

ARDEIDAE

Plumage

Coloured

White

HERONS

BITTERNs

EGRETS

Bill colour

Yellow

Black

Leg colour

Leg colour

Black

Little Egret

Blackish head, yellow-brown streaked plumage.

Yellow Bittern

M: Plain Cinnamon plumage
F: Upperparts browner with buffy spots.

Cinnamon Bittern

M: Chestnut upperparts, buffy underparts
F/J: White speckles on back, wings, tail.

Von Schrenck's Bittern

M: All black with yellow on neck
F: Uniform rufescent plumage.

Black Bittern

~68cm, blue facial skin, drooping head crest.

Chinese Egret

Short, stout legs, hunched posture. Two morphs: White and Dark.

Pacific Reef Heron

Large (~94cm), long snake-like neck with kink.

Great Egret

S-shaped neck equal to body length, black tip on yellow bill.

Medium Egret

Smaller (~50cm), shorter neck, S-shape not so pronounced.

Cattle Egret

Large (>80cm) with long S-shaped neck

Medium (50-65cm) with shorter and thicker necks w.r.t. body

Grey upperside, mostly white head and neck with black markings.

Grey Heron

Brownish neck with blackish neck stripe and purple plumage.

Purple Heron

Uniformly dusky grey, large bill.

Great-billed Heron

A: Black crown and crest, brown and rufous plumage.
J: Black crown and crest, mottled brown plumage.

Malayan Night Heron

A: Black head and crest, grey plumage.
J: Dull brown with darker crown and nape. White on wings scalloped.

Striated Heron

A: Bluish-black crown and upperparts and pale grey underparts.
J: Brown upperparts with white spots.

Black-crowned Night Heron

Pond Heron sp.

Buffy head and orange-buff breast.

Javan Pond Heron

Non-breeding: Head streaked olive brown, back pale olive brown. Wings white in flight.

Breeding

Buffy head and maroon mantle.

Indian Pond Heron

Chestnut head and breast.

Chinese Pond Heron

Photo credits: Francis Yap, David Tan, Foo Sai Khoon, Teo Nam Siang, Khokarahman

ARDEIDAE

All photos are adults unless otherwise stated

Plumage

Coloured

White

HERONS

Generally medium to large and found near water bodies (ponds, estuaries, canals, etc)

BITTERNs

Generally smaller with streaked chest and found among reed beds

EGRETS

Bill colour

Yellow

Black

Leg colour

Leg colour

Yellow

Black

Black

White morph

Dark morph



Yellow Bittern

Cinnamon Bittern

Von Schrenck's Bittern

Black Bittern



Chinese Egret

Pacific Reef Heron



Great Egret

Medium Egret

Cattle Egret

Little Egret

Large (>80cm) with long S-shaped neck

Medium (50-65cm) with shorter and thicker necks w.r.t. body

Non-breeding

Breeding



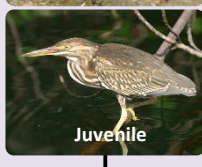
Grey Heron

Purple Heron

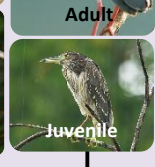
Great-billed Heron



Malayan Night Heron



Striated Heron



Black-crowned Night Heron



Pond Heron sp.



Javan Pond Heron



Indian Pond Heron



Chinese Pond Heron