early November

**Best time of the day:**

1:00pm – 3:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

The Grey-Streaked Flycatcher is commonly found hunting insects on shrubs and plants growing beneath trees near the water. It is active during early morning and late afternoon. It perches quietly on tree branches at mid-day.

The Grey-Streaked Flycatchers are relatively small bird and have a white eye ring. The upperparts are grayish brown with a lighter color on its rump. The under parts are white with dark brown streaks on the breast and belly.



In Plantation Bay, this bird can be spotted quietly hopping from one branch of mangrove plant to another until it settles in for a long period. Occasionally, it can be observed going down on surface water to forage. This is among the migratory birds which find sanctuary in the resort.

# GOLDEN BELLIED FLYEATER

*Gerygone sulphurea* [Family *Sylviidae*]

**Local Name:** Pipit-bakhaw

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 8:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Hotel lobby, Natural lagoon



The Golden Bellied Flyeater is very small and has a musical call. It is more difficult to spot than heard. They are commonly found in open areas and mangroves.

Golden Bellied Flyeaters have olive-brown upperparts and tails. The outer tail feathers have a white spot near the tip. It got its name from its distinctive golden yellow under parts or belly.

In Plantation Bay, it is among the charismatic birds that will greet you with its melodious call as you pass by the mangrove area towards the lobby of the hotel. They are present all the time but most active during early morning or late afternoon. At mid-day they are found to be perching on the branches of mangrove plants.



## LITTLE BRONZE-CUCKOO

*Chrysococcyx minutillus*

[Family Cuculidae]

**Local Name:** ---

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Uncommon

\* observed in October

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 8:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

The Little Bronze-Cuckoo is a lowland forest bird that prefers mangrove swamps where they search for their favorite food, i.e. worms and caterpillars. This is considered the world's smallest cuckoo.

The upperparts of the Little Bronze-Cuckoo are largely dull brownish-green with glossy bronze-green on its hind-crown, nape, upper back and scapular. The forehead, crown, lores, sides of the head, ear coverts, chin and throat are largely whitish. The feathers are barred or edged with blackish-brown to produce a mottled effect. The flight feathers and wing coverts are dull bronze-green edged with rust color. Seen from below, the tail appears blackish, with broad black and white bands, with a white spot on all except the central pair of feathers.



In Plantation Bay, this bird can be seen roosting and feeding on the branches of mangrove trees in the natural lagoon.

# LITTLE EGRET

*Egretta garzetta* [Family Ardeidae]

**Local Name:** Tagak

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 8:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



The Little Egrets of “Tagak” are very quiet and shy. They are found in most wetlands, such as rice paddies and tidal flats. They can be seen anytime of the day except on hot and sunny days. It is fun to see them actively pursuing fish.

These birds are characterized by a black bill, yellow eyes and greenish-yellow facial skin that turns red in breeding season.

The legs are black with yellow toes.

In Plantation Bay, the Little Egrets can be seen quietly foraging on exposed tidal flats on the mangrove area in front of the hotel lobby. It is among the migrant visitors and largest birds to be seen in the resort.



## LITTLE HERON

*Butorides striatus* [Family Ardeidae]

**Local Name:** Yoho

**Status:** Philippine Resident/Migrant

– Fairly Common

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 8:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

Little Herons are solitary, shy, and secretive. They hunt quietly for food on exposed tidal flats, mangroves, lakes, rivers, and fishponds particularly early morning and late afternoon.

Little Herons are characterized by large grey and glossy green under parts becoming blackish gray on the rump and tail. The forehead is black glossed with green. The chin, center of the throat, cheeks and region behind the eyes are white.

The remainder of the head and neck are grey. The legs are green but turn orange in breeding.

In Plantation Bay, it is always present in the mangrove area anytime of the day either foraging on the exposed tidal flats or perching on the branches of mangrove plants or on telephone wires.



# LONG-TAILED SHRIKE

*Lanius schach* [Family Laniidae]

**Local Name:** Berdugo

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, Natural lagoon



The Long-Tailed Shrike is a colorful bird. They are usually found in open areas and grasslands. It perches on top of bushes, tall grass clumps, trees and fence posts. Like all other species of shrikes, long-tailed shrike is also aggressive and does not allow other species to stay in its territory.

The top and sides of the head and upper back are black. The center of the back is grey

bordered on the sides in white or cinnamon. The wings, the slender graduated tail, bill and legs are black while the throat, breast and center of the belly are white.

In Plantation Bay, this bird is found on the bushes near the perimeter fence, usually at mid-day when it is perching on grass clump or iron bars, after the early morning hunting activity.



## OLIVE-BACKED SUNBIRD

*Nectarinia jugularis*

[Family Nectariniidae]

**Local Name:** Tamsi

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 7:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon,

Galapagos Beach, Natural lagoon

The Olive-Backed Sunbirds are usually found in pairs. They are small birds and are very active anytime of the day but more active during the early morning forage.

As the name suggests, Olive – Backed Sunbirds have olive green upperparts and wing edges. The tail is black while the wings are brown with olive green-edged feathers. Males usually have dark metallic purplish blue throat and upper breast while the rest of the under parts are yellow and sometimes washed with orange. Females have pale yellow eye stripe, whitish chin and yellow throat.

In Plantation Bay, this bird is usually found picking on the flowers of any kind of plants on early morning (6:00am – 7:00am). You will know that they are present because of their characteristic 2-syllable loud call, “che-wheeeet” or “sweet sweet,” which is repeated several times per minute.



# ORIENTAL REED-WARBLER

*Acrocephalus orientalis* [Family Sylviidae]

**Local Name:** Rak-rak-it

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed since mid-August

**Best time of the day:**

6:00am – 7:00am/ 4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



This bird is usually found in grassy area and shrubs usually near water. They are noisy, active, and overt.

The Oriental Reed-Warblers are characterized by light brown with rust-colored rump. A black line crosses from the lores to behind the eye. The eyebrow, throat and breast are whitish with narrow blackish streaks on upper breast. The belly is whitish

with yellow wash. The base to the lower jaw is pinkish.

In Plantation Bay, the bird was observed feeding on the branches of mangrove plants during early mornings and late afternoons.



## PACIFIC SWALLOW

*Hirundo tahitica* [Family Hirundinidae]

**Local Name:** Sayao

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* found all day long

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon, Hotel lobby, West Lagoon

Pacific Swallows are usually found along coasts and open areas, usually at low elevations. They are also seen near human habitation. They like to fly low and skim over the surface of ponds and tidal flats.

The adult Pacific Swallow is characterized by a rust-colored forehead, throat and upper breast. The upperparts are glossy dark blue with black wings and forked tail. The lower breast, belly and under tail coverts are pale grayish brown.

In Plantation Bay, they are the ones that roost on the roof of the hotel lobby. They are usually seen perching on the exposed rocks on the tidal flat in front of the hotel lobby. They are active during feeding hours of the day, i.e. early morning and late afternoon. They are among the abundant birds seen inside the resort, along with the Eurasian Tree Sparrow and Asian Glossy Starling.



# PECHORA PIPIT

*Anthus gustavi* [Family Motacillidae]

**Local Name:** ---

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Uncommon

\* observed in late November

**Best time of the day:**

4:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



This particular Pipit is very secretive. It forages quietly on forest grounds and marshy areas.

The Pechora Pipit is characterized by heavily streaked black and reddish-brown crown and brown back. The edges of feathers at the sides of the back are edged in white or buff forming an indistinct V down the back. The highly contrasting streaked upperparts separate this species from other Pipits.

In Plantation Bay, the Pipit is rarely seen but a good chance to see them is in November. It is among the uncommon migratory birds that feed on the exposed tidal flats of the hotel.



# PHILIPPINE COUCAL

*Centropus viridis* [Family Cuculidae]

**Local Name:** Kokok

**Status:** Philippine Endemic – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

3:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

The Philippine Coucal can only be found in the Philippines and nowhere else in the world.

They are mostly found in a wide variety of habitats including grassland, mixed cultivation, and second growth, either singly or in pairs. Just like all Coucals, they are shy and difficult to see. They creep through dense vegetation. You can see them particularly on late afternoons when they are settling in for the night: they would perch openly on top of grass, shrubs or small trees. They have a characteristic loud and explosive call.



The Philippine Coucal is characterized by its black body and long tail with blood red eyes. The wings are dark chestnut tipped with dark brown. The underwing coverts, bill and legs are black.

In Plantation Bay, they can be observed from 3:00pm – 6:00pm in the bushes near the perimeter fence as they feed and roost for the night.

# PHILIPPINE MAGPIE ROBIN

*Copsychus mindanensis*

[Family Muscicapidae]

**Local Name:** Asosiloy

**Status:** Philippine Endemic – Uncommon

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

5:30am – 6:30am/ 3:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon, Natural lagoon



The Philippine Magpie Robins are quite noisy especially on early mornings and late afternoons but their calls are all melodious. They are found mostly in second growth forests and cultivated areas. They usually go out in pairs or in family groups of four or five. It has adapted to live close to human habitation.

They can be distinguished by their black wings with large white wing patch, white belly and black tail. Males have glossy bluish black upperparts, throat and breast while

the females have a grayish blue hue.

In Plantation Bay, this bird can be seen flying and chasing one another over the mangrove plants in front of the hotel lobby. They are sometimes observed foraging on the grounds in the bushes near the edge of the swamp and nests on the epiphytic ferns attached to coconut tree near the manmade lagoons inside the resort. They are particularly active on early mornings and late afternoons.



## PIED FANTAIL

*Rhipidura javanica* [Family Rhipiduridae]

**Local Name:** Maria Kapra; Bangkiyod

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* present all day long

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon, Natural lagoon

Pied Fantails are common in residential areas, second growth forests, and mangroves. They are quite noisy and usually seen in pairs, rarely singly. Their call is a random series of metallic and chime-like noise. They constantly fan their tails, a characteristic of the species where the local name was derived.

The Pied Fantail is characterized by its distinct white eyebrow patch on its black lores and forehead. It has a dark grayish brown upper-parts and wings. A clear wide black collar separates the throat from the breast and belly. The tail is blackish brown tipped broadly with white.



In Plantation Bay, you can see these birds in almost all corners of the resort anytime of the day. They like to chase one another especially during mid-day.

# PIED TRILLER

*Lalage nigra* [Family Campephagidae]

**Local Name:** Bugaungon; Dominiko

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/4:30pm – 5:30pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon, Galapagos Beach, Natural lagoon



The Pied Triller is characterized by a broad wing bar formed from white wing edges and a grayish white eyebrow. Males have deeper and brighter colors compared to females, which have duller hues.

The Pied Trillers are frequently seen in the coastal regions, foothills, and mangrove forests. They are always found in pairs. They are not shy as they usually

continue with their feeding activities even with humans in full view.

In Plantation Bay, the Pied Trillers can be seen flying and perching on tree branches and telephone cable wires on early mornings and late afternoons.



## PINK-NECKED GREEN PIGEON

*Treron vernans* [Family Columbidae]

**Local Name:** Punay

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Uncommon

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/4:30pm – 5:30pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon,

Galapagos Beach, Natural lagoon

Pink-Necked Green Pigeons are usually found foraging, perching, and roosting in flocks. They are very active in the early mornings and late afternoons. At mid-day they are usually found roosting on large trees.

The Pink-Necked Green Pigeon is a medium-sized bird with reddish pink legs. Males have grey crowns, grayish green foreheads, faces, and throats. Their necks including the upper breasts are pinkish grey while the lower breasts are orange. Females are generally green, lacking the pinkish grey necks and orange lower breasts. They have reddish-brown under tail edges and a single yellow wing bar.

In Plantation Bay, a flock of pink-necked green pigeons forages on the fruits of Ficus trees, especially on early mornings (6:00am) and late afternoons (4:30pm – 5:30pm). They were once considered rare in the last two decades because of excessive hunting for their meat.



# PLAINTIVE CUCKOO

*Cacomantis merulinus* [Family Cuculidae]

**Local Name:** Pitopit

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* observed in mid-December

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 7:00am

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



Plaintive Cuckoos are common in open and cultivated areas. They feed on insects and crawling invertebrates and are very quiet when foraging.

The Plaintive Cuckoo is characterized by its grey head and upper breast with bronze olive and pale reddish-brown under parts streaked with dark brown

hues.

In Plantation Bay, they can be seen sitting on telephone cable wires in the early morning.



# RUFOUS NIGHT HERON

*Nycticorax caledonicus*  
[Family Ardeidae]

**Local Name:** Lapay

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Uncommon

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/4:30pm – 6:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon

Rufous Night Herons are very shy. They roost under the trees at daytime but fly out to feed on marshes at dusk. They are very sensitive to noise. They fly away when they sense an intruder in their roosting site.

A Rufous Night Heron is a medium large, stocky and short-necked bird. The adult individuals have black hind necks and crowns. The rest of the upperparts are dark chestnut while the sides of the neck and cheeks are reddish-brown with a white belly. The young or juvenile (immature) ones have heavily streaked dark brown and reddish-brown upperparts. Their dark rust-colored wings have large buff spots. The breast and belly are streaked with brown to dark brown hues. The facial skin and legs are olive yellow.



In Plantation Bay, both adults and immature individuals can sometimes be observed hiding inside the mangroves or under the shade of exposed rocks on tidal flats.

# TAWNY GRASSBIRD

*Megalurus timoriensis* [Family Sylviidae]

**Local Name:** Tortoriyok; Tigso

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



Grassbirds are very noisy but difficult to see. They like to roost in tall grasses and shrubs in open areas.

The Tawny Grassbird is characterized by its long tail and reddish-brown crown, nape and line behind the eye with cream white eyebrows. The back is olive brown with broad dark brown streaks. The rump is olive

brown with reddish-brown wash.

In Plantation Bay, the Tawny Grassbird can be seen hopping from one bush to another. They sing with a distinctive metallic note as they creep through the grounds of the bushes and grasses on the edge of mangroves.



## WHISKERED TERN

*Chlidonias hybridus* [Family Sternidae]

**Local Name:** Kanaway

**Status:** Philippine Migrant – Common

\* observed since July

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Location**

Natural lagoon

The Whiskered Tern is commonly found on coastal and inland waters. They are always seen flying low over the surface of water and dive into it to catch fish for dinner. Sometimes they rest on exposed rocks in the middle of the water.

The Whiskered Tern has pale grey upperparts with a black streak on the hind crown, nape, and region in front of the eye while the underparts are entirely white.



In Plantation Bay, the Whiskered Terns are actively hunting for food from 6:00am – 9:00am and return to feed again on late afternoons in mangrove areas. They are among the birds who have adapted to the presence of humans.

# WHITE-COLLARED KINGFISHER

*Todiramphus chloris* [Family Alcedinidae]

**Local Name:** Tikarol

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Natural lagoon



The White-collared Kingfisher is by far the most attractive kingfisher in the Philippines. It can be found mostly in any type of habitats from the coasts to elevated land but never in forests.

The White-collared Kingfisher is characterized by a white collar and its greenish turquoise back and crown. It also has a bright turquoise rump, turquoise tail and wings. Its underparts are

white.

In Plantation Bay, the White-collared Kingfisher can be seen perching on exposed tree branches or on telephone wires. They are actively feeding on exposed tidal flats. You can see this bird anytime in mangrove areas in front of the hotel lobby.



## YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL

*Pycnonotus goiavier*

[Family Pycnonotidae]

**Local Name:** Pirok-pirok; Kulkul

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

West Lagoon, Natural lagoon, Galapagos Beach

The Yellow-Vented Bulbul is noisy and can easily be detected. They can be found either singly or in groups particularly in open areas and early second growth forests but never in thick primary forests. They forage on fruit and flowering shrubs and trees.

The Yellow-Vented Bulbul has a broad dark brown stripe along the middle of its crown. It has a broad white eye stripe bordering its black eyes. The throat and the line below the eye are white followed by dark brown ear. The upperparts are olive brown, and the rump is with yellowish wash. The outer tail feathers are faintly tipped with white while the belly is mottled with brownish streaks. The lower belly and undertail coverts are yellow while the bill and legs are black.



In Plantation Bay, this bird is among the noisy and noticeable ones particularly in the early mornings and late afternoons. At mid-day, they are found hopping from one tree branch to another. Inside the resort, they are usually frequenting the Ficus trees.

# ZEBRA DOVE

*Geopelia striata* [Family Columbidae]

**Local Name:** Korokotok

**Status:** Philippine Resident – Common

\* present all year-round

**Best time of the day:**

\* 6:00am – 6:30am/3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Location in the resort:**

Savannah Park, West Lagoon, Natural lagoon,  
Galapagos Beach



The Zebra Dove, locally known as Korokotok is a common small-sized dove. The front of the head, cheeks, and throat are blue grey while the back of the head is a dull yellowish brown. The back, rump, wing coverts, and tertials are grayish brown with black and white bars on its upper back, and black bars on its lower back, wing coverts, and rump. The dark brown tail is tipped with white on the outer feathers. The sides of the neck and flanks are

barred with black and white. The center of the breast and upper belly are pinkish brown, while the lower belly and undertail coverts are white.

In Plantation Bay, it can be seen anywhere, from tree branches to the sandy grounds of beach and lagoons. Their distinct call is a soft, pleasant trill almost a staccato, of 5 to 8 notes, kurrr coo coo coo coo coo, repeated every few seconds.



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