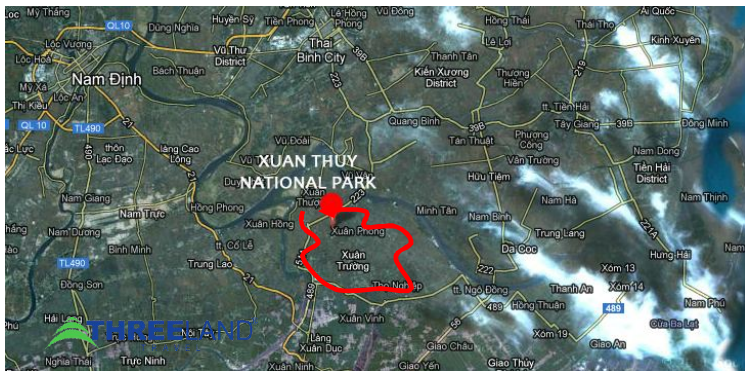


XUAN THUY BIRD-WATCHING

3 days – 2 nights



Tour Code: VNWN01

Short description: Being the first Ramsar site in Vietnam, Xuan Thuy National Park is situated in Nam Dinh province, covering an area of 7,100ha. The major habitats here are estuaries, mangroves, mudflats, sandy flats and shrimp ponds.

Bird species: The most popular birds in Xuan Thuy National Park are Black-faced Spoonbill, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Spotted Greenshank, Saunders's Gull, Asian Dowitcher, Baer's Pochard, Black-tailed Godwit, Asian Dowitcher, Eastern Curlew, Nordmann's Greenshank, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Great Knot, Black-tailed Gull, Heuglin's Gull, Black-headed Gull, Saunders' Gull, Chinese Egret, Black-faced Spoonbill and Light-vented Bulbul.

Location: Giao Thuy District, Nam Dinh Province, Vietnam. Xuan Thuy National Park is 150kms from Hanoi International Airport (more than 3 hours by car) and situated in the coastal zone of the Red River Delta, at the mouth of the main channel of the Red River, known as the Ba Lat River.

Activities: Bird Watching, Sightseeing and Boat cruising.

Best Time to Visit: As a staging and wintering site on the East Asian-Australian flyway, the best time to visit Xuan Thuy is September to April. In August and September, it is still possible to see non-breeding Painted Stork, as well as early migrants, such as Black-winged Stilt. Later, from October onwards, it is relatively easy to find wintering Black-faced Spoonbills, particularly at their roost sites in the shrimp ponds.

Day 1. Hanoi – Xuan Thuy (L/D)

Early morning we'll leave Hanoi for Xuan Thuy National Park – the first Ramsar site in Vietnam, with 3-hour driving thru the heart of the Red River Delta. Lunch at the park headquarters and have meeting and discussion with the ranger about the bird species and its habitation. In the afternoon, we will be going around for bird watching by Telescopes provided by the Park. Dinner and overnight at the Park's Guesthouse.

Day 2. Xuan Thuy (B/L/D)

Full day of bird watching started with a boat trip around the wetland area, including Lu and Vanh Islets and thru mangrove forest. This area is the seagate of the Red River, the second biggest one in Vietnam, originated from China mainland which makes the fertile Red River Delta. If we come here in wintertime, we could have very potential chances to see special species of birds of East Asia – Australia flyway such as Black-faced Spoonbill, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Spotted Greenshank, Saunders's Gull, Asian Dowitcher etc. Packed lunch served during the trip. Dinner and overnight at the Park's Guesthouse.

Day 3. Xuan Thuy – Hanoi (B/L)

As one full day would possibly not satisfy the bird watchers, we'll continue a morning trip today around Ngan area to watch the rests of hundreds of bird species you may have never seen. Lunch at the park headquarters, take a break before returning to Hanoi late afternoon.

End of services at your accommodation in Hanoi.

