



Wildlife of the World Newsletter

April 2025



Eurasian Goshawk (Astur gentilis)

Hi,

Welcome to the first of my monthly newsletters... which I'm writing after returning from a short but very interesting winter visit to Sweden.

As you'd expect, most of the wildlife was dormant or hidden under the snow, but there were some excellent birds on show including the beautiful male Goshawk above with his glaring red eyes! Other highlights were lots of eagles and a superb little Hawk Owl thanks, to the expert guiding of Daniel Green of [Birdsafari Sweden](#).

Wildlife-watching Sites

Khao Yai National Park, Thailand

Each month I'd like to give you a flavour of one of my favourite wildlife sites from my travels across the globe, starting with Khao Yai National Park in Thailand.

When I lived in Bangkok, I used to drive three-hours north to Khao Yai after work on a Friday evening, and pitch a tent in one of the camping grounds to a serenade of crickets, frogs and cicadas. The following morning at dawn I'd be woken by the haunting sound of the local gibbons calling overhead... before setting off for a magical weekend exploring the forest!



White-handed Gibbon (Hylobates lar)

Khao Yai like most of the forests in northern Thailand is monsoon rainforest. In the hot, humid wet season the dense vegetation conceals a host of animal life from elephants, monkeys and exotic birds to lizards, frogs and strange tropical insects. Then when the cooler dry season arrives many insects become dormant and trees lose their leaves, but now the birds and gibbons are exposed and easily visible as they forage in the bare tree-tops. A night drive can reveal porcupines, civets and snakes like the beautiful green pit-viper below, before heading back to the tent to await the following morning's gibbon alarm call!

If you're ever in Bangkok, I'd strongly recommend making the short journey north to Khao Yai... there's plenty of more luxurious accommodation if you don't fancy the tents!



White-lipped Pit Viper (Trimeresurus albolabris)

I hope you enjoyed this, the first of my monthly newsletters. If so, please let me know what you liked best, and if not, what could I do to improve it? I'm new to this and really keen to know what interests my readers!

Keep an eye out for the eBook version of *Wildlife of the World - China* which is due out on Kindle, Google Play Books, Apple Books etc. in the next couple of weeks.

Best Wishes,

Hugh



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