

Bhutan's Bumthang Valley

Naturetrek Tour Report

17 April - 4 May 2012



Euphorbia griffithii



Piptanthus lanuginosus



Rhododendron hodgsonii



Tiger's Nest

Report & images compiled by David Tattersfield



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	Nick Stewardson	
	Janice Stewardson	
	Alison Evans	
	Bob Evans	
	Neil Kingon	
	Wendy Kingon	

Day 1

Tuesday 17th April

Frances, Eva, Barbara and I met at Heathrow for the afternoon departure to Dubai.

Day 2

Wednesday 18th April

We arrived in Delhi mid-morning and transferred to the Westin Hotel. As we had the rest of the day to fill, we decided on a short cultural tour of Delhi and met up again at 1.30pm. We started by visiting the Qutb Minar, built by the first Muslim Dynasty and dominated by the 13th Century mosque and 73m tower of intricately carved sandstone. We moved on to Humayun's Tomb, built by the widow of one of the great Mughal Emperors and the inspiration for the later Taj Mahal. After a brief stop at India Gate we concluded with a drive through New Delhi. Back at the hotel, we met Nick and Janice, who had arrived during the afternoon and went out to a nearby shopping mall for a delicious evening meal. The return journey caused great hilarity when we all crammed into a single tuktuk!

Day 3

Thursday 19th April

We were up early in the morning for our internal flight to Bagdogra where we were met by our drivers for our journey to Bhutan. At the Coronation Bridge we picked up Alison, Bob, Wendy and Neil after their week's trip to Sikkim. Much of our journey was over level countryside with extensive dry paddyfields and busy villages. Birds included Indian Pond Heron, Cattle, Little and Intermediate Egrets and both Common and White-breasted kingfisher. Along the roadsides Large Banyan and Pipal trees provided shade along with the occasional Kapok tree *Bombax ceiba* and Jack Fruit while around the houses Papaya and Betel Nut were commonly grown. As we approached the border there were extensive tea plantations. Traffic and road conditions slowed our progress and we reached Jaigon just before dark. Fortunately the immigration control office remained open after hours and we were able to complete formalities before crossing into Bhutan to the Druk Hotel in Phuentsholing.

Day 4

Friday 20th April

Before breakfast we had a little time to explore the quiet streets of Phuentsholing.

We left at 8.00am and stopped high above the town at the Kharbandi Monastery, the Queen mother's winter residence. Our young guide, Jatsho, explained the significance of the five white stupas and the incredible detail and daily rituals of the monks in the richly-decorated temple. As the road twisted upwards through thick warm-temperate evergreen forest we stopped to see our first Rhododendron *Rhododendron dalbousiae*, with large yellow flowers and shortly afterwards the heavily-scented *Rhododendron griffithianum*. By the time we stopped for lunch at Bunakha we were seeing more familiar plants, like *Primula denticulata* and *Euphorbia griffithii*.

After lunch we walked along the road for a while and were rewarded with finds of several orchids including the lavender-pink *Calanthe plantaginea*, while bird highlights included Verditer and Ultramarine Flycatchers. The forests were now mostly deciduous with Poplar, Birch, Alder and Hornbeam, which gradually gave way to Blue Pine *Pinus wallichiana* as we entered a much drier region. At the confluence of the Wang Chu and Paro Chu we stopped for a leg stretch before the final stage of our journey to Paro.

Day 5

Saturday 21st April

Our hotel was in a lovely location among fields close to the river and an early walk revealed four Ibisbill on the river shingles. We had breakfast at 6.30a.m and left an hour later for the Tiger's Nest Monastery. It was a stiff climb, but the many highlights gave plenty of reasons for taking it slowly. Magnificent specimens of *Rhododendron arboreum* were common with the occasional *Clematis montana* draped over the shrubs. Other shrubs included *Buddleja crispa*, deep yellow *Piptanthus nepalensis*, several Viburnums and the thorny *Rosa sericea*, while on the ground were bright blue clumps of *Gentiana pedicillata*. Most of us continued to a viewpoint looking down on the Tiger's Nest, surrounded by colourful prayer flags, before a welcome drink at the restaurant.

We had a delicious lunch in Paro and then headed for the Chele La, the pass that leads to the Ha Valley in the west. *Primula denticulata* occurred in huge drifts in the damp meadows and *Pieris formosa* showed both flowers and colourful young leaves. As we neared the pass we found some lovely colonies of the deep blue *Primula griffithii*, which is restricted to western Bhutan and the adjacent Chumbi Valley. Unfortunately the weather was deteriorating as we reached the top and a strong wind was battering the prayer flags. However, we ventured along the ridge and eventually found a little shelter among the Rhododendrons. In the short alpine turf were the starry bright-yellow blooms of *Oxygraphis endlicheri* and emerging rosettes of *Meconopsis simplicifolia* but most plants were still in a dormant state. As we returned down the pass we were lucky enough to see eight or nine Blood Pheasants and the same number of Kalij Pheasants, an exciting end to the day.

Day 6

Sunday 22nd April

We left around 8.15a.m for Paro Dzong and had a short tour of its splendid interior. After a brief stop at a viewpoint near the airport we continued down the valley and then east past Thimphu and the Simtokha Dzong towards the Dochu La. At the checkpoint we saw our first *Arisaema nepenthooides* and *Paris polyphylla* and as we approached the top of the pass *Rhododendron kesangiae* became plentiful. The many chortens were built to commemorate the brief war with Assam in 2003. Following the old trail we passed under huge specimens of *Rhododendron hodgsonii*, pale yellow *R. falconeri* and crimson *R. barbatum* and a rich ground flora included *Cardocrinum giganteum*, *Trillium tschonoskii* and *Paris violacea*. At the end of our walk we visited the new Botanic Garden where we had an open-air lunch before continuing down to Punakha.

Day 7

Monday 23rd April

The morning started with a visit to the imposing Punakha Dzong. Down the valley we were surprised to see a whole new town, built within the last twelve months to house the expanding population needed to service the hydro-electric industry. The old town which had been a line of quaint little shops had, to our dismay, been demolished. In the dry valley that followed, the red-flowered shrub *Woodfordia fruticosa* was prominent and we stopped to photograph it and search for the attractive Wild Turmeric, *Curcuma aromatica*. We had distant views of the snow-capped Himalaya from Nobding and then as we approached the Pele La, we were back in the rhododendron zone. The large-leaved *Rhododendron falconeri*, *R. hodgsonii* and *R. kesangiae* were in spectacular flower and unexpectedly, owing to the late season, we came across a beautiful display of the ice-blue *Primula whitei*. Over the pass, dwarf bamboo was dominant with *Rhododendron arboreum* and blood-red *R. thompsonii* in marshy areas.

After a very tasty lunch we made a short stop at the ancient chorten at Chendebji before continuing through thickly-forested valleys towards Trongsa and our hotel.

Day 8

Tuesday 24th April

The day started with a visit to the impressive Tongsa Dzong, followed by the post office to buy some of Bhutan's colourful stamps. We rejoined our vehicle in town and departed for our next high pass, the Yotong La at 3245m. We stopped to spend time among the displays of Rhododendron and *Magnolia campbellii* along the route. At the top of the pass we explored an old trail looking closely at the distinguishing features of *Rhododendron kesangiae* and *R. hodgsonii* and growing in their shade, the delightful yellow *Bryocarpum himalaicum*. Beyond, we descended through more populated areas and after one more pass, the Kiki La, we descended into the broad Bumthang Valley. Unfortunately the weather in Jakar took a turn for the worse and it poured with rain out of dense dark cloud, so we finally gave up and went to our hotel high on the hillside to prepare for tomorrow's trek.

Day 9

Wednesday 25th April

The weather had improved by the morning and after picking up some supplies, we drove up the valley to Toktu Zampa, where our ponies were waiting. Tsering, our amiable driver for the last few days, had decided to join us for the trek and we set off along the valley of the Chamkar Chu before crossing a suspension bridge to an easy trail through the forest. It was good to be unrushed, after all the stop-start travelling and to fully enjoy our surroundings. *Paris polyphylla*, *Paris violacea* and *Cardiocrinum giganteum* grew in the shade and meadows were full of colourful *Euphorbia griffithii* and the orange-brown unfurling fronds of the Interrupted Fern *Osmunda claytoniana*. We reached our campsite at Ngang Lhaktang by mid-afternoon and settled into the routine of life under canvas.

Day 10

Thursday 26th April

Today we climbed gradually through mixed forest, initially of Blue Pine which gradually gave way to towering Hemlock and Himalayan Fir. Beyond wet stands of bamboo and glowing specimens of *Rhododendron thomsonii* we entered a steep shady ravine with new plants including *Primula geraniifolia*, *Trillidium govanianum* and *Clintonia udensis*. As we neared our campsite the forest was dominated by the endemic *Rhododendron kesangiae* with moss-covered trunks and huge trusses of dark pink flowers. In damp gullies large patches of pink *Primula gracilipes* caught our eye and after a little searching we located the very rare *Daphne ludlowii* growing in the deep moss layer.

The camp was in a magnificent setting, surrounded by East Himalayan Fir *Abies densa*, Rhododendron and Himalayan Birch *Betula utilis* with peeling red bark. We had the rest of the afternoon to explore and soon discovered that we shared the site with a herd of yak and a colony of Large-eared Pika, a relative of the rabbit. We enjoyed a lovely evening meal and then retired to our tents.

Day 11

Friday 27th April

We awoke to a sunny morning although the overnight rain had made it rather soggy underfoot. The trail climbed through dense mixed forest filled with deep-red *Rhododendron barbatum* with its characteristic peeling bark. *Primula gracilipes* was abundant on shaded banks and near the top of the pass, under the many colourful prayer flags were blue and white *Anemone obtusiloba*. Large specimens of *Rhododendron hodgsonii* were in full bloom but *R. cinnabarinum* subsp. *xanthocodon* was just showing the first of its orange-yellow waxy flowers. At the start of our steep descent a starry pale-pink flower caused a lot of head scratching: it was *Callianthemum pimpinelloides* a member of the Buttercup Family. More splendid stands of *R. barbatum* followed before we emerged from the forest and had lunch by an ancient mani wall.

The rest of the afternoon was a gentle stroll through meadows to our campsite where as usual afternoon tea was waiting. We took up the offer of a local dancing group by way of evening entertainment. They were not deterred by rain, improvising with a hastily erected shelter and encouraging us all to join in...

Day 12

Saturday 28th April

My request for a visit to the local primary school had been granted and we turned up just before the school day started. It was a fascinating experience and a privilege to be made so welcome. Children cleaned the school grounds before assembly and were very keen to show us their work in the classrooms. Quite clearly, conservation and care for the environment is paramount in the teaching of Bhutan's next generation.

Crossing the river we made other visits, first to a typical Bhutanese farmhouse and then to the former palace at Ugyen Choling, where preparations were being made for a visit by the king the same day. We had a long climb ahead of us through meadows, forest and dense bamboo, that had been made muddy by the passage of our ponies and eventually saw the welcome sight of our tents. We enjoyed late afternoon sunshine and a clear blue sky and after dinner a little snow began to fall.

Day 13

Sunday 29th April

We awoke to a magical scene with a covering of snow and a clear blue sky. The temperature was a little below freezing and everything sparkled. We had no choice but to wait a while before our planned walk and to treat the unexpected weather as an added bonus. Around the edge of the campsite, the covering of snow on the deep red flower trusses of *Rhododendron succothii* made a wonderful picture. Gradually a thaw set in and we set off along the trail into the forest. The fat resting buds of *Primula calderiana*, looking like pale Brussels sprouts, were just bursting after their winter rest and revealing lovely purple flowers with a yellow eye. *Rhododendron hodgsonii* was at its best and the maroon-spotted yellow flowers of *R. wightii* were just opening.

From here to the top of the pass the Fir trees thinned out and Rhododendros became dominant. They comprised *R. nightii*, *flinkii* and *bhutanense*, the latter two endemic to Bhutan, and a whole range of intermediate hybrids. Tsering built some character-full snowmen en route much to everyone's amusement! The snow had mostly gone by the time we reached the last steep section of this ancient trade route and we all made it to the summit of the pass without any difficulties. We all took group photos around the summit chorten and for a short interval we even had reasonable views of distant snowy peaks before retracing our steps back to camp for refreshments around a warm fire.

Day 14

Monday 30th April

It was time to pack up our campsite and, after a last look round, we headed off down. The old trail we were following was very little used and we had to bash our way through dense tall bamboo down a long ridge. We eventually emerged into meadows and had our lunch on a grassy hilltop overlooking the Tang Valley. We continued down through Blue Pine forest and threaded our way through a patchwork of fields to the valley bottom, following the edge of the extensive paddy fields that were being prepared for planting with oxen-drawn ploughs. We finally crossed the river over a suspension bridge to our campsite and spent the rest of the afternoon relaxing. Our head chef Leki made a wonderful birthday cake for Nick out of a very limited supply of ingredients.

Day 15

Tuesday 1st May

After thanking and saying our farewells to our horsemen and camp staff, who had looked after us so well, we made an early start for the long journey west. In Jakar, where the apple blossom was out, we stopped to photograph the very attractive fern *Osmunda cinnamomea* growing in a marsh by the roadside and at Zunge we spent considerable time at the weaving cooperative, buying souvenirs and watching the weavers at work on their looms. We crossed the Yotong La, stopping briefly for photographs and descended to Trongsa for a coffee break at the Yangkil Resort. Another stop was made to look at *Aristolochia griffithii* with huge deep maroon flowers before another delicious lunch.

On the Pele La, *Viburnum nervosum* was now in full flower and the attractive dark-pink *Lysimachia proliфера* grew on the trackside. The forest was ablaze with *Rhododendron bodgsonii* and *R. kesangiae* but the *Primula whitei* that we had so much admired had been almost completely trashed by yak herders removing timber. We left the main road and descended into the Phobjika Valley, where hillsides were coloured red with *Rhododendron arboreum* and the dwarfier *R. thomsonii*. In very wet bog, we found *R. ciliatum* with huge white scented blooms and the characteristic fringe of hairs along the leaf margins. Our hotel was very welcoming and we appreciated the wood-burning stoves in our rooms.

Day 16

Wednesday 2nd May

We had a long journey back to Paro, which necessitated another early start. Our travel plans were dogged by major road works on the Dochu La and movement of traffic was restricted to pre-planned time slots. We had a short visit to recently-restored Gangtey Gomba and greatly admired its spectacular wood carvings of dragons and other mythical beasts.

We made a number of short stops to photograph the fluffy pink flowers of *Albizia julibrissin*, the lovely red tubular flowers of *Woodfordia fruticosa* and the long-needled Chir Pine *Pinus roxburgii* and reached the Dochu La without too many delays. Just below the top we watched a large troop of Grey Langurs leaping around the trees above our heads. With a clear road ahead of us, we had time to explore the area around the top of the pass before heading down to Thimpu for lunch.

The busy capital was quite a shock after our adventures. After a brief walk round the streets we watched an archery contest between the Government Ministry of Finance and a team from a major hydro-electric company. This was set to go on for a number of days in various locations. Archery is a more than just a pastime in Bhutan! We returned to Paro in the late afternoon, where Ibisbills could still be seen on the river, and enjoyed another excellent evening meal.

Day 17

Thursday 3rd May

We left for Paro airport early in the morning where we thanked Jatsho and Tsering. During our flight it remained mostly cloudy but we did have glimpses of the high peaks of the Himalaya before we descended to Delhi, where we relaxed for the rest of the day.

Day 18

Friday 4th May

We left on an early morning flight for Dubai and transferred to our plane bound for Heathrow.

Summary of topography

Phuntsholing 200m

Taktsang Gompa 3140m

Dochu La 3050m

Tongsa 2180m

Jakar 2580m

Phokphey 3700m

Thimpu 2320m

Paro 2280m

Chele La 3810m

Pele La 3420m

Yotong La 3425m

Phephe La 3597m

Rudong La 4167m

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Systematic list of plants noted

The term endemic denotes plants restricted to Bhutan.

PTERIDOPHYTA

FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Adiantaceae

Adiantum pedatum

Adiantum Family

Moist Hemlock forest

Below Phephe La

Aspidiaceae

Polystichum nepalense

Dryopteris wallichiana

Forest banks

Occasional. Forests

Blechnaceae

Woodwardia unigemmata

Blechnum Family

Warm broad-leaved forest

Cyatheaceae

Cyathea spinulosa

A tree fern

Above Phuntsholing

Denstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum

Bracken Family

Bracken

Frequent

Gleicheniaceae

Gleichenia volubilis

Gleichenia Family

'Demented Bracken'

Phuntsholing to Tongsa

Hymenophyllaceae

Hymenophyllum sp.

Filmy Fern Family

Epiphyte

Damp shady forests

Lycopodiaceae

Lycopodium clavatum

Clubmoss Family

Stag's horn Clubmoss

Forests. Widespread

Ophioglossaceae

Ophioglossum vulgatum

Adder's Tongue Family

Adder's Tongue

Meadows. Tang Valley

Osmundaceae

Osmunda claytoniana

Osmunda regalis

Osmunda cinnamomea

Osmunda Family

Interrupted Fern

Royal Fern

Cinnamon Fern

Widespread

Phuntsholing to Paro

Bumthang Valley

Polypodiaceae

Platycerium sp.

Polypody Family

Stag's Horn Fern

N. India

Pteridaceae*Pteris cretica***Pteris Family**

Widespread

GYMNOSPERMAE**CONIFERS****Cupressaceae***Cupressus corneyana*

Weeping Cypress

Pele La. Endemic. Also
Cultivated*Juniperus recurva*

Weeping Blue Juniper

Locally common

Juniperus pseudosabina

Black Juniper

Rudong La. Common

Thuja orientalis

Chinese Arbor-vitae

Thimpu. Cultivated

Pinaceae*Abies densa*

East Himalayan Fir

Common

Picea spinulosa

Eastern Himalayan Spruce

Common

Pinus roxburgii

Chir Pine

Arid valleys. Low altitude

Pinus wallichiana

Blue Pine

Dry valleys.

Tsuga dumosa

Himalayan Hemlock

Common

Larix griffithiana

Sikkim Larch

Chele La. Gangtey

Taxaceae*Taxus baccata* subsp.
*wallichiana***Yew Family**

Eastern Himalayan Yew

Occasional

Taxodiaceae*Cryptomeria japonica*

Japanese Cedar

Cultivated

ANGIOSPERMAE**FLOWERING PLANTS****DICOTYLEDONS****Aceraceae***Acer oblongum***Maple Family**

Leaves unlobed

Warm broad-leaved forest

*Acer hookeri*Leaves unlobed, margin
serrate

Cool broad-leaved forest

Acer sikkimense

Leaves unlobed

Thimpu. Broad-leaved
and evergreen Oak forest*Acer stachyophyllum*

Leaves unlobed, pale beneath

Hemlock forests

Acer cappadocicum var.
*indicum*Leaves large, petioles long,
sap milkyThimpu. Oak and Pine
forest*Acer campbellii*

Leaves 5-7 lobed

Oak and Hemlock forest

*Acer caudatum*Leaves 5 lobed, margin
doubly serrate

Phephe La. Fir forest

Acer pectinatum

Leaves 3-5 lobed

Widespread. Hemlock
and Fir forest*Acer sterculiaceum*

Leaves 3-5 lobed, hairy

Cool broad-leaved forest

Anacardiaceae <i>Mangifera indica</i>	Sumach Family Mango	Cultivated. Phuntsholing
Apocyanaceae <i>Thevetia peruviana</i> <i>Plumeria rubra</i>	Frangi-Pani Family Yellow Oleander Frangi-Pani	Cultivated. Delhi Delhi and Phuntsholing. Cultivated
Araliaceae <i>Hedera nepalensis</i>	Ivy Family Ivy	Moist forests
Aristolochiaceae <i>Aristolochia griffithii</i> <i>Asarum himalaicum</i>	Birthwort Family Very large, spotted flowers Small brown flowers	Roadside near Tashiling Hemlock forest.
Asclepiadaceae <i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i> <i>Calotropis gigantea</i>	Milkweed Family Swallow Wort Bowstring Hemp	Occasional. Pine forest N. India. Cultivated
Balsaminaceae <i>Impatiens cristata</i>	Balsam Family Yellow flowers	Chukka checkpost
Begoniaceae <i>Begonia annulata</i>	Begonia Family Variegated leaves. White flowers	Warm-temperate forest above Phuntsholing
Berberidaceae <i>Berberis insignis</i> <i>Berberis griffithiana</i> <i>Berberis praecipua</i> <i>Berberis virescens</i> <i>Mahonia napaulensis</i>	Barberry Family Evergreen. Large spiny leaves Evergreen. Small spiny leaves As above, but flowers more numerous Deciduous. Leaf margins entire. Spines 1-2 cm	Forest margins Forest margins Dry hillsides Forest clearings Forest margins.
Betulaceae <i>Alnus nepalensis</i> <i>Betula alnoides</i> var. <i> cylindrostachya</i> <i>Betula utilis</i>	Birch Family Himalayan Alder Alder-leaved Birch Himalayan Birch	Frequent Broad-leaved forests Brown papery bark Conifer and Rhododendron forest
Bignoniaceae <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Trumpet Tree Family	Cultivated. Punakha
Bombacaceae <i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Kapok Tree Family Kapok Tree	Wangdiphodrang. India

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja colvilei
Buddleja crispa

Buddleja Family

Open hillsides. Phephe La
Forest below Taktsang

Buxaceae

Sarcococca hookeriana

Box Family

Small evergreen shrub

Shaded damp forest

Cactaceae

Opuntia vulgaris

Cactus Family

Prickly Pear

Dry hillsides. Alien

Cannabaceae

Cannabis sativa subsp.*indica*

Hemp Family

Hemp

Weed and cultivated

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera angustifolia
Lonicera quinquelocularis
Leycesteria formosa
Viburnum cotinifolium
Viburnum mullaha
Viburnum cylindricum

Honeysuckle Family

Pale pink flowers
Yellow flowers
Flowering Bamboo
Broad-leaved shrub
Leaves narrow, pointed
Evergreen. Flowers cream

Phephe La
Paro Valley
Occasional. Forest
Taktsang
Dochu La
Broad-leaved forest.
Tongsa

Viburnum nervosum
Viburnum erubescens
Viburnum grandiflorum
Sambucus adnata

Pointed leaves. White flowers
Pendulous pink flowers
Clustered pink flowers
An Elder

Pele La
Dochu La
Chele La. Phephe La
Pastures

Caricaceae

Carica papaya

Pawpaw Family

Pawpaw. Papaya

N. India. Cultivated

Caryophyllaceae

Stellaria media
Stellaria vestita

Pink Family

Common Chickweed
Grey leaves

Weed of cultivation
Dry areas

Compositae

Ageratum conyzoides
Ainsliaea aptera
Anaphalis margaritacea
Anaphalis triplinervis
Pseudognaphalium affine
Aster albescens
Aster himalaicus
Eupatorium adenophorum

Daisy Family

Annual. Bluish-white flowers
Leafless stem, white flowers
White everlasting flowers
Jersey Cudweed
Blue-flowered sub-shrub
Blue flowers
Invasive sub-shrub

Roadsides. Alien
Forests
Grassy clearings
Meadows
Common weed
Forest margins
Near Jakar
Roadside alien. Mexico

Coriariaceae

Coriaria napalensis

Coriaria Family

Shrub. Prominent red
Stamens and styles

Dry hillsides

Cornaceae*Benthamidia capitata***Crassulaceae***Rhodiola himalensis**Sedum triactina***Cruciferae***Capsella bursa-pastoris**Cardamine griffithii**Cardamine trifoliata***Dipterocarpaceae***Shorea robusta***Droseraceae***Drosera peltata* subsp.
*peltata***Ebenaceae***Diosyros kaki***Elaeagnaceae***Elaeagnus parvifolia**Hippophae salicifolia***Ericaceae***Rhododendron griffithianum**Rhododendron grande**Rhododendron kesangiae**Rhododendron falconeri**Rhododendron hodgsonii**Rhododendron campylocarpum*subsp. *campylocarpum**Rhododendron arboreum**Rhododendron wightii**Rhododendron bhutanense**Rhododendron flinkii**Rhododendron wallichii**Rhododendron barbatum**Rhododendron argipeplum*

(the preceding 2 species are difficult to distinguish as characters appear to overlap)

*Rhododendron succothii**Rhododendron thomsonii**Rhododendron edgeworthii***Dogwood Family**

Large yellow bracts

Thimpu

Stonecrop Family

Rudong La

Mossy rocks in forest

Cress Family

Shepherd's Purse

Occasional weed

Damp banks. Phephe La

Trailing stems, white flowers

Dochu La

Sal. Timber tree, large leaves

Phuntsholing. Cultivated

Sundew Family

A Sundew

Damp meadows

Ebony Family

Chinese Persimmon

Drukyel Dzong. Planted

Elaeagnus Family

Silvery leaves. Cream flowers

Common

Buckthorn

By streams

Rhododendron Family

Large scented white flowers

Chendebji. Tongsa

Dark red-brown indumentum

Below Yotong La

Bark with epiphytes. Flowers

Fir and Hemlock forest

dark pink

Endemic

Creamy-yellow flowers

Dochu La

Bark smooth. Flowers

Pele La. Phokphey

pinkish-red or purple

Corolla campanulate, pale

Chele La. Bumthang

yellow +/- red basal blotch

Medium altitudes.

Common

Yellow flowers, red spotted

Phokphey. Rudong La

Flowers deep to pale pink

Rudong La. Endemic

Yellow flowers, red spotted

Phokphey. Rudong La

Endemic

Flowers lilac

Chele La. Phokphey

Reddish peeling bark

Phephe La

Reddish peeling bark

Yotong La

(the preceding 2 species are difficult to distinguish as characters appear to overlap)

Sessile or very short petiole

Fir forest. Phokphey

Flowers deep red.

Bogs

Rugose leaf. Flowers very

Taktsang to Tongsa

fragrant.

<i>Rhododendron pendulum</i>	Small elliptic leaves. Epiphyte or on rocks	Yotong La
<i>Rhododendron maddenii</i>	Large white flowers	Puenzi Guesthouse
<i>Rhododendron dalhousiae</i>	Epiphyte or on cliffs	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Rhododendron lindleyi</i>	Epiphyte	Chendebji
<i>Rhododendron ciliatum</i>	Ciliate leaves	Gangtey
<i>Rhododendron triflorum</i>	Corolla zygomorphic	Paro. Tang. Gangtey
<i>Rhododendron cinnabarinum</i> subsp. <i>cinnabarinum</i>	Yellow and red flowers	Phephe La. Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron cinnabarinum</i> subsp. <i>xanthocodon</i>	Orange flowers	Chele La. Phephe La. Phokphey
(confusion exists between the 2 subspecies - leaves were not examined closely)		
<i>Rhododendron keysii</i>	Distinctive tubular flowers	Dochu La. Gangtey
<i>Rhododendron virgatum</i> subsp. <i>virgatum</i>	Small shrub. Pink flowers	Chendebji. Tang Valley
<i>Rhododendron camelliiflorum</i>	Epiphyte	Forests
<i>Rhododendron lepidotum</i>	Aromatic dwarf shrub	Paro to Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron anthopogon</i> subsp. <i>anthopogon</i>	Aromatic dwarf shrub. Pink flowers	Phokphey
<i>Gaultheria fragrantissima</i>	White-flowered shrub	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Gaultheria griffithiana</i>	Greenish-white flowers	Phephe La
<i>Gaultheria hookeri</i>	Bristly stems	Chendebji
<i>Gaultheria nummularioides</i>	Prostrate dwarf shrub. Bristly shoots	Common
<i>Gaultheria trichophylla</i>	Prostrate dwarf shrub. Short Bristly shoots. Small leaves	Cliffs. Dochu La
<i>Cassiope fastigiata</i>		Phokphey. Rudong La
<i>Enkianthus deflexus</i>	Pendulous flowers	Forests
<i>Lyonia ovalifolia</i>	Evergreen. White flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Pieris formosa</i>	White flowers	West of Dochu La.
<i>Vaccinium retusum</i>	Epiphyte. Pink flowers	Pele La
<i>Vaccinium nummularia</i>	Creeping shrub. Young shoots bristly	Widespread
<i>Vaccinium glauco-album</i>	leaves large, white beneath	Chendebji
<i>Agapetes serpens</i>	Epiphyte. Red tubular flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest

Euphorbiaceae**Spurge Family**

<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	Poinsettia	Cultivated. Phuntsholing Native tropical America
<i>Euphorbia griffithii</i>	Red or orange bracts	Common.
<i>Euphorbia himalayensis</i>	Maroon bracts	Phephe La
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Weed

Fagaceae**Beech Family**

<i>Quercus lanata</i>	Evergreen, Leaves serrate Pale beneath	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Quercus griffithii</i>	Deciduous, leaves serrate	Blue Pine forest
<i>Quercus semecarpifolia</i>	Shrub or tree, Leaves entire or spiny	Dry slopes under Blue Pine

<i>Lithocarpus elegans</i>	Leaves entire. Acorns in clusters	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Castanopsis tribuloides</i> <i>Castanopsis hystrix</i>	Leaves entire. Fruit spiny Spikes of white flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest Punakha
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family	
<i>Corydalis trifoliata</i> <i>Corydalis</i> sp. <i>Corydalis</i> sp.	Blue flowers Pale yellow. Yellow. Orange tip.	Fir forests. Bumthang Forests Forests
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Halenia elliptica</i> <i>Megacodon stylophorus</i> <i>Gentiana prolata</i> <i>Gentiana pedicellata</i> <i>Gentiana capitata</i>	Annual Broad-leaved rosette Low creeping herb Branched annual Annual. Flowers in capitate heads	Open hillsides and pasture Meadows. Phokphey Rudong La Widespread in turf Widespread in turf
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i> <i>Tabernaemontana divaricata</i>	Madagascar Periwinkle Shrub. Scented white flowers	Cultivated. Delhi N. India
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
<i>Geranium procurrans</i> <i>Geranium lambertii</i> <i>Geranium donianum</i> <i>Geranium nepalense</i>	Stems rooting at nodes Not rooting at nodes	Bumthang Blue Pine and Fir forests Campsite. Phokphey Bumthang
Gesneriaceae	African Violet Family	
<i>Briggsia muscicola</i>		Epiphyte. Bumthang
Grossulariaceae	Currant Family	
<i>Ribes laciniatum</i> <i>Ribes griffithii</i> <i>Ribes himalense</i> <i>Ribes acuminatum</i>	Racemes erect. Leaves 3-lobed. Flowers crimson Racemes long, pendulous Long pendulous racemes Racemes erect	Yotong La Yotong La Bumthang Taktsang. Phephe La
Hydrangeaceae	Hydrangea Family	
<i>Hydrangea anomala</i> <i>Hydrangea heteromalla</i>	Climbing shrub Shrub or small tree	Warm broad-leaved forest Hemlock forest
Hypericaceae	St John's Wort Family	
<i>Hypericum choisianum</i> <i>Hypericum uralum</i>		Paro. Dochu La. Forest Forest margins
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Cultivated

Labiatae

Prunella vulgaris
Colquhounia coccinea
Origanum vulgare

Ladizabalaceae

Holboellia latifolia
Decaisnea insignis

Leguminosae

Delonix regia

Caesalpinia decapetala

Cassia fistula
Bauhinia vahlii

Tamarindus indicus

Albizia julibrissin
Albizia chinensis
Albizia sherriffii
Indigofera heterantha
Desmodium elegans
Erythrina arborescens
Parochetus communis
Piptanthus nepalensis
Piptanthus tomentosus
Trifolium repens
Trifolium pratense

Loranthaceae

Scurrula elata

Lythraceae

Woodfordia fruticosa

Malvaceae

Hibiscus rosa-sinensis

Magnoliaceae

Magnolia campbellii
Magnolia globosa
Magnolia grandiflora
Michelia doltsopa

Mint Family

Self Heal Meadows
 Below Taktsang
 Marjoram Grassy slopes

Climber. Palmate leaves, Frequent
 pendulous whitish flowers
 Pinnate-leaved shrub Below Dochu La

Pea Family

Flame Tree Phuntsholing. India
 Native to Madagascar
 Scrambling shrub. Erect Roadside. Tongsa
 spikes of yellow flowers
 Indian Laburnum Delhi
 Robust climber. Large cream N.India
 Flowers
 Tamarind. Pinnate leaves. N. India to Phuntsholing
 Racemes of yellow flowers
 Pinkish flowers Hillsides. Tongsa
 Pinnate leaves Valleys to 1500m
 Flowers white Chukka checkpoint
 Pink flowers Dry hillsides. Paro Chu
 Trifoliolate shrub. Pink flowers Dry hillsides.
 Red flowers Punakha to Tongsa
 Blue Pea Occasional. Moist places
 Large yellow flowers Open hillsides
 Leaves, white above Bumthang
 White Clover Grassy places. Alien weed
 Red Clover Occasional roadside weed

Mistletoe Family

Parasitic shrub. Tubular Dochu La
 red and green flowers

Loosestrife Family

Shrub. Tubular red flowers Wangdiphodrang

Mallow Family

Red flowers Phuntsholing

Magnolia Family

Large tree Hemlock and Fir forest
 Evergreen Dochu La. Chendebji
 Planted. Punakha Dzong
 Warm broad-leaved forest

Melastomataceae*Melastoma normale*

Purple flowers

Phuntsholing

Meliaceae*Melia azedarach***Melia Family**

Indian Bead Tree

Cultivated

Moraceae*Artocarpus heterophyllus**Ficus elastica**Ficus pumila**Ficus religiosa**Ficus benghalensis***Fig Family**

Jack Fruit

Indian Rubber Tree

Dwarf Fig

Pipal

Banyan Tree

N. India

Warm broad-leaved forest

Planted. Phuntsholing

Phuntsholing. Cultivated

Phuntsholing. N. India

Morinaceae*Acanthocalyx nepalensis***Morina Family**

Forest clearings.

Myrtaceae*Callistemon citrinus**Eucalyptus tereticornis***Myrtle Family**

Red Bottle Brush

Forest Red Gum

Cultivated

Punaka. Cultivated

Nyctaginaceae*Bougainvillea spectabilis*

Bougainvillea

Cultivated. Phuntsholing

Oleaceae*Jasminum humile**Osmanthus suavis***Olive Family**

Yellow flowers

Evergreen shrub. Small white

scented flowers

Forest margins

Dochu La

Oxalidaceae*Oxalis corniculata**Oxalis leucolepis***Wood-sorrel Family**

Roadsides. Alien weed

Dochu La

Papaveraceae*Cathcartia villosa**Meconopsis paniculata**Meconopsis sinuata**Papaver somniferum***Poppy Family**

Large rosettes

Rosettes of wavy-edged
leaves

Opium Poppy

Dochu La

Chele La, Phephe La,

Phokphey

Phephe La

Occasional weed

Parnassiaceae*Parnassia nubicola***Grass of Parnassus Family**

Campsite. Phokphey

Philadelphaceae*Deutzia corymbosa**Philadelphus tomentosus***Mock-orange Family**

East of Phephe La

Dry forest margins

Phytolaccaceae*Phytolacca acinosa***Plumbaginaceae***Ceratostigma griffithii***Podophyllaceae***Podophyllum hexandrum***Polygalaceae***Polygala sibirica***Polygonaceae***Aconogonum campanulatum**Aconogonum molle* var.
*molle**Bistorta macrophylla**Bistorta vacciniifolia**Polygonum capitatum**Polygonum viviparum**Fagopyrum esculentum**Oxyria digyna**Rheum acuminatum***Pokeweed Family**

American Pokeweed

Roadsides. Low altitudes

Plumbago Family

Blue flowers

Dry hillsides. Paro valley
Endemic**Podophyllum Family**

Pink flowers

Campsite. Phephe La

Milkwort Family

Purple flowers

Open slopes

Bistort Family

Creamy inflorescence

Bumthang
Broad-leaved forest.

Common

Rudong La

Phephe La. Rudong La

Pink spherical flowerheads

Common. Low altitudes

Alpine bistort

Rudong La

Buckwheat

Cultivated

Mountain Sorrel

Rudong La

A Rhubarb

Phephe La

Primulaceae*Primula geraniifolia**Primula gracilipes**Primula bracteosa**Primula hookeri**Primula calderiana**Primula strumosa**Primula griffithii**Primula obliqua**Primula dickeana* var.
*aureostellata**Primula smithiana**Primula sikkimensis* var.
*sikkimensis**Primula primulina**Primula denticulata**Primula erythrocarpa*

(these 2 species are easily confused)

*Primula capitata**Androsace geraniifolia***Primrose Family**

Umbels of deep pink flowers

Below Phephe La

Rosette of rugose leaves.

Phephe La

Flower pinkish purple

Leafy flower scape

Dochu La

White flowers nestling in
small rosette, toothed leaves

Above Phokphey

Flowers purple, yellow eye

Phokphey

Flowers yellow

Chele La. Phokphey

Flowers blue violet, golden
eye

Chele La. Endemic

Large resting buds

Rudong La

Pale yellow, with deep-yellow
star-like centre

Phokphey. Endemic

Yellow candelabra

Wet flushes. Common

Not in flower

Wet flushes. Rudong La

Dwarf rosettes

Mossy cliff. Rudong La

Drumstick Primrose

Paro valley. Gangtey

Bud scales absent

Paro valley

Narrow-leaved rosettes

Bumthang. Bamboo forest

Small pink or white flowers

Forest below Taktsang

<i>Bryocarpum himalaicum</i>	Corolla yellow, lobes bidentate	Chele La. Yotong La Rudong La
<i>Lysimachia prolifera</i>	Decumbent herb. Flowers pink or mauve	Pele la. Phephe La
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Pimpernel	Arable weed
Ranunculaceae		
<i>Clematis montana</i>	Woody climber	Common
<i>Anemone rivularis</i>	White flowers in umbel	Cool forests
<i>Anemone obtusiloba</i>	Hairy plant. White or blue flowers	Forest clearings
<i>Anemone griffithii</i>	Sparsely hairy. White flowers	Dochu La. Phephe La
<i>Callianthemum pimpinelloides</i>		Phephe La
<i>Thalictrum chelidonii</i>	A Meadow-rue	Fir forests
<i>Adonis brevistyla</i>	Leaves much divided	Ravines. Bumthang
<i>Oxygraphis endlicheri</i>	Dwarf herb. Yellow flowers	Alpine turf. Chele La
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	Wet ground. Fir forests
<i>Souliea vaginata</i>	Leafless spikes. Flowers white, tinged purple	Fir forest. Phokphey
<i>Actaea acuminata</i>	Short racemes. White flowers	Hemlock and Fir forests
<i>Aconitum bulbiferum</i>	Scandent herb	Forests. Bumthang
<i>Paeonia suffruticosa</i>	A Tree Peony	Gangtey Gumpa. Planted
<i>Ranunculus brotherusii</i>		Bumthang
<i>Ranunculus scleratus</i>		Paro
Rosaceae		
<i>Spiraea canescens</i>		Bumthang. Forest margin
<i>Spiraea bella</i>		Phephe La
<i>Maddenia himalaica</i>	Deciduous shrub. Racemes of flowers with creamy stamens	Forest margins
<i>Prunus cornuta</i>	Bird Cherry. Racemes of white flowers	Bumthang. Open forests
<i>Prunus cerasoides</i>	Large tree	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Prunus rufa</i>	Peeling brown bark. Pendulous white flowers	Phephe La
<i>Prinsepia utilis</i>	Hedge plant	Near villages
<i>Rubus fockeanus</i>	Creeping herb	Mossy ground in forests
<i>Rubus biflorus</i>	Orange-fruited bramble Stems with white bloom	Forest clearings
<i>Rubus niveus</i>	White stems. Pink petals	Roadsides and open forest
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	Tang Valley. Arable weed
<i>Potentilla microphylla</i> var. <i>achilleifolia</i>	Feathery-leaved herb	Chele La. Alpine turf
<i>Potentilla peduncularis</i>	Pinnate-leaved rosettes	Phokphey. Meadows
<i>Potentilla</i> sp.		Rudong La
<i>Sibbaldia</i> sp.		Rudong La
<i>Fragaria daltoniana</i>	A Strawberry. Shiny leaf	Yutong La. Bumthang
<i>Fragaria nubicola</i>	A Strawberry. Edible	Common. Forest margins
<i>Duchesnea indica</i>	Yellow-flowered strawberry	Occasional. Clearings
<i>Agrimonia pilosa</i>		Occasional. Roadsides

Buttercup Family**Rose Family**

<i>Sanguisorba filiformis</i>	White flowers	Phokphey
<i>Rosa brunonii</i>	Scrambling shrub	Moist forest to 2500m
<i>Rosa macrophylla</i>	Erect shrub	Forest margins, Bumthang
<i>Rosa sericea</i> var. <i>sericea</i>	Erect shrub. Cream flowers	Common. Dry areas
<i>Cotoneaster bacillaris</i>	Small tree	Paro Chu and Bumthang
<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	Shrub	Dochu La
<i>Cotoneaster microphyllus</i>	Low shrub	Dry banks. Common
<i>Sorbus thibetica</i>	Leaves simple, tomentose	Dochu la
<i>Sorbus microphylla</i>	Leaves pinnate	Fir and Hemlock forest
<i>Sorbus arachnoidea</i>	Leaves pinnate	Yutong La. Bumthang
<i>Photinia integrifolia</i>		Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Malus baccata</i>	Siberian Crab Apple	Margins of Blue Pine <i>Malus</i>
<i>pumila</i>		Cultivated
<i>Malus sikkimensis</i>	Leaves hairy	Open Forest

Rutaceae*Zanthoxylum armatum***Rue Family**Spiny shrub. Pinnate
aromatic leaves

Wangdiphodrang

Skimmia laureola

Larel-leaved Skimmia

Damp forests

Salicaceae*Populus ciliata***Willow Family**Ciliate-leaved Poplar
Round-leaved PoplarBroad-leaved forests
Common. Blue Pine
forest*Populus rotundifolia**Salix babylonica*

Weeping Willow

Cultivated. Paro
Chele La. Rudong La
Chendbji*Salix serpyllum**Salix thomsoniana**Salix* spp.Dwarf. Long catkins
Several. Unidentified*Carpinus viminea*

Warm broad-leaved forest

Punakha

Carpinus vaginea

Cool broad-leaved forest

Dochu La

Corylus ferox

A Hazel

Bumthang valley

Saururaceae*Houttuynia cordata*

Pungent herb

Open forest. Bumthang

Saxifragaceae*Astilbe rivularis***Saxifrage Family**Frequent. Damp banks
Chele La*Bergenia purpurascens**Tiarella polyphylla*

Spike of small white flowers

Frequent. Damp forest

Chrysosplenium nepalense

Leaves opposite

Phephe La

*Chrysosplenium griffithii*Leaves alternate. Flowers
dark green

Phephe La

*Chrysosplenium forrestii*Leaves alternate. Bracts
bright yellow

Damp forest. Phephe La

Saxifraga sp.

Yellow flowers

Phokphey

Schisandraceae*Schisandra grandiflora*

Climber

Forest

Scrophulariaceae

Mimulus nepalensis
Mazus surculosus
Hemiphragma heterophyllum
Pedicularis sp.
Verbascum thapsus

Figwort Family

Monkeyflower
 Creeping herb. Red fruits
 Dark pink flowers
 Mullein
 Damp places
 Grassy places
 Meadows
 Above Ugyencholing
 Waste ground

Symplocaceae

Symplocos paniculata

Small tree. Peling bark
 Forest and river banks

Theaceae

Camellia sinensis
Schima wallichii

Tea Family

Tea Plant
 Tree. Showy white flowers
 N.India
 Warm broad-leaved forest

Thymelaceae

Edgeworthia gardneri
Daphne bholua
Daphne ludlowii

Daphne Family

Bark used for making paper
 Scented flowers
 Yellow flowers
 Evergreen forest. Tongsa
 Forests
 Phephe La. Endemic

Trapaceae

Trapa quadrispinosa

Water-Chestnut Family

Aquatic
 Ponds. N. India

Umbelliferae

Sanicula elata

Carrot Family

Sanicle
 Common in forests

Urticaceae

Urtica dioica
Girardina diversifolia

Nettle Family

Stinging Nettle
 Stinging herb
 Around habitation
 Common

Verbenaceae

Duranda repens
Lantana camara

Verbena Family

Hedge plant. Blue flowers
 Shrub Verbena
 Teak
 Phuntsholing.
 Cultivated alien
 Planted. Phuntsholing

Violaceae

Viola biflora
Viola bhutanica
Viola hookeri

Violet Family

Yellow flowers
 Flowers purplish
 Stoloniferous
 Cool forest margins
 Dochu La
 Dochu La

MONOCOTYLEDONS**Alliaceae**

Allium wallichii

Onion Family

Broad leaf
 Phephe La

Amaryllidaceae

Crinum amoenum

Amaryllis Family

Phuntsholing. Planted

Agavaceae*Agave sisalana***Sisal Family**

Sisal

N. India

Araceae*Colocasia esculenta*
Arisaema nepenthoides
*Arisaema tortuosum***Arum Family**Taro
Tall eared spathe
Green spathe.
Uprturned spadix
Radiate leaflets
Single leaf, trifoliate
Large striped spathe
Striped glossy spathe.
Leafless at floweringNear villages
Common. Damp forests
Warm broad-leaved forest*Arisaema concinnum*
Arisaema speciosum
Arisaema griffithii
*Arisaema propinquum*Above Phuntsholing
Above Phuntsholing
Hemlock forests
Below Phephe La**Areaceae***Areca catechu*
*Roystonea regia***Palm Family**Betel Nut
Royal PalmN. India. Phuntsholing
Imperial Hotel, Delhi**Convallariaceae***Polygonatum cirrhifolium*
Maianthemum oleraceum
*Ophiopogon wallichianus***Lily of the Valley Family**Solomon's Seal
White flowers
Purple flowersForest
Shaded banks
Chendebji**Graminae***Arundinaria racemosa*
Thamnocalamus spathiflorus
Borinda grossa
Yushania micropylla
(After felling or burning of forest its presence prevents regeneration of trees)
Oryza sativa
Saccharum officinarum
*Zea mays***Grass Family**On sloping sites
Extensive stands
Rice
Sugar Cane
MaizeConiferous forests
Mixed temperate forest
Wet Hemlock forest
Subalpine pasture
Cultivated
N.India. Cultivated
Cultivated**Hypoxidaceae***Hypoxis aurea***Hypoxis Family**

Yellow flowers

Grassy places

Iridaceae*Iris tectorum*
*Iris clarkei***Iris Family**Leaves broad. Flowers
lilac blue
Flowers (not seen) dark blueCultivated. Naturalised
below Dochu La
Marshes and conifer
forest. Dochu La**Liliaceae***Cardiocrinum giganteum*
Notholirion bulbuliferum
Notholirion campanulatum
Lilium nanum
Lloydia flavonutans
*Maianthemum oleraceum***Lily Family**

Drooping yellow flowers

Damp forest
Phephe La
Rudong La
Rudong La
Phokphey. Bogs
Dochu La

Melanthiaceae*Aletris gracilis***Bog Asphodel Family**

Wet grassy banks

Orchidaceae*Calanthe plantaginea**Calanthe tricarinata**Cephalanthera longifolia**Coelogyne corymbosa**Dendrobium nobile**Dendrobium* sp.*Dendrobium amoenum**Goodyera repens**Bulbophyllum rolfei**Bulbophyllum* sp.*Vandopsis undulata**Pleione praecox***Orchid Family**

Lavender flowers

Not seen in flower

Sword-leaved Helleborine

Epiphyte. White flowers

Maroon and white flowers

White flowers

Epiphyte. Mauve flowers

Creeping Ladies Tresses

Epiphyte

Epiphyte

Lithophyte

Lithophyte

Forest edge, Bunakha

Forests. Bumthang

Forest margins

Chendebji

Planted, Gangtey Gompa

Chendebji

Tropical forest

Bunakha

Dochu la

Chendebji

Damp cliff. Tongsa

Near Tongsa

Pandanaceae*Pandanus furcatus***Screw-pine Family**

Subtropical forest

Pontederiaceae*Eichornia crassipes***Water Hyacinth Family**

Water Hyacinth

N. India

Trilliaceae*Trillium tschonoskii**Trillidium govanianum**Paris polyphylla**Paris violacea***Trillium Family**

Pink or white flowers

Starry purple flowers

Patterned leaf

Forests

Forests

Forests

Forests

Uvulariaceae*Clintonia udensis**Disporum cantoniense**Streptopus simplex***Uvularia Family**

Rosette of broad leaves, Pale violet drooping flowers

Drooping cream flowers

Drooping cream flowers

Damp Forest

Banks in mixed forest

Rhododendron forest

Zingiberaceae*Curcuma aromatica**Cautleya gracilis**Roscoea tibetica**Hedychium spicatum***Ginger Family**

Pink bracts

Flowers before leaves

Purple flowers

Flowers white, tinged yellow or red at base

Wangdi Phodrang

Moist banks. Forest

Moist meadows

Broad-leaved forest

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Flowers of the Himalaya – A Supplement (Stainton) Oxford University Press
 The Rhododendron Species (Davidian Vols. 1-3) Batsford
 Primula (Richards) Batsford

Systematic list of birds seen

Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Upland Buzzard	<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>
Himalayan Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>
Satyr Tragopan	<i>Tragopan satyra</i>
Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>
Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha strubersii</i>
River Plover	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
Red-wattled Plover	<i>Hoplopterus indicus</i>
Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
Ring-necked Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Eurasian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
Spotted Little Owl	<i>Athene brama</i>
Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
White-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos dargellensis</i>
Rufous-bellied Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>
Asian House Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocerus</i>
Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>
Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>
Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>
Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>

Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>
Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sternus contra</i>
Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
White-throated Laughing-thrush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>
Spotted Laughing-thrush	<i>Garrulax ocellatus</i>
Streaked Laughing-thrush	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>
Black-faced Laughing-thrush	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>
Chestnut-crowned Laughing-thrush	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>
Rufous-bellied Niltava	<i>Niltava sundara</i>
Blue-throated Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis rubeculoides</i>
Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>
Orange-gorgetted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophinata</i>
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>
Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>
Brown Parrotbill	<i>Paradoxornis unicolor</i>
Abberant Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia flavolivacea</i>
Brown-flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>
Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
Blyth's Crowned Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
White-capped Water Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>
Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>
Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>
Red-flanked Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>
White-browed Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger indicus</i>
Orange-flanked Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>
Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>
Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophoneus caeruleus</i>
White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>
Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus bouboul</i>
Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Whiskered Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>
Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>
Black-browed Tit	<i>Aegithalos iouschitstos</i>
Grey-crested Tit	<i>Parus dichrous</i>
Rufous-vented Black Tit	<i>Parus rubidiventris</i>
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>
White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Citta himalayensis</i>
Common Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>

Large Cuckoo Shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>
Mrs Gould's Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>
Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>
Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer rutilans</i>
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Scarlet Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>

Reference

A field Guide to the Birds of India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and the Maldives (Krys Kazmierczak) Pica Press

Mammals

Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
Grey Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>
Domestic Yak	<i>Bos grunniens</i>
Large-eared Pika	<i>Ochotona macrotis</i>