

Important: To minimise further spread of COVID-19, please stay home during this period to keep your family and friends safe and check the latest advisories from the Ministry of Health (MOH).

Birdwatching from home

Enjoy birdwatching from the comfort of your home from now until **5 June 2020!** Here is a curated list of 15 birds that you can try spotting from your window, with instructions below:

- Best times to spot birds from your home: Between **7 am to 9 am** (when birds are waking up), or between **5 pm to 7 pm** (when birds fly back to their nest).
- Learn to recognise birdcalls: Visit www.xeno-canto.org to listen to different birdcalls. You can search for a bird by its scientific name (the italicised name) and then by location (Singapore).
- Please **do not feed the birds** and avoid playing birdcalls or music to attract their attention as this may cause confusion or stress for them.



For more detailed instructions and submission of your birdwatching results, please visit go.gov.sg/gbwfh before 30 June 2020. Thank you!

About Garden Bird Watch

The Garden Bird Watch is a citizen science initiative led by NParks to get Singaporeans and residents involved in collecting valuable information about birds in our parks, gardens and nature reserves. Due to COVID-19, the team has created this special edition in place of our usual programme.

The data collected with the help of our citizen scientists will enable us to piece together where our birds are found and in what numbers, contributing to better conservation and management.







Every year, the Garden Bird Watch is usually held for about a week in April and November, with training sessions conducted for volunteers with various knowledge levels a few weeks in advance. We hope to see you again for future watches.

Find out more in SGBioAtlas



Need additional guidance? Find our “Garden Bird Watch” e-guides via the SGBioAtlas application, available free for download from both Google Play and Apple App Store.

Important: To minimise further spread of COVID-19, please stay home during this period to keep your family and friends safe and check the latest advisories from the Ministry of Health (MOH).

STURNIDAE FAMILY: MYNAS AND STARLINGS		
<p>Asian Glossy Starling [call] <i>Aplonis panayensis</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Jacqueline Lau)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 19 – 22 cm • Glossy green-black plumage • Red eyes • Sleek build • Usually seen in large flocks 	<p>Javan Myna <i>Acridotheres javanicus</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 25 cm • Most common bird in Singapore • Overall greyish body 	<p>Common Myna [call] <i>Acridotheres tristis</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Cheryl Chia)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 25 – 27 cm • Similar to the Javan Myna but has yellow eye patch and brown body
PYCONOTIDAE FAMILY: BULBULS	PASSERIDAE FAMILY: OLD WORLD SPARROWS	ORIOLIDAE FAMILY: ORIOLES
<p>Yellow-vented Bulbul [call] <i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Francis Yap)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 20 cm • Bubbly, punctuated call • Prominent yellow vent (where bird excretes from) • Brown upperparts, pale underparts, a black lore around eyes that look like spectacles 	<p>Eurasian Tree Sparrow [call] <i>Passer montanus</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 12 – 14 cm • Brown cap with generally brown plumage • Prominent black patches on its cheeks and chin • Usually seen in small flocks on/near the ground 	<p>Black-naped Oriole <i>Oriolus chinensis</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 25 – 28 cm • Low, whistling call usually heard in the mornings • Yellow plumage • Black eye-mask

Important: To minimise further spread of COVID-19, please stay home during this period to keep your family and friends safe and check the latest advisories from the Ministry of Health (MOH).

COLUMBIDAE FAMILY: PIGEONS & DOVES

Zebra Dove [\[call\]](#)
Geopelia striata



(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)

- Length: 20 cm
- Similar to the Spotted Dove but has a slimmer body and stripes all over
- Blue-grey eyes
- Usually seen in small groups or pairs on the ground

Spotted Dove [\[call\]](#)
Streptopelia chinensis



(Photo credit: Robert Teo)

- Length: 30 cm
- Similar to the Zebra Dove but has a larger body and spotted neck
- Usually seen in small groups or pairs on the ground

Pink-necked Green Pigeon [\[call\]](#)
Treron vernans



(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)

- Length: 29 cm
- Males have a pink neck and orange breast
- Females are mostly green

Rock Pigeon [\[call\]](#)
Columba livia



(Photo credit: Samson Tan)

- Length: 33 cm
- Likely introduced during the colonial era
- Common urban bird; sometimes considered a pest
- Typically has grey plumage, but there may be brown, blonde, black and white morphs

CUCULIDAE FAMILY: CUCKOOS, COUCALS & MALKOHAS

Asian Koel
Eudynamys scolopacea



(Photo credits: Francis Yap)

- Length: 42 cm
- A type of cuckoo (cuckoos are brood parasites which lay eggs in other birds' nests for such birds to raise their young), and is a brood parasite for crow nests
- Distinct loud call (kooo-ooo kooo-ooo) which gave rise to its common name
- Males can be distinguished from crows with their long tails and red eyes
- Females are brown with white spots

CORVIDAE FAMILY: CROWS




House Crow [\[call\]](#)
Corvus splendens



(Photo credit: Samson Tan)

- Length: 41 cm
- Like other crows, it tends to be a scavenger, serving as an important form of waste disposal in many habitats
- Loud cawing call
- Overall dusty black body with a grey collar

Important: To minimise further spread of COVID-19, please stay home during this period to keep your family and friends safe and check the latest advisories from the Ministry of Health (MOH).

PHASIANIDAE FAMILY: PHEASANTS	ALCEDINIDAE FAMILY: KINGFISHERS	NECTARINIIDAE FAMILY: SUNBIRDS
<p>Red Junglefowl [call] <i>Gallus</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Francis Yap)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 70 cm • Singapore's only native pheasant • Ancestor to the Domestic Chicken • Plumage is gold, red, brown, dark maroon, orange, with a bit of metallic green and grey • White tuft at base of tail feathers • Legs are always grey; those with yellow legs are Domestic Chickens 	<p>Collared Kingfisher [call] <i>Todiramphus chloris</i></p>  <p>(Photo credit: Cai Yixiong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 25 cm • Like other kingfishers, it is found commonly on the edges of canals, perched on branches or railings • Distinct cackling call • Bright blue wings, back and crown • White collar and underparts 	<p>Olive-backed Sunbird [call] <i>Cinnyris jugularis</i></p>  <p>(Photo credits: Cai Yixiong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 10 cm • Often seen in parks or neighbourhood gardens • Male birds have a metallic blue bib • Females have olive upperparts, yellow underparts, and a pale "eyebrow" or supercilium