A variety of events including field trips and presentations as a part of the event - Buxa Bird Festival 18 will be organised. Prominent ornithologists from different parts of the country have consented to be part of the resource persons who will also be delivering talks. Workshops by professional photographers, film shows, cultural shows by local folks and exquisite field trips along pre-identified birding trails in Buxa forest are also planned for the event. The Field trips will be accompanied by trained naturalists conversant in the local biodiversity & having immense insight into Avifauna. The evenings will be used to conduct presentation, discussions, seminars, quiz etc. covering all aspects of conservation Avifauna.

**6th January 2018  Day 1**
- 10.30 am Reporting at Nature Interpretation Center Rajabhatkawa
- 11.00 am Inauguration, Registration and Briefing at Nature Interpretation Center, Rajabhatkhawa.
- 1.00 pm Lunch
- 2.00 pm Departure for Buxaduar via Santrabari and arrival at Buxaduar
- 6.00 pm-7:30 pm Introduction with the participants/ Group wise division of participants for upcoming programs/ discussion on next day morning birding trail.
  
  Venue: Buxa duar, Camp Site.

**7th January 2018  Day 2**
- 6:00 am to 6:30 am Morning Tea and Breakfast
- 6:30 am to 11:30 am Guided Birdwatching Trip in pre-identified route
- 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Lunch

**SESSION 2**
- 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm Guided Birdwatching Trip in pre-identified route

**SESSION 3**
- 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm Debriefing on day’s outcome
- 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm Group Discussion, Presentation on pre-selected topic
- 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm Dinner

**8th January 2018  Day 3**
- 6:00 am to 6:15 am Morning Tea and Breakfast
- 6:30 am to 11:30 am Guided Birdwatching Trip in pre-identified route
- 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Lunch

**SESSION 2**
- 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm Guided Birdwatching Trip in pre-identified route

**SESSION 3**
- 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Debriefing on day’s outcome
- 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Group Discussion, Presentation on pre-selected topic
- 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm Film show
- 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm Camp fire, Cultural programme & Dinner

**9th January 2018  Day 4**
- 6.30 am to 10.30 am Morning Tea and Breakfast followed by Guided Birdwatching Trip in pre-identified route
- 10.30 am to 11.30 am Lunch
- 11.30 am Departure

**Schedule of Events**

**Tentative routes for Bird watching**

- **Buxaduar - Lalbangla - Tashigoon-Buxaduar**
- **Buxaduar - Khatta line - Lepchakha - Ochling more - Buxaduar**
- **Buxaduar - Lalbangla - Chunabhbari - Buxaduar**
- **Buxaduar - Sadarbazar Zero point - Masanikhola more - Buxaduar**
- **Buxaduar - Buxa fort - Macdalla hill - Buxaduar**

**Accommodation:** The registered participants shall be provided basic accommodation in Tent at Buxaduar in sharing basis.

**Food:** Food shall be provided by festival authorities at accommodation locations. The participants shall be provided Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. The participants are requested to intimate their food preference (Vegetarian/Non-Vegetarian) in Registration Form for assistance.

Please remember to carry your Sleeping Bags, winter wears, water bottle, daily medicines, torch, and a fast-aid kit. Power bank etc. as-per your basic needs.

The participants will have to remain in the location of the camp and all field trips will be organised to and from the camp site only.

All the participants shall have to report at Nature Interpretation Center (NIC) Rajabhatkhawa for registration at 10:30AM on 6th January 2018.
Buxa Tiger Reserve is situated in Alipurduar District, West Bengal and lies between latitudes 26°30' and 26°55' N and longitudes 89°20' and 89°55' E. It is nestled between Bhutan hills in the North, Assam in the East, Jaldapara Wildlife Division in West, Coochbehar District in South and is located in the confluence of 3 major Bio-geographic zones viz. Lower Gangetic plains (7B), Central Himalayas (2C), and Brahmaputra valley (8A). Buxa Tiger Reserve is biologically very diverse.

**Flora:** Nature has blessed Buxa Tiger Reserve with rich and incomprehensible variety of flora and fauna. Buxa represents several elements of bio-diversity of North-east India, one of the most biodiverse Indian regions. About 60% of the floral endemic species of North East India are encountered in BTR. It possesses around 1000 floral species including over 100 species of medicinal plants, more than 352 species of climbers, 43 species of grasses, 16 species sedges, 6 species of canes and 4 species of bamboo.

**Avifauna:** A total of 514 species of birds were recorded in Buxa Tiger Reserve by various renowned organizations and eminent ornithologists. Among which 225 species are residents, 22 long distance migrants and 32 local migrants. The highest species richness was recorded in undisturbed semi-evergreen forests and hill forests.

The forests are rich in avifauna and the important ones are Scarlet Minivet, Long-tailed Minivet, Rufous-vented Yuhina, Stripe-throated Yuhina, Whiskered Yuhina, Small Niltava, Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Black-throated Parrotbill, Bar-throated Siva, Red-tailed Minla, Himalayan Cutia, Coral-billed Scimitar Babbler, Little Forktail, Slaty-backed Forktail, Great Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Rufous-necked Hornbill, several Warblers, Laughingthrushes & Tits etc. Around the waterbody winter migratory birds like Eastern Spot-billed Duck, White-eyed Pochard, Common Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, Lesser Whistling Teal, Gadwall, Northern Pintail, Common Pochard, Northern Shoveler, Common Coot alongwith some residents waterbirds like Common Moorhen, Little Grebe, Purple Moorhen, Bronze-winged Jacana, Darter etc. are fairly common. Forests of Buxa Tiger Reserve is also a famous for various Raptors like Crested Sarpent Eagle, Changeable Hawk Eagle, Mountain Hawk Eagle, Black Eagle, Jerdon’s Baza, Common Kestrel, Collared Falconet, Eurasian Hobby, Osprey, Oriental Honey-buzzard, Northern Goshawk etc.

2nd Buxa Bird Festival is being organised from 6th to 9th January 2018 after success of the 1st one organised during January 2017. It is an unique event being organised in this region and it intends to bring together eminent ornithologists, researchers & the bird enthusiasts from across the region. This festival offers an opportunity to explore the nature’s avifauna of this region alongside the rich bio-diversity and wilderness of Buxa Tiger Reserve. The camp site is in Buxaduar which is situated at about an altitude of about 700 m and is approachable on foot from Santrabari (3.5 km appx.) or by vehicle up to a point but invariably involves an uphill trek of about 2 km.