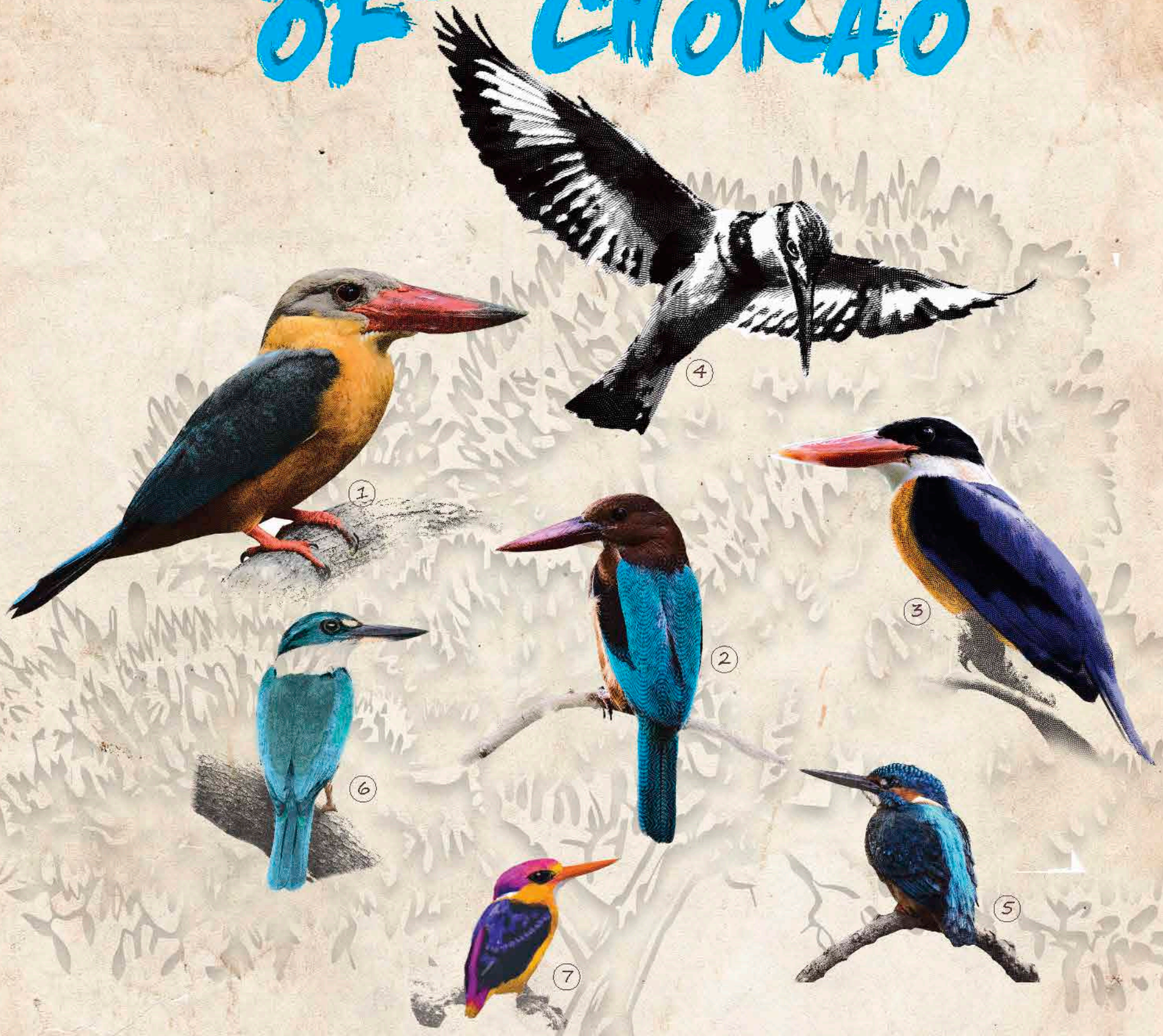


KINGFISHERS OF CHORAO



Goa has 7 species of Kingfisher. Want to spot them ? Come visit the Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary

- ① **Stork-billed Kingfisher (*Pelargopsis capensis*)**
The Stork-billed is Goa's largest kingfisher and is commonly seen in the mangroves of Chorao's Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary.
- ② **White-throated Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)**
Although a fish enthusiast, this kingfisher will happily feed on frogs and reptiles. The White-throated Kingfisher builds its nests along river banks by digging a tunnel and lining its nest cavity with fish bones.
- ③ **Black-capped Kingfisher (*Halcyon pileata*)**
The Black-capped Kingfisher is named after its black head, which contrasts with a whitish throat, purple blue wings and a coral-red bill.
- ④ **Pied Kingfisher (*Ceryle rudis*)**
The Pied Kingfisher is the largest bird capable of a true hover over water. It is also easy to recognize as it is the only kingfisher that is white and black in colour, unlike its brightly coloured relatives.
- ⑤ **Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)**
Common kingfishers are important members of ecosystems and good indicators of freshwater health. The highest densities of breeding birds are found in habitats with clear water, which permits optimal prey visibility.
- ⑥ **White-collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*)**
This species has a widespread global distribution. The sub-species found here is restricted to the mangrove areas on the west coast of India, with Goa being a particularly good place to spot this bird.
- ⑦ **Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher (*Ceyx erithaca*)**
This is the smallest of the 7 Kingfishers species recorded here. It is not typically seen in mangroves and is more at home besides forest streams of Goa's Western Ghats.