

DNHG Bird Watching
Friday 24th April 2015

Please join DNHG Bird Recorder Tamsin Carlisle for an outing in the Jebel Ali area to wrap up the Spring Migration season.

Date: Friday, April 24

Meeting time and place: 8 a.m., Golf Course parking area near the Jebel Ali Beach Hotel and Resort

Bring: Binoculars, cameras, sunglasses, sun hat, sunscreen, water

The golf course and surrounding gardens provide a prime location for watching Indian rollers, bee eaters, and various passerine species including sunbirds, warblers and bulbuls. A stroll around the grounds takes us past lawns and through tree groves, all meticulously irrigated and attractive to migrants or resident birds seeking food, water, shelter and nesting sites, as well as to the introduced peafowl that roam the gardens. At the nearby marina, there are additional opportunities to observe gulls, terns and other sea birds.

This outing is suitable for beginner bird-watchers, including children. An organic herb and vegetable garden, riding stables and a small collection of domestic animals such as goats and rabbits provide additional family-style attractions, and refreshments are available at yacht club by the marina.

There is also a possibility of proceeding a short distance further up the coast in the direction of Abu Dhabi to check for water birds at the Jebel Ali Marine Sanctuary and Cream-coloured Coursers on the Polo Club lawn at Ghantoot. The first requires permission to access the sanctuary, and some wading through shallow lagoons may be involved. At the polo club, we cannot access the grounds directly but can view the lawns through one of the gates. Strong binoculars or a spotting scope would be a definite asset for either trip extension. If interested, please let me know ASAP, so I can make the appropriate arrangements.

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