

Birds of Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary (and Agumbe)

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Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary lies to the West of Agumbe at the base of the Agumbe Ghat in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. Agumbe once held a record for the highest precipitation in Karnataka. Much of this is due to some form of adiabatic cooling of the sea breeze and its condensation on the vegetation at the edge of the Ghats. The vegetation of this area is under threat and much of it is already gone. The villages of Hebri and Sitanadi border it and the river Sitanadi passes through it. This list of birds was made during a short stay in the Someshwara area and a brief visit to Agumbe. The naming of the birds is as in Salim Ali and S.D. Ripley. Most of the birding at Agumbe was done along the wooded path to the *Onake Abbi* falls, where we also got to see a Leopard at close quarters. On a clear day one can see the Arabian sea from the road leading down Agumbe. The winding roads may also yield a sight of the rare Lion-tailed Macaques (*Macaca silenus*).

		Sitanadi	Agumbe
Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	x	
White-necked Stork (seen flying overhead)	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>		x
Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	x	
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	x	
Rufous-bellied Hawk-eagle	<i>Hieraeetus kienerii</i>	x	
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>	x	
Grey Jungle-fowl	<i>Gallus sonnerattii</i>	x	x
Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>		x
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>		x
Yellow-legged Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	x	
Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>		x
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	x	
Lorikeet	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>	x	
Bluewinged Parakeet	<i>Psittacula columboides</i>	x	x
Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	x	
Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	x	
White-rumped Spinetail	<i>Chaetura sylvatica</i>	x	x
Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	x	
Crested Tree-swift	<i>Hemiprocne logipennis</i>	x	
Malabar Trogon	<i>Harpactes fasciatus</i>		x
Small Blue Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	x	
White-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	x	
Malabar Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus griseus</i>	x	x
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	x	
Small green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	x	
Large Green Barbet	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>		x
Crimson-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima rubricapilla</i>	x	
Large Golden-backed Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	x	x
Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides nanus</i>	x	
Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	x	
Heart-spotted Woodpecker (seen displaying)	<i>Hemicircus canente</i>	x	

Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	x	
Indian Pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>	x	x
Common Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		x
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	x	
Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>		Shimoga
Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriole</i>	x	
Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	x	
Grey Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	x	
Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	x	x
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	x	
Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	x	x
Grey-headed Myna	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>	x	
White-headed Myna (only one)	<i>S.m.blythi</i>	x	
Indian Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	x	
Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	x	
Large Wood-shrike	<i>Tephrodornis virgatus</i>	x	
Pied Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	x	
Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	x	
Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	x	x
Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	x	
Gold-fronted Chloropsis	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	x	
Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	x	
Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>		x
Ruby-throated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	x	x
Grey-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus priocephalus</i>	x	
Yellow-browed Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes indicus</i>	x	
Black-headed Babbler	<i>Rhopocichla atriceps</i>		x
Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa tickelliae</i>	x	
Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>		x
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa parva</i>		x
Black-naped blue Flycatcher	<i>Monarcha azurea</i>	x	
White-bellied Blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa pallipes</i>		x
Indian Bluechat	<i>Erithacus brunneus</i>		x
Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	x	
White-throated Ground Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>		x
Malabar Whistling Thrush	<i>Myiophonus horsfieldii</i>	x	
Large Crowned Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus occipitalis</i>		x
Greenish Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	x	x
Thick-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum agile</i>	x	
Small Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia minima</i>	x	x
Loten's Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia lotenia</i>	x	
Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	x	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		x
Yellow-throated Sparrow	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>	x	