

Birds of the University of Pune

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Campus Environment

The University of Pune campus is a biodiversity hotspot spread across 411 acres in the heart of Pune city

- Located at 18.5529°N 73.8352°E
- Elevation: 560m above sea level
- Diverse habitats support rich birdlife
- Includes wooded areas, grasslands, water bodies

The campus hosts over 150 species of trees:

- Banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*)
- Peepal (*Ficus religiosa*)
- Neem (*Azadirachta indica*)
- Red Silk Cotton (*Bombax ceiba*)
- Many ornamental species

When to Watch

Time of Day

- Early morning (6:00-9:00 AM)
- Late afternoon (4:00-6:30 PM)
- Midday for raptors
- Dusk for nocturnal species

Seasonal Highlights

- Winter (November-February)
- Monsoon (June-September)
- Summer (March-May)
- Post-monsoon (October)

How to Watch

Essential Equipment

- Binoculars (8x42 or 10x42)
- Field guide
- Notebook

Useful Apps

- eBird
- Merlin Bird ID
- BirdNet

Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology
ML45127481

Size: Kite size

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: A large bird of prey with a distinctive forked tail and long wings. The plumage is mostly blackish-brown with lighter underparts.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Often seen soaring high in the sky, searching for prey. Feeds on small mammals, birds, and carrion.

Nesting: Breeds December to April. Builds nests in tall trees.

Red-naped Ibis (*Pseudibis papillosa*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology
ML609495675

Size: Kite-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Large black bird with red patch on nape. Long curved bill and bare red patch on crown distinctive.

Best seen at: Found in open areas, grasslands and waterbodies across campus.

Habits: Walks deliberately while foraging. Usually in small groups. Probes soil for insects and small vertebrates.

Nesting: Breeds mainly during monsoon. Builds platform nest in large trees.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology
ML303618951

Size: Kite-

Status: Uncommon winter visitor

Field characters: Large, powerful falcon with dark grey upperparts, barred underparts, and distinctive black 'moustache' marking.

Best seen at: Occasionally seen around tall buildings and open areas of campus.

Habits: Swift and agile hunter, known for spectacular aerial dives. Feeds mainly on birds caught in flight.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Shikra (*Accipiter badius*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126386591

Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A small hawk with a distinctive red eye and a barred chest. The upperparts are gray, and the underparts are white with fine rufous barring.

Best seen at: Widely distributed across the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Prefers wooded areas and gardens. Feeds on small birds, mammals, and insects.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Builds nests in trees, using twigs and leaves.

White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML614444237

Size: Bulbul+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A medium-sized bird with a white face, throat, and breast, and a dark brown body. Red patch on bill base.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, in wetland areas.

Habits: Prefers marshy areas and wetlands. Feeds on insects, small fish, and plant matter.

Nesting: Builds nests in dense vegetation near water.

Indian Pond Heron (*Ardeola grayii*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126568571

Size: Myna+

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: A medium-sized heron with a brownish body and white wings. It has a distinctive yellow bill and legs.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Prefers wetlands, ponds, and marshes. Feeds on fish, frogs, and insects.

Nesting: Breeds June to September. Builds nests in trees or shrubs near water.

Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology
ML304986701

Size: Crow+

Status: Uncommon resident

Field characters: A medium-sized heron with a black crown and back, gray wings, and white underparts. Red eyes.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Prefers wetlands, ponds, and marshes. Feeds on fish, frogs, and insects.

Nesting: Breeds June to September. Builds nests in trees or shrubs near water.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)



Credit: Unknown - Unknown location Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology ML608663702

Size: Myna++

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: A medium-sized egret with white plumage and yellow bill. Develops orange-buff plumes in breeding.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Often seen near cattle, feeding on insects and small animals disturbed by grazing.

Nesting: Breeds June to September during monsoon. Builds nests in colonies.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML168489091

Size: Myna++

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A medium-sized egret with white plumage, black bill, and black legs with yellow feet.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, including the University of Pune campus.

Habits: Prefers wetlands, ponds, and marshes. Feeds on fish, frogs, and insects.

Nesting: Breeds June to September. Builds nests in colonies.

Blue Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology
ML308065631

Size: Myna+

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: A plump, grey-colored bird with iridescent neck feathers. Two dark wingbars.

Best seen at: Found throughout the Indian subcontinent, particularly abundant in urban areas.

Habits: Highly adapted to urban life. Often seen in flocks, feeding on grains and seeds.

Nesting: Breeds throughout the year. Nests in building ledges and structures.

Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*)



Size: Myna

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A slim, long-tailed dove with pinkish-grey plumage and distinctive black-and-white spotting.

Best seen at: Widespread across the campus and surrounding areas.

Habits: Usually seen in pairs or small groups, foraging on the ground for seeds.

Nesting: Builds a flimsy platform nest in trees and shrubs.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML621165796

Little Brown Dove (*Streptopelia senegalensis*)



Size: Myna-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A small, delicate dove with pale brown plumage and lilac tinge to neck.

Best seen at: Common throughout the campus, especially in open areas.

Habits: Often seen in pairs, feeding on seeds on the ground. Soft, musical call.

Nesting: Creates simple twig nests in bushes and low trees.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML622010668

Red-wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*)



Size: Myna++

Status: Common resident

Field characters: A large plover with distinctive red wattles in front of eyes.

Best seen at: Found in open areas across the campus, particularly near water bodies.

Habits: Known for its alarm call "did-he-do-it". Active during day and night.

Nesting: Nests on the ground in shallow scrapes.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126390831

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML97324171

Size: Myna

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Brown body with black head, yellow bill and legs. White wing patches visible in flight.

Best seen at: Abundant throughout campus in all habitats.

Habits: Bold, adaptable bird. Often in pairs or groups. Omnivorous diet.

Nesting: Nests in holes in trees and buildings.

Spotted Owlet (*Athene brama*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133939511

Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small, chunky owl with white spotting. Large yellow eyes and white eyebrows give it a stern expression.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens across campus.

Habits: Active at dawn and dusk. Bobs head when alert. Feeds on insects, small vertebrates.

Nesting: Breeds February to April. Nests in tree hollows.

Mottled Wood Owl (*Strix ocellata*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML145988711

Size: Crow+

Status: Uncommon resident

Field characters: Large owl with distinctive mottled brown plumage. Round head without ear-tufts.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas of campus with dense canopy cover.

Habits: Strictly nocturnal. Deep resonant calls at night. Feeds on rodents, birds, and large insects.

Nesting: Breeds December to March. Nests in tree hollows.

Coppersmith Barbet (*Megalaima haemacephala*)



Size: Bulbul+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small, green bird with crimson forehead and throat. Yellow eye-patch distinctive.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas throughout the campus.

Habits: Known for its metallic 'tuk-tuk-tuk' call. Feeds mainly on fruits, especially figs.

Nesting: Excavates nest holes in dead tree trunks or branches.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126555661

Asian Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea*)



Size: Crow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male glossy black with red eyes; female brown with white spots, barred underneath.

Best seen at: Common throughout the campus, especially in wooded areas.

Habits: Known for its distinctive "ku-oo" call. Parasitizes crows' nests.

Nesting: Brood parasite, lays eggs in nests of crows and other birds.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126392811

Common Hawk-Cuckoo (*Hierococcyx varius*)



Size: Myna++

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Hawk-like appearance with barred underparts. Yellow eye-ring.

Best seen at: Found throughout wooded areas of campus.

Habits: Known for distinctive "brain-fever" call. Feeds on insects and caterpillars.

Nesting: Brood parasite, primarily targeting babblers.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133733311

Grey-bellied Cuckoo (*Cacomantis passerinus*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML142648801

Size: Myna-

Status: Common summer visitor

Field characters: Grey bird with dark grey breast and pale belly. Yellow eye-ring distinctive.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas across campus.

Habits: Rather secretive. Known for plaintive whistling calls. Feeds mainly on insects.

Nesting: Brood parasite, laying eggs in warblers' and tailorbirds' nests.

Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*)



Size: Crow

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Large, black bird with chestnut wings and long tail. Red eyes and curved black bill.

Best seen at: Found in dense vegetation across the campus.

Habits: Skulking habit, often seen walking on ground. Deep booming calls.

Nesting: Builds a domed nest in dense vegetation.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126393221

Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*)



Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML622584055

Size: Myna++

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Bright green parakeet with long tail. Males have pink and black neck ring.

Best seen at: Abundant throughout the campus, especially in wooded areas.

Habits: Noisy, gregarious birds. Often seen in large flocks.

Nesting: Breeds December to May. Nests in tree hollows.

Alexandrine Parakeet (*Psittacula eupatria*)



Size: Crow

Status: Uncommon resident

Field characters: Larger than Rose-ringed Parakeet, with massive red beak.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas of the campus, less common than other parakeets.

Habits: Similar habits to Rose-ringed Parakeet but more wary.

Nesting: Nests in large tree cavities, preferring old growth trees.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133717151

Plum-headed Parakeet (*Psittacula cyanocephala*)



Size: Myna

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male has purple-red head, female bluish-grey. Both have green body.

Best seen at: Regular visitor to wooded areas of the campus.

Habits: Usually in pairs or small flocks. More arboreal than other parakeets.

Nesting: Nests in tree hollows, breeding season varies with location.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133932211

House Swift (*Apus affinis*)



Size: Myna-

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Small swift with white rump and forked tail. Dark brown-black plumage.

Best seen at: Common throughout urban areas of the campus.

Habits: Aerial feeder, constantly on wing. Often seen in large groups.

Nesting: Colonial nester, builds mud nests under building eaves.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML80511821

Asian Palm Swift (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Smaller than House Swift, slender with deeply forked tail.

Best seen at: Found around palm trees across campus.

Habits: Very fast flier, rarely perches. Often seen around palm trees.

Nesting: Breeds year-round. Attaches small nest to palm frond underside.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126573081

White-breasted Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Large kingfisher with bright blue back, chocolate brown head, white breast.

Best seen at: Found near water bodies and in gardens across campus.

Habits: Perches prominently, diving for prey. Feeds on fish, frogs, lizards.

Nesting: Breeds March to June. Nests in horizontal tunnels.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126564101

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)



Size: Bulbul-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small kingfisher with brilliant blue upperparts and orange underparts.

Best seen at: Found near water bodies and ponds on campus.

Habits: Perches low over water, dives vertically for fish.

Nesting: Breeds February to April. Nests in tunnel in earth bank.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML168729731

Asian Green Bee-eater (*Merops orientalis*)



Size: Sparrow+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Slender green bird with blue throat patch and black eye-stripe.

Best seen at: Found in open areas with scattered trees across campus.

Habits: Graceful aerial hunter, catches insects in flight.

Nesting: Breeds March to June. Nests in tunnels dug in earth banks.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126561671

Coppersmith Barbet (*Megalaima haemacephala*)



Size: Bulbul+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small, green bird with crimson forehead and throat. Yellow eye-patch distinctive.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas throughout the campus.

Habits: Known for its metallic 'tuk-tuk-tuk' call. Feeds mainly on fruits, especially figs.

Nesting: Excavates nest holes in dead tree trunks or branches.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126555661

Dusky Crag Martin (*Hirundo concolor*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small, dark brown martin with slightly forked tail.

Best seen at: Found around buildings and rocky areas of campus.

Habits: Aerial feeder, catching insects in flight.

Nesting: Builds cup-shaped mud nests on buildings.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133734741

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Common winter visitor

Field characters: Long, deeply forked tail. Blue-black above, rufous forehead and throat.

Best seen at: Winter visitor to campus, seen in open areas.

Habits: Graceful flier, catching insects on wing. Often perches on wires.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML312652671

Red-rumped Swallow (*Hirundo daurica*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Similar to Barn Swallow but with rufous rump and shorter tail streamers.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus, especially near buildings.

Habits: Aerial feeder, often in mixed flocks with other swallows.

Nesting: Builds bottle-shaped mud nests under structures.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML625261168

Wire-tailed Swallow (*Hirundo smithii*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Distinctive long wire-like tail streamers. Glossy blue-black above.

Best seen at: Found near water bodies and open areas on campus.

Habits: Graceful flier, often perches on wires. Feeds on flying insects.

Nesting: Builds cup-shaped mud nests under bridges and buildings.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133941481

Long-tailed Shrike (*Lanius schach*)



Size: Bulbul+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Grey-brown above, whitish below with black mask through eye.

Best seen at: Found in open areas with scattered trees.

Habits: Hunts from prominent perches. Impales prey on thorns.

Nesting: Builds neat cup-shaped nest in thorny bushes.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133755601

Golden Oriole (*Oriolus oriolus*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male bright yellow with black wings and tail; female duller greenish.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas across campus.

Habits: Shy bird, keeps to canopy. Melodious flute-like calls.

Nesting: Builds hammock-like nest suspended in tree fork.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML258102271

Black Drongo (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Glossy black bird with deeply forked tail. Strong hooked bill.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus in open areas with trees.

Habits: Bold and aggressive. Often seen chasing other birds. Excellent aerial hunter.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Builds cup nest in outer branches.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126548371

Ashy Drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Winter visitor

Field characters: Similar to Black Drongo but grey overall. Less deeply forked tail.

Best seen at: Winter visitor to wooded areas of campus.

Habits: Less aggressive than Black Drongo. Catches insects in air.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133717951

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)



Size: Myna

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Brown body with black head, yellow bill and legs. White wing patches visible in flight.

Best seen at: Abundant throughout campus in all habitats.

Habits: Bold, adaptable bird. Often in pairs or groups. Omnivorous diet.

Nesting: Nests in holes in trees and buildings.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML97324171

Jungle Myna (*Acridotheres fuscus*)



Size: Myna

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Similar to Common Myna but greyer, with tuft at base of bill.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens, less urban than Common Myna.

Habits: Usually in pairs or small groups. More arboreal than Common Myna.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Nests in tree holes.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126402031

Brahminy Starling (*Sturnia pagodarum*)



Size: Myna

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Distinctive buff-colored starling with black crest, grey wings.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens across campus.

Habits: Usually seen in pairs or small groups. Feeds on fruits and insects.

Nesting: Breeds April to July. Nests in tree holes.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133728841

Oriental Magpie-Robin (*Copsychus saularis*)



Size: Bulbul

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Striking black and white plumage in male, greyer in female.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus in wooded areas and gardens.

Habits: Bold and melodious songster. Feeds on insects and berries.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Nests in tree hollows.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126371181

Spot-breasted Fantail (*Rhipidura albogularis*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small black and white bird with spotted breast, white eyebrow.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens with good tree cover.

Habits: Active and acrobatic, frequently fans tail while foraging.

Nesting: Breeds mainly March to September. Builds neat cup nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML143852871

Pied Bushchat (*Saxicola caprata*)



Size: Bulbul-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male black with white rump and wing patches; female brown.

Best seen at: Found in open areas with scattered bushes across campus.

Habits: Perches prominently on bushes and fences.

Nesting: Breeds March to August. Builds cup-shaped nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126372681

Purple Sunbird (*Cinnyris asiaticus*)



Size: Sparrow–

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male breeding metallic purple-black; non-breeding and female olive brown.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus wherever flowering plants occur.

Habits: Very active, hovers at flowers. Long curved bill for nectar feeding.

Nesting: Breeds mainly February to May. Builds hanging purse-like nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126385421

Tickell's Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*)



Size: Sparrow–

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Tiny bird with grey-brown above, dirty white below. Short tail and curved bill.

Best seen at: Found wherever flowering and fruiting trees occur.

Habits: Very active, flits rapidly between flowers. Feeds on berries and nectar.

Nesting: Breeds year-round, builds pear-shaped hanging nest.

Credit: Unknown - Unknown location Macaulay Library ©

Cornell Lab of Ornithology ML126373401

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Common winter visitor

Field characters: Slender bird with long tail, grey upper parts and bright yellow underparts.

Best seen at: Found near water bodies and damp areas on campus.

Habits: Active forager, running and walking while wagging tail.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML44950691

Black Drongo (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Glossy black bird with deeply forked tail. Strong hooked bill.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus in open areas with trees.

Habits: Bold and aggressive. Often seen chasing other birds. Excellent aerial hunter.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Builds cup nest in outer branches.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126548371

Golden Oriole (*Oriolus oriolus*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male bright yellow with black wings and tail; female duller greenish.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas across campus.

Habits: Shy bird, keeps to canopy. Melodious flute-like calls.

Nesting: Builds hammock-like nest suspended in tree fork.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML258102271

Indian Roller (*Coracias benghalensis*)



Size: Myna++

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Crow-sized bird with brilliant blue wings and tail. Brown head and back.

Best seen at: Found in open areas with scattered trees.

Habits: Makes dramatic rolling display flights. Feeds on large insects, small lizards.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Nests in tree hollows.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126556251

Indian Grey Hornbill (*Ocyceros birostris*)



Size: Crow

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Large grey bird with long tail and distinctive casque on bill.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas across campus with large old trees.

Habits: Usually seen in pairs, moving from tree to tree. Feeds mainly on fruits.

Nesting: Female seals herself in tree cavity during breeding.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133738511

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)



Size: Kite-

Status: Uncommon winter visitor

Field characters: Large, powerful falcon with dark grey upperparts and distinctive black 'moustache'.

Best seen at: Occasionally seen around tall buildings and open areas.

Habits: Swift and agile hunter, known for spectacular aerial dives.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML303618951

Red-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*)



Size: Bulbul

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Dark brown-black with scaled pattern, distinctive red vent.

Best seen at: Common throughout campus in all habitats.

Habits: Active and noisy. Often in pairs or small groups.

Nesting: Breeds year-round, peak February to May.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML300203931

Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*)



Size: Bulbul

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Brown above, white below with red cheek patch and pointed crest.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens across campus.

Habits: Lively bird with pleasant calls. Often in pairs.

Nesting: Builds neat cup-shaped nest in shrubs.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML311377551

Large Grey Babbler (*Turdoides malcolmi*)



Size: Myna+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Grey-brown bird with pale streaking. Long graduated tail.

Best seen at: Found in open scrub and gardens across campus.

Habits: Lives in noisy groups. Forages on ground, flicking leaves.

Nesting: Breeds March to September. Builds untidy nest in thorny bushes.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133742581

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (*Muscicapa tickelliae*)



Size: Bulbul-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male bright blue above, rufous below. Female duller.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas with good undergrowth.

Habits: Active bird, makes short flycatching sallies from perch.

Nesting: Breeds April to July. Builds neat cup nest in tree hollow.

Credit: Unknown - Unknown location Macaulay Library ©

Cornell Lab of Ornithology ML133939821

Ashy Prinia (*Prinia socialis*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Ash-grey above, whitish below. Long graduated tail often cocked.

Best seen at: Found in gardens and scrub throughout campus.

Habits: Active bird, moves through vegetation making harsh calls.

Nesting: Breeds mainly June to September. Builds deep cup nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126403561

Jungle Prinia (*Prinia sylvatica*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Grey-brown above, pale below. Darker than Ashy Prinia.

Best seen at: Found in scrub jungle and grassland areas.

Habits: Skulking habit, reveals presence by loud calls.

Nesting: Breeds June to September. Builds ball-shaped nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML150322831

Common Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sutorius*)



Size: Sparrow–

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Tiny warbler with long upright tail. Olive-green above.

Best seen at: Found throughout campus in gardens and dense bushes.

Habits: Active bird, constantly moving through vegetation.

Nesting: Makes remarkable nest by stitching living leaves together.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126406831

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common winter visitor

Field characters: Small warbler with grey-brown upper parts, white throat.

Best seen at: Found in scrub and bushes across campus.

Habits: Active but skulking. Forages in bushes for insects.

Nesting: Does not breed on campus; winter visitor only.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML256739411

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Male grey-brown with black bib; female plain brown.

Best seen at: Common around buildings and human habitation.

Habits: Gregarious, feeds mainly on grains and seeds.

Nesting: Breeds almost year-round. Nests in holes in buildings.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML305880301

Bay Weaver (*Ploceus philippinus*)



Size: Sparrow

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Male bright yellow in breeding; female sparrow-like.

Best seen at: Found in grassland areas and reed beds on campus.

Habits: Colonial nester. Males build elaborate pendant nests.

Nesting: Breeds during monsoon. Males build multiple helmet-shaped nests.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML133720591

Oriental White-eye (*Zosterops palpebrosus*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Tiny olive-green bird with distinctive white eye-ring.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas and gardens across campus.

Habits: Active and acrobatic. Moves in small flocks through foliage.

Nesting: Breeds March to September. Builds neat cup nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126366191

Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*)



Size: Sparrow-

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Small brown finch with distinctive scaly pattern on breast.

Best seen at: Found in grassy areas and scrub throughout campus.

Habits: Social, feeds in small flocks on grass seeds.

Nesting: Breeds July to October. Builds large ball nest.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML97646291

Rufous Treepie (*Dendrocitta vagabunda*)



Size: Myna++

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Large rufous and black bird with long graduated tail.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas across campus.

Habits: Bold and inquisitive. Often in small groups.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Builds neat cup nest in tree fork.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126547471

House Crow (*Corvus splendens*)



Size: Crow

Status: Very common resident

Field characters: Grey and black crow with distinct grey neck collar.

Best seen at: Abundant throughout campus, especially near human activity.

Habits: Bold and opportunistic. Omnivorous diet.

Nesting: Breeds March to July. Builds platform nest in trees.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML126364891

Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)



Size: Crow+

Status: Common resident

Field characters: Larger than House Crow, all black with massive bill.

Best seen at: Found in wooded areas of campus and surrounding regions.

Habits: More cautious than House Crow. Often seen singly or in pairs.

Nesting: Breeds March to June. Builds large platform nest high in trees.

Credit: Macaulay Library © Cornell Lab of Ornithology

ML85864161

How to Contribute

- Submit your bird sightings to eBird
- Share your photographs
- Report any new species
- Help maintain bird-friendly habitats
- Follow ethical birdwatching practices

Visit the SPPU eBird Hotspot: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1838309>

Best Birdwatching Spots on Campus

Habitat Types

- Wooded areas near Main Building
- Garden Department grounds
- Campus water bodies
- Open grasslands
- Old growth trees

Tips

- Visit different habitats
- Follow quiet paths
- Check flowering trees
- Look for fruiting trees
- Watch for mixed feeding flocks

Conservation Concerns

- Habitat preservation
- Protection of old trees
- Maintaining water bodies
- Reducing disturbance
- Native plant species
- Light pollution control
- Responsible development

Thank You

Thank you for your attention

For more information and updates:

Visit the SPPU eBird Hotspot

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L1838309>

Presentation created by Yogesh Wadadekar