

Tropical Birding Tours

Australia: Birding with a Camera® (BWC)



Tour Guide: Ben Knoot

*All photos in this report were captured by the guide Ben Knoot unless otherwise stated.



Tour Itinerary

September 30.....	Arrival in Cairns & Afternoon in Etty Bay
October 1.....	Cairns Birding Hotspots to Daintree
October 2.....	Daintree River Cruise to Mareeba
October 3.....	Atherton Tablelands
October 4.....	Edge of the Outback Birding
October 5.....	Cairns Birding Hotspots
October 6.....	Michaelmas Cay
October 7.....	Cairns to O'Reilly's via Brisbane Hotspots
October 8.....	O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat
October 9.....	O'Reilly's to Goondiwindi
October 10.....	Goondiwindi to Cunnamulla via St. George
October 11.....	Cunnamulla (Full on Outback Birding)
October 12.....	Cunnamulla to Lake Cargelligo
October 13.....	Round Hill/Nombinnie to Binya SF
October 14.....	Five Bough Swamp and around Leeton
October 15.....	Hotspots to and around Chiltern
October 16.....	Mt Pilot NP and Chiltern Hotspots to Yea
October 17.....	Toolangi SF to Melbourne and to Hobart
October 18.....	Bruny Island and Mainland TAS Hotspots
October 19.....	Mainland Tasmania Birding Hotspots

Tour Summary

Australia is one of those locations that is just special each and every time I visit. No matter the tour, no matter the aim, it is always a fun time in the “Land Down-Under”. Birding with camera tours are always a fun mix of birding and photography. This specific tour aimed more on the birding side but we were still able to take advantage of some of the more cooperative and special photographic opportunities Australia had to offer.

The tour starts off in the northeast of Queensland. Birding around the stunning Sub-tropical Rainforest, Eucalyptus Savannas, various mudflats and of course the iconic Michaelmas Cay for the first seven (7) days of this epic tour through Australia. Here in the northern range of our tour we would see the ‘dinosaur-esque’ Southern Cassowary, be surrounded by thousands of seabirds and be bewildered by the stunning sub-tropical rainforest doves. After a fast paced first section, we head to Brisbane for our long drive down to Melbourne.

After a short flight we landed in Brisbane. We picked up our rental and took to the road. We would spend the next eleven (11) days traveling from Brisbane, heading west towards Cunnamulla and then finally, ending up in Melbourne. Over those eleven days we traversed Mulga, Mallee, Eucalyptus Savanna, various gardens, lakes, swamps and an stunning array of scenery, mammals and of course, birds. Parrots, Babblers, Finches, Fairywrens and a huge variety of Honeyeaters made their way onto our growing lists. Overall on this section of the tour we got very lucky with both the weather and the wildlife we encountered. We finally got down to Melbourne and after a very short flight, landed in Hobart Tasmania, our final leg of this tour.

Tasmania is one of my favorite locations on this tour and indeed, of all of the places I have traveled. Tasmania is more temperate, relaxed and “easier” (at least in my mind) than the rest of our tour which makes it the perfect end for this extensive experience. Our first day is spent on the tiny Bruny Island, chasing all 12 of Tasmania’s endemics. I am happy to report that among the stupendous Pink Robin, beautiful Swift and Blue-winged Parrots and the striking Beautiful Firetail that we managed to see all 12 Tasmanian endemics. The next day and a half we spent roaming the island looking to cap off this all encompassing tour of Australia. By the end, we had managed nearly 400 species, 40+ “other animals” and felt like we had thoroughly experienced Australia’s habitats. But unfortunately, and I think I can say for all of us, all this tour really did was leave all of us wanting more from Australia, it’s places, animals, culture and of course, its stunning bird life.

Day-to-Day Summary

Day 1: Arrival in Cairns/Afternoon around Etty Bay

Today was arrival day so there was a definitely energy in the air. In my mind, there is only ever one way to start this tour...with a HUGE win! First thing I like to do is take a long drive south towards [Etty Bay](#). It's an hour and a half away and with very low numbers for the first afternoon but it all becomes clear when we get there. Just before we arrived we had an incredible encounter with a [Yellow-billed Spoonbill](#), something I have never seen in this area before...an auspicious start! After about an hour or so of waiting and walking around we were delighted with our main target, the uniquely epic [Southern Cassowary](#). We hung out with 'Etty' for about 30min and then made our way back to civilization for some dinner. On the way out towards dinner we spotted; [Bush Thick-knee](#), [Spotted Dove](#), [White-bellied Sea Eagle](#), [Rock Pigeon](#), [Australia and Straw-necked Ibis](#), [Eastern Cattle Egret](#), [Plumed and Little Egret](#), [Peaceful Dove](#), [Torresian Imperial Pigeon](#), [Australian Swiftlet](#), [Australasian Swamphen](#), [Bar-shouldered Dove](#), [Masked Lapwing](#), [White-breasted Wood Swallow](#), [Rainbow Lorikeet](#), [Metallic Starling](#), [Forest and Sacred Kingfisher](#), a pretty stunning [Laughing Kookaburra](#) and our first mammal, an [Agile Wallaby](#). Just outside of the restaurant we saw a group of [Red-tailed Black Cockatoo](#) and after a few minutes with them, we had a fantastic meal to end the day. A great start.



Southern Cassowary - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



White-bellied Sea Eagle - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 2: Cairns Hotspots and Sub-Tropical Rainforest to Daintree

Today we started off by hitting the Cairns famous Esplanade. First, we started off on the [Northside of the Esplanade](#). Here we targeted [Rose-crowned Fruit Dove](#), [Varied Honeyeater](#), [Torresian Kingfisher](#), [Helmeted Friarbird](#), and [Mangrove Robin](#). The north end holds quite a variety of shorebirds but on this morning, most of the shorebirds were in the mid section and on the [Southside of the Esplanade](#). So we walked. Over the course of the whole boardwalk we saw; [Pied Stilt](#), [Siberian Sand Plover](#), [Greater Sand Plover](#), [Black-fronted Dotterel](#), [Red and Great Knot](#), [Curlew Sandpiper](#), [Whimbrel](#), [Far Eastern Curlew](#), [Black-tailed and Bar-tailed Godwit](#), [Sharp-tailed Sandpiper](#), [Gray-tailed Tattler](#), [Terek Sandpiper](#) and [Sanderling](#). We also added; [Caspian Tern](#), [Little Tern](#), [Australian Tern](#), [Australian Pelican](#), [Nankeen Night Heron](#), [Double-eyed Fig Parrot](#), [Sulphur-crested Cockatoo](#), [Rainbow Lorikeet](#), [Yellow Honeyeater](#), [Brown Honeyeater](#), [Australasian Figbird](#), [Green Oriole](#), [Willie Wagtail](#), [Spangled Drongo](#), [Magpie Lark](#), [Common Myna](#), [Mistletoebird](#), and the newly renamed [Sahul Sunbird](#).

After the Esplanade, I checked a local roost and quickly discovered a pair of **Papuan Frogmouth** resting for the morning. This pair breed in the area so I was thankful we got a look at them before they left their roost site for the season. A quick breakfast later we decided to bird our first section of sub-tropical rainforest. **Lake Morris Road** was our destination and thankfully, it did not disappoint. Here we added; **Wompoo Fruit Dove, Victoria's Riflebird, Spotted Catbird, Yellow-spotted, Macleay's, and Cryptic Honeyeater, Dusky Myzomela, Fairy Gerygone, Varied Triller, Pacific Emerald Dove, Brown Cuckoo Dove, Gray Whistler, Black Butcherbird, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Pale-yellow Robin, Spectacled and White-eared Monarch**, and the ever abundant **Silvereye**. A pretty sweet haul for our mid-morning birding.

After a quick lunch, we set off for some target chasing. We started off with one of my personal favorite photo locations for the **Metallic Starling** in **Mossman**. The colony here is among the lowest I've seen...and what I mean by that is that the nests hang low in the trees which are also easily accessible, have good background opportunities and typically, very cooperative birds. Overall this is just a darn good spot!



Metallic Starling - Photo by Guide: Ben Knot

Next up was a quick trip over to [Newell Beach](#). Here we managed [Australian Pipit](#), [Brahminy Kite](#) and the primary target, a few stunning [Beach Thick Knee](#). Now that it was getting quite late, we ventured up to the [Daintree Village Area](#). On the way up we found [Chestnut-breasted Munia](#), [Pheasant Coucal](#) and [Radjah Shelduck](#). A sweet day for sure!

Day 3: Daintree Area/Daintree River Cruise to Mareeba

As our cruise wasn't until 9am, we did some birding down [Steward Creek Road](#). This bit of rainforest is often quite good. We struck gold quickly with a [Lovely Fairywren](#), [Pacific Koel](#), [Black-necked Stork](#), [Orange-footed Megapode](#), [Sacred Kingfisher](#), [Leaden Flycatcher](#), [Tree Martin](#), and [Large-billed Gerygone](#).



Tree Martin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Now that it was time for our tour we met up with our boat captain and hit the [Daintree River Cruise](#). A lovely few hours on the water gave us views at [Azure Kingfisher](#), [Black Bittern](#), [Great Egret](#), [Shining Flycatcher](#), [Australasian Darter](#), [Little Pied Cormorant](#) and a sweet sighting of [Spotted Whistling Duck](#). We also ran into ‘Barrat’ the massive [Saltwater Crocodile](#) and a [Common Tree Snake](#). Try as we did, we couldn’t locate our Little Kingfisher, so we’d have to try that in another spot.



Azure Kingfisher - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

After a fun boat ride, we made our way towards Mareeba which is known locally as “The Edge of the Outback”. I don’t really agree with that statement but in any case, it is a very cool area and holds a completely different set of birds, wildlife and habitats for the group. But first, one last shot for Little Kingfisher. We stopped in at the [Daintree Ecolodge](#). Here we spent 30min or so watching a small pond, hoping a for a little fisherman to show himself. Unfortunately, no such luck but we did add [Black-faced Monarch](#) to our list. After some drinks and being hosted by the lovely lodge staff, it was time to move on. We continued towards Mareeba and had a brief stop off in Mount Molloy for lunch. After a tasty ‘typical Aussie lunch’ we continued towards “The Edge of the Outback”.

An afternoon visit to [Granite Gorge Nature Park](#) gave us great views of [Mareeba Rock Wallaby](#). After play time with the wallabies, we found; [Squatter Pigeon](#), [Crested Pigeon](#), [Australian Brush Turkey](#), [Laughing Kookaburra](#), [Noisy and Little Friarbird](#), [Great Bowerbird](#), [Blue-faced Honeyeater](#), [Pale-headed Rosella](#), [Scaly-breasted and Rainbow Lorikeet](#), [Galah](#), [Nankeen Kestrel](#), [Wedge-tailed Eagle](#), [Double-barred Finch](#), [Scaly-breasted Munia](#) and [House Sparrow](#) (yes, let's just get that out of the way)!

After Granite Gorge we went over to [Jack Bethel Park](#) to quickly grab [White-browed Robin](#), [Rufous Fantail](#) and [Brush Cuckoo](#). Then a quick stop off at [Mareeba Golf Course](#) to pick up [Eastern Gray Kangaroo](#) during the setting sun. A sweet ending to the day.



Blue-faced Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 4: Atherton Tablelands

Today is one of my favorite days mammal wise. We have three awesome mammals to find and of course, some stunning birds. We started off by visiting a somewhat random spot that last year had some fun surprises. This year, though those specific birds weren't present but at a [Mobile Gas Station](#), we managed to see; [Golden-headed Cisticola](#) and a pair of [Brolga](#). We then made a quick stop off at [Hasties Swamp](#). Here we found all of the typical birds I would expect. Things like; [Wandering and Plumed Whistling Duck](#), [Australasian Grebe](#), [Australasian Swamphen](#), [Magpie Goose](#), [Gray and Chestnut Teal](#), [White-eyed Duck](#), [Pacific Black Duck](#), [Eurasian Coot](#), [Dusky Moorhen](#), [Comb-crested Jacana](#), [Little Black Cormorant](#), [Pacific Heron](#), [Royal Spoonbill](#), [Yellow-faced Honeyeater](#), [Shining Bronze Cuckoo](#), [Scarlet Myzomela](#), [Rufous Shrike-thrush](#), [White-cheeked Honeyeater](#), [Olive-backed Oriole](#), and our first of many [Rufous Whistlers](#). Ya... it's a pretty sweet area...

Excited for more forest birding, we ventured over to our main location for the morning, [Hypipamee National Park](#). Here the dense forests make for some tougher viewing but we still managed; [Gray-headed](#), [Pale-yellow Robin](#), [White-throated Treecreeper](#), [Bridled](#) and [Lewin's Honeyeater](#), [Large-billed Scrubwren](#), [Brown Gerygone](#), [Mountain Thornbill](#), [Top Knot Pigeon](#) and [Golden Whistler](#).



White-throated Treecreeper - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Pale-yellow Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Now on a quick target chase, we journeyed to “[A Small Pond at an Intersection](#)” that typically has some pretty cool birds. This time was no different, a great group of [Cotton Pygmy Goose](#), a lone [Buff-banded Rail](#) and a sweet little [Australian Reed Warbler](#).

After a quick stop at [Curtain Fig Tree](#) (which was largely unproductive), we ventured over to [Lake Barrine](#) for a nice afternoon walk around the lake. Here we managed; [Great-crested Grebe](#), [Tooth-billed Bowerbird](#), [Pied Currawong](#), [Spectacled Monarch](#), [Spotted Catbird](#) and [White-browed Scrubwren](#). A top mammal highlight here was the cute little [Musky Rat Kangaroo](#).



Tooth-billed Bowerbird - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Now for my personal highlight for the day, [Yungaburra \(Allumbah Pocket of Peterson Creek\)](#). Here we scored with our last monarch species, a [Pied Monarch](#) and added three very cool mammals, the [Spectacled Flying Fox](#), [Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo](#) and [Duck-billed Platypus](#). An epic day, truly awesome.

Day 5: Edge of the Outback Birding

Today we had another big day...as if we have anything other than that...but anyway today we left early and started by birding [Pickford Road](#). Here we picked up [Red-backed Fairywren](#), [Lemon-bellied Flyrobin](#), [Black-shouldered Kite](#), [Blue-winged Kookaburra](#), [Red-tailed Black Cockatoo](#), [Blue-faced Honeyeater](#), [Little Friarbird](#), [Black-faced and White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike](#) and [Fairy Martin](#).

Next up, a quick stop (or so I hoped) over to [Abattoir Swamp](#). This location is one of the most southern recorded locations for [Northern Fantail](#). Before we arrived, we happened upon a group of [Red-browed Firetail](#) feeding along the fence line, a nice bonus! A stunning bird but one we would see a lot more of, especially in another location further south. Once we arrived at the swamp, it was a bit windy and very sunny but luckily, we picked up our fantail quickly and added two cool species; [Brown-backed Honeyeater](#) and [Pacific Baza](#). Our last stop before moving up Mount Lewis was "[The Patch Opposite Sides Road](#)". We picked up a quick view of [Blue-faced Parrot-finch](#), several beautiful [Silvereye](#) and a stunning [Little Bronze Cuckoo](#).



Chowchilla - Photo by Guide: Ben Knot

Next up...[Mount Lewis "Clearing to Dam" Track](#). This 2ish mile trail had several very special targets. I am happy to report, we got all of the big ones. Birds like; [Chowchilla](#), [Gray Fantail](#), [Fernwren](#), [Atherton Scrubwren](#), [Bower's Shrike-thrush](#), [Yellow-throated Scrubwren](#) and the biggest prize of them all, the sensational [Golden Bowerbird](#) who we even got to watch tend to his bower at a close distance.



Golden Bowerbird - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

On the drive down, we had fantastic views of [Pacific Emerald Dove](#). After a quick lunch in Mount Molloy, we visited [Carr Road](#) where I hoped to catch up with our last fruit dove. Thankfully a fruiting Fig Tree provided the necessary stage for us to get some superb (pun intended) looks at [Superb Fruit Dove](#). This is also the most reliable place for the [Red-legged Pademelon](#), which we saw handfuls of. Now it was time to leave the rainforest and head to the eucalypt savannas further west. Our first location here was [Mary Farms Road](#) for a quick look at [Australian Bustard](#). After this relatively easy pickup we enjoyed a few hours in [Mount Carbine RV Park](#). Here we added; [Red-winged Parrot](#), [Tawny Frogmouth](#), [Apostlebird](#), [Great Bowerbird](#), [Pale-headed Rosella](#), [Australian Magpie](#), and [Torresian Crow](#).

As if the day wasn't long enough, we ventured out for a bit of a night outing. Close to our hotel lies a terrific location called [Davies Creek](#). Here we had some terrific luck with [Australian Owlet Nightjar](#), [Barn Owl](#), [Northern Brown Bandicoot](#), [Eastern Quoll](#) and [Giant White-tailed Rat](#). A sweet ending to an incredibly long and fruitful day.



Barn Owl - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 6: Birding Cairns Hotspots

Today's plan is simple...target chase. We spend the day going to various locations to target northern Queensland specialties. We started with an early morning at [Centenary Lakes](#). Here we picked up [Common Cicadabird](#), [Osprey](#) and [Pale-vented Bush-hen](#). Next up, a quick stop at [Vessey Park](#) to scope a nesting [Gray Goshawk](#). Easy as one-two-three! During the middle of the day, we visited [Redford Road](#) to grab our [Crimson Finch](#). Delighted to say we found a pair! After a nice lunch and some housekeeping errands we went over to [Cattana Wetlands](#) for an easy [Green Pygmy Goose](#) and a surprise additional look at [Spotted Whistling Duck](#), an uncommon bird in that area. As the day started winding down, we made one last effort in [Centenary Lakes](#) for Little Kingfisher. Unfortunately, no luck but we did pick up [Black Bittern](#), an excellent bird! Over the day, we also saw some cool non-feathered animals like; [Lace Monitor Lizard](#), [Maroon Mangrove Crab](#), [Kreff's River Turtle](#) and [Macquarie's Turtle](#).



Black Bittern - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 7: Michaelmas Cay and The Great Barrier Reef

Today is a cool day. If you haven't explored The Great Barrier Reef, you need to. It is a very cool experience. Equally as cool are the birds that call the tiny little sandy island of [Michaelmas Cay](#) home. Birds like; [Great and Lesser Frigatebird](#), [Sooty](#), [Bridled](#), [Roseate](#), [Little](#), [Lesser Crested](#), [Great Crested](#), [Common and Black-naped Tern](#), [Ruddy Turnstone](#), [Brown Booby](#), [Silver Gull](#) and [Brown and Black Noddy](#).

Once we leave the Cay, we head to a section of the reef that doesn't have any real target bird though sometimes you can see some cool stuff. This time, nothing other than just the sheer beauty under the water. A stunning variety of parrotfish, angelfish, sharks and sea-turtles make this snorkel (or dive if you're certified) truly a highlight of the trip, at least for me personally. It really is a whole different world that I would recommend everyone visit at some point!

It is also worth mentioning that before our boat tour started, the only "Guide-Only" bird of the trip was recorded. I drop guests off at the dock and then go park the car. On my walk over, I spotted an [Asian Dowitcher](#) on the [South End of the Esplanade](#). I offered to take the guests back up but all passed. It looks very similar to the U.S dowitchers so no real harm!



Brown Noddy - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 7: Cairns to O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat via Hotspots around Brisbane

After a very early flight out of Cairns, we land in Brisbane and after picking up our rental vehicle, we made our way to [Nudgee Beach "Waterhole"](#). We didn't pick up anything new here so we continued on toward the [Nudgee Beach Mangroves](#). Here we picked up [Mangrove Honeyeater](#) and [Mangrove Gerygone](#). This is our only location for these two birds so it is great we were able to see them. Next up, a short trip over to [Minnippi Wetlands](#) to get our first taste of some new wetland species. Those included; [Baillon's Crake](#), [Black Swan](#) and [Maned Duck](#). In the woodland nearby we managed to hit many of our target birds; [Variegated Fairywren](#), [Noisy Miner](#), [Little Corella](#) and [Gray Butcherbird](#).

Now it was time for a date with a superb mammal. We entered [Whites Hill Park](#) and were elated to find a pretty active [Koala](#) right from the parking lot...so cool!! We also had a fun [Laughing Kookaburra](#), [Pied Butcherbird](#), [Pied Currawong](#) and [Australian Magpie](#).



Koala - Photo by Guide: Ben Knot

Now in the town of [Canungra](#), we picked up some decent views at the local [Bell Miners](#) after gassing up for the ride up the mountain to O'Reilly's. On the way up the hill we bagged [Varied Sittella](#), [Gray Shrike-thrush](#), [White-naped Honeyeater](#), [Spotted Pardalote](#), [Red-necked and Whip-tailed Wallaby](#). I like to arrive at [O'Reilly's](#) just as the sun starts to get real low to try and grab some thrushes on the road. We missed Russet-tailed (the harder one) but did see a nice [Bassian Thrush](#). We'd try for Russet-tailed later. After an unsuccessful night outing, we hit the hay to prep for the next full day around O'Reilly's.

Day 8: O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat

During our time in [O'Reillys Rainforest Retreat](#) we visit several tracks, trails, roads and the grounds around the accommodations for a great list of Montane Rainforest species. We were able to check off; [Rose and Eastern Yellow Robin](#), [Noisy Pitta](#), [Paradise Riflebird](#), [Superb Fairywren](#), [Satin and Regent Bowerbird](#), [Pied Currawong](#), [Lewin's Honeyeater](#), [Green Catbird](#), [Albert's Lyrebird](#), [Australian Logrunner](#), [Eastern Whipbird](#), [Russet-tailed Thrush](#), [Crimson Rosella](#), [Australian King Parrot](#), [Fan-tailed Cuckoo](#), [Wonga Pigeon](#), [Eastern Spinebill](#), [White-headed Pigeon](#), [White-throated and Red-browed Treecreeper](#) and [Brown Thornbill](#). We also got to see a few fun 'other animals' like [Land Mullet](#), [Red-necked Pademelon](#), [Mountain Brushtail Possum](#), [Common Ringtail Possum](#) and [Red-bellied Snake](#). And we had a great evening nailing 2/3 night-time targets, the [Marbled Frogmouth](#) and [Southern Boobook](#).



Lewin's Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Noisy Pitta - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Bassian Thrush - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Spotted Pardalote - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Australian King Parrot - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 9: O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat to Goondiwindi via Durikai State Forest

Today we had a looooooong drive over to Goondiwindi. I wanted to leave O'Reilly's fairly early and after a quick walk around the grounds, we did just that. Our first stop was a visit to a **Gray-headed Flying Fox** roost in **Canungra**.



Gray-headed Flying Fox - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Next up was **Durikai State Forest**. Here we ran into lots of great new birds enjoying a waterhole during the heat of the day. We added; **Restless Flycatcher, Yellow-tufted, White-plumed, Striped, Fuscous, Brown-headed and Black-chinned Honeyeaters, Striated Pardalote, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Jacky-Winter, Weebill** and two new reptiles; an **Eastern Argus Monitor Lizard** and **Sand Goana**. After this great success, we ventured over to **Mosquito Creek Road**. Here we added some cool birds like; **White-throated Gerygone, White-eared Honeyeater, Inland Thornbill, Greater Blue Bonnet, White-browed Woodswallow, White-winged Chough, Emu and White-winged Fairywren**. Then one guest quietly said, "Uh...Ben, there's a hedgehog in the road...?" A great spot lead to our first **Short-beaked Echidna** sighting for the trip.



Varied Sittella - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 10: Goondiwindi to Cunnamulla via St. George

Today we visit one of my favorite places to start our official run of outback birding. The [Goondiwindi Botanic Gardens](#) hold a variety of micro-habitats and because of this, attract a huge variety of birds. I love it here. We managed just about all of the main targets; **Purple-backed and Superb Fairywren, Gray-crowned Babbler, Yellow-throated Miner, Double-barred Finch, Hoary-headed Grebe, Pied Cormorant, Noisy Friarbird, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Olive-backed Oriole, Plum-headed Finch, Australian Reed Warbler, and Red-rumped Parrot.**



Gray-crowned Babbler - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Double-barred Finch - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Superb Fairywren - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

As we still had a long way to go, we grabbed a quick breakfast and then hit the [road towards Cunnamulla](#). We made several opportunistic stops along the way during our drive with one purposeful stop in the outback town of [Bollon](#). Here (and on the drive) we spotted; [Spotted Bowerbird](#), [Red-backed Kingfisher](#), [Crested Pigeon](#), [Brown and Black Falcon](#), [Buff-rumped, Yellow and Chestnut-rumped Thornbill](#), [Pink Cockatoo](#), [Splendid Fairywren](#), [Diamond Dove](#), [Singing and Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters](#), [Red-capped Robin](#), [Little Eagle](#) and [Little Woodswallow](#). I. Love. This. Drive! We also had a sweet run in with a [Central Bearded Dragon](#) and hundreds of the outbacks famous, [Feral Goats](#).



Restless Flycatcher - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Red-capped Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Central Bearded Dragon - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 11: Cunnamulla Area (Full-on Outback Birding)

Its time for the outback! I love this area. The birding is relatively easy, the photography can be quite good and the habitat is just really cool mulga stuff! First things first, [Eulo Bore along Adventure Way](#). Even though it was a dry year, we had great luck, snagging birds like; [Common Bronzewing](#), [Brown Treecreeper](#), [Australian Ringneck \(mallee\)](#), [Black-faced Woodswallow](#), [Bourke's and Mulga Parrot](#), [Chestnut-crowned and Hall's Babbler](#), [Chestnut-breasted Quail-thrush](#), [Crested Bellbird](#) and [Hooded Robin](#). Dawn around this area is also really quite excellent for the strapping and towering [Red Kangaroo](#).

After this great morning we returned to Cunnamulla for some breakfast and then went off to the local tourist park. We didn't find anything new here so we continued on towards the [Cunnamulla Sewage Ponds](#). Not much new either here except; [Spotless Crane](#), [Red-kneed Dotterel](#), [Sharp-tailed Sandpiper](#) and [Great Cormorant](#). Then we went off to [Cunnamulla Bushland Park](#) and added the iconic little [Zebra Finch](#). For the rest of the afternoon we drove a few of the roads around Cunnamulla, not added anything new unfortunately, but such is the way sometimes!

Day 12: Cunnamulla to Lake Cargelligo

Another long driving day awaited and since we had done so well in Cunnamulla, I opted to leave early and head towards the city of Bourke. Our first stop was the [North Bourke River View Point](#). Here we caught up with hundreds of [Tree Martin](#), a pair of [White-winged Trillers](#) and a lone [Rufous Songlark](#).



Whiskered Tern - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Our next stop was at the [Bourke Sewage Treatment Plant](#). Here we picked up [Little Crow](#), [Pink-eared Duck](#), [European Starling](#) and [Whiskered Tern](#). Then we went deeper into the outback by visiting [Gundabooka National Park](#). Around this area we added; [Little Raven](#), [Masked Woodswallow](#), [Southern Whiteface](#) and [Brown Songlark](#). In this same area we also found several mammals...all introduced and relatively destructive but still some cool natural creatures. [Feral Pig](#) and [Red Fox](#) were added to our growing list of 'other animals'. As the light began to fade, we made a quick stop at '[Chat Alley](#)' just on the outskirts of Lake Cargelligo. Here we added [Orange and White-fronted Chat](#), two out of the three possible. We would end up missing [Crimson Chat](#) for the trip which based on the dry year, didn't surprise me in the end but still an obvious bummer.

Day 13: Round Hill and Nombin Reserve to Griffith

The first two locations of the day are our only real proper Mallee (habitat) birding sites. It is imperative we get there early and so, well before dawn we packed up the car and left the comfort of our accommodation in Lake Cargelligo and with darkness still properly thick, headed for the reserves. Over the course of a spectacular morning in [Round Hill and Nombinni Reserves](#), we managed to add; [Chestnut Quail-thrush](#), [Shy Heathwren](#), [Southern Scrub Robin](#), [Splendid Fairywren](#), [Gilbert's Whistler](#), [Gray-fronted](#), [Black](#), and [White-fronted Honeyeaters](#). Not to mention the constant show from over a thousand woodswallows! A lovely morning for sure!

On the way back to town, we had a sweet look at [Red-backed Kingfisher](#) and then had a lovely breakfast before heading out again. Last stop in Lake Cargelligo was the [Lake Cargelligo Sewage Ponds](#). Here we snagged [Australian](#), [Baillon's](#) and [Spotless Crake](#), [Cockatiel](#), [Galah](#), [Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo](#), [Black-tailed Native-hen](#), [Little Grassbird](#) and a big surprise was two [White-backed Swallows](#). Awesome conclusion to this section of the tour.



Red-backed Kingfisher - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Australian Crake - Photo by Guide: Ben Knot

A long drive later landed us in [Binya State Forest](#), just on the outskirts of Griffith. Here we scored our last babbler species, the [White-browed Babbler](#). We also managed to find Australia's only remnant to North American warblers, the [Speckled Warbler](#). Additional birds we added were [European Goldfinch](#) and [Western Gerygone](#). There were also plenty of [European Hare](#) around.

Day 14: Fivebough Swamp and other Hotspots around Griffith

Today is a big list day. We visit so many different habitats. Everything from trace amounts of Mulga to caravan parks. Most of the birds on today's list are things we have seen before but we added some new birds right off the bat by starting in [Fivebough Swamp](#). Here we found; [Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbill](#), [Wood Sandpiper](#), [Swamp Harrier](#), [Red-necked Avocet](#), [Australian Shelduck](#), [Australian Shoveler](#), [Red-capped Plover](#) and [Eurasian Blackbird](#). Something that is worth mentioning that wasn't necessarily new but was just an incredible site to witness was the literally hundreds of crakes out and about. Normally, Baillon's and Australian Crake can be kind of tough birds. Fivebough is a great place to see them but I have never seen what I saw this year. At one point, I had nearly 30 crakes (a combo of both) in one single view. It was outstanding! We were also treated to ring-side seats of a [Eastern Gray Kangaroo](#) boxing match...very cool!



Baillon's Crake - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

The next stops were mainly targets chases. I started off by visiting a row of trees where I'd had Australian Hobby in the past. Sure enough...a slow drive-by lead to our only sighting of **Australian Hobby** for the trip. Pretty sweet when you can rely on an area year after year that isn't specifically an eBird hotspot!

Our next stop was in Darlington Point. I typically drive around here until I find our target. This time it was exceptionally easy. Sometimes, I like it easy! We ran into a small group of **Long-billed Corella** feeding in the **Darlington Point Riverside Caravan Park**. A nice and easy pickup.

Next up, another visit to **Binya State Forest**. Why did I return here? Well, we were missing one key bird that I thought we really should've picked up. A quick drive into the woods lead to sightings of **Brown Quail**, **Collared Sparrowhawk** and **Swamp (Black) Wallaby** but nothing else of note. So, I played a hunch and visited the **Spring Hill Picnic Site in Cocoparra National Park** and as soon as I opened the door, I was delighted to hear our target singing...the immaculate **Turquoise Parrot**. Luckily, we got some great scope views but would have to wait until later in the trip for a photo opportunity.

The biggest surprise for this area came when one of the guests came to me after I had visited the facilities saying “I just saw a ‘quail-like’ bird walking around over there” ... Thinking the habitat seemed a bit dense for Brown Quail (and given the fact she had just seen them and thought it looked a bit different) we went over to investigate. Sure enough, she had spotted a **Painted Buttonquail**! A very awesome species and what follows are my first photos of this bird so a big thanks to her! The light was a bit harsh but we had a tremendous experience with this usually shy species.



Painted Buttonquail - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Our day ended by visiting some areas [around the Griffith Airport](#) and a great area I have had a lot of luck with in the past called [McCann Road](#). From these two locations we were treated to our first **Shingleback Lizard**, a pair in fact! We also managed to get the primary honeyeater target for this area and one of my personal favorites, the **Painted Honeyeater**. After a spectacular day, we hit the hay in Leeton and prepped for the next day.

Day 15: Leeton Hotspots to Chiltern

Honestly today, we picked up very few new species. This tends to happen as we get further along in a trip. As you would expect, it becomes harder to find new species, especially when you start pushing 400... First stop for the day was [Euroley Bridge](#), a place that has long been a decent spot to find my favorite Australian parrot species. It didn't take long until we found a pair of stunning [Superb Parrot](#). We also added our first of what eventually would be many sightings of [Eastern Rosella](#). Even though it is just a race, and not a new species, we also enjoyed some nice views of [Crimson Rosella \(Yellow Race\)](#).

Our next two stops were [Galore Hill Reserve](#) and [The Rock Reserve](#). Mainly we were searching for Diamond Firetail which unfortunately we did not find. In fact, we would miss this bird for the trip which was a real bummer considering we got the other two fire tails but hey, you can't catch them all... we did however have a wonderful viewing and shoot with a [Short-beaked Echidna](#), [Western Gerygone](#) and [Brown-headed Honeyeater](#).



Short-beaked Echidna - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Brown-headed Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Western Gerygone - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Next up, a quick stop off at [Horseshoe Lagoon](#). We parked, got out and there was our target, a cool **Red Wattlebird**. Everyone piled back in and we continued on. Target birding at its best right there! We then went on a hunt for Gang-gang Cockatoo and Diamond Firetail in which we turned up empty. The rest of the days locations didn't yield anything new but it is always fun to see the same birds again in different locations. We settled into Chiltern after a nice dinner and prepped for an early morning around Mt. Pilot National Park.



Red Wattlebird - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 16: Mt. Pilot National Park and Chiltern Hotspots to Yea

The day was rainy. This wasn't good. This was our best chance for two mega birds. The Gang-gang Cockatoo and Spotted Quail Thrush. We had on and off heavy rain for several hours in our first few locations. Despite the rain we ended up seeing one of the two, the **Spotted Quail Thrush**. After checking several areas for Gang-gang Cockatoo, we had to eventually give in. One other bird was added in **Chiltern National Park**, the **Striated Thornbill**.



Striated Thornbill - Photo by Guide: Ben Knot

Our next stop is one of my favorite locations that is technically within Chiltern National Park but is quite separate from the main bit. It is the **Nankeen Track of Chiltern National Park**. This tiny section of forest is for some reason always pumping with birds...this time was no exception. Upon arrival we scored with **Little Lorikeet**, **Turquoise Parrot**, **Dusky Woodswallow**, **Leaden Flycatcher** and a sweet photoshoot with a **Noisy Friarbird** and by far the biggest target of this location the **Eastern Shrike Tit**. We had five individuals throughout the walk...I LOVE THIS SPOT! We also saw several more **Swamp Wallabies** throughout the morning and started to see a lot of the **European Rabbits** that plague this area.



Turquoise Parrot - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Noisy Friarbird - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

To end our day, we drove a few [roads near Toolangi State Forest](#) hoping to bump into a cute, fuzzy and iconic Australian mammal. Luckily, I have had some good luck here in previous years that seemed to continue as just about 10-minutes into our drive we spotted a **Common Wombat** by the side of the road...excellent end to a great day!

Day 17: Toolangie State Forest to Hobart, Tasmania

In terms of sheer beauty, this morning has by far the most stunning landscape of the entire tour. [Toolangi State Forest](#) is a beautiful display of wet sclerophyll, babbling brooks, massive tree ferns and overall, an entirely different feel than the Australia we have known previously. We spent the morning looking for a few specific birds. We had quick glimpses of both; **Superb Lyrebird** and **Pilotbird**. Several of us had some nice looks at the gray morph of the **Gray Currawong** as well. The Gray Currawong on Tasmania is the black morph so picking up this gray one was kind of a bonus! Perhaps one of the highlights of this spot was a stunning male **Flame Robin** that was quite literally glowing in the dark green landscape.

It was now time to head into Melbourne for our flight to our final leg of the tour, Tasmania. A quick flight down to Tasmania, an easy car pickup and we were off. We didn't really have enough time to do any significant birding but we did pick up a few new birds including one of the endemics. We had 12 in total to find so the easy and rather plump **Tasmanian Nativehen** was a great start! We also picked up **Kelp Gull, Pied and Sooty Oystercatcher**.

Day 18: Bruny Island and Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania

Today was our day on [Bruny Island](#). You can get all 12 endemics on Bruny Island and in just about 5-hours, we managed all but one (but don't worry, we'd get it later). We started with [Mission Road](#) and picked up; **Black-headed Honeyeater, Tasmanian Thornbill, Forest Raven, Dusky Robin, Beautiful Firetail, Yellow-throated Honeyeater, Swift Parrot**, and an absolutely stunning display from a **Scarlet Robin**.

We then made our way up to [North Bruny](#) where we picked up **Green Rosella, New Holland Honeyeater, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo** and a very special little bird, the **Forty-spotted Pardalote**. This great success meant that we could basically focus our attention on the south end of Bruny and Adventure Bay for the remainder of our time...perfect!



Scarlet Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



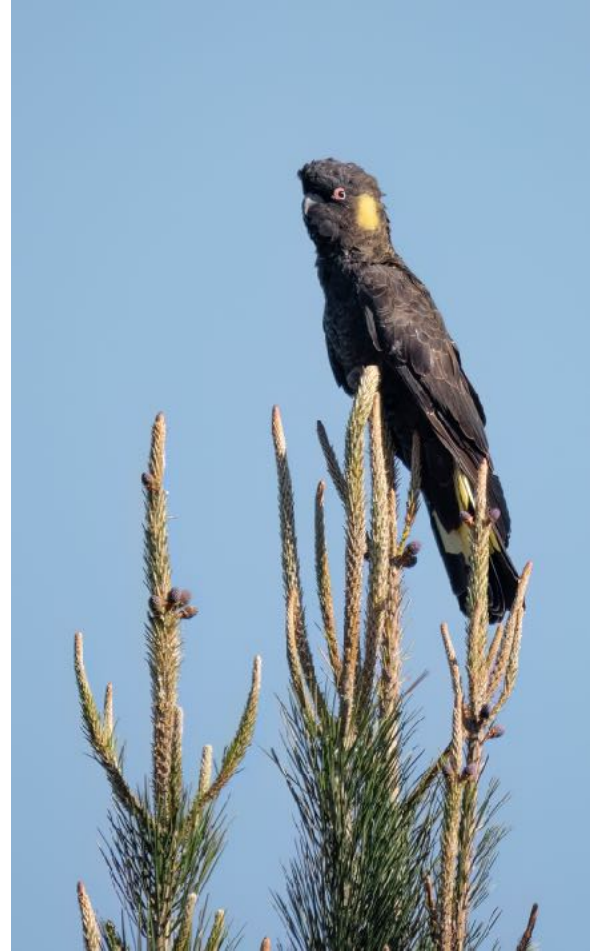
Forty-spotted Pardalote - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Our next stop was [Cape Queen Elizabeth Track](#). This can be a good spot for some of the endemics and other “easier on Tasmania” birds. We ran into [Blue-winged Parrot](#) and [Musk Duck](#), two new species for us so great pick ups! On our way down to Adventure Bay (the area for lunch), we stopped off at “[The Neck Wildlife and Game Reserve](#)”. Here we scoped and found some [Short-tailed Shearwaters](#) passing through but very, very distant. They roost in the area so this is a pretty reliable place to find them.

After lunch, we birded the [Adventure Bay](#) area and picked up the threatened [Hooded Plover](#), the soaring [Australian Gannet](#), the owner of the chunkiest bill in Tasmania, the [Pacific Gull](#), the largest honeyeater of them all, the [Yellow Wattlebird](#), and the sharp looking [Black-faced Cormorant](#). After lunch over looking a sparkling bay, it was now time to go and find the hardest targets on Bruny. We drove up the bumpy and slick [Mount Mangana Road](#) with hopes of nailing more of our Tasmanian targets. Luckily, everyone one of them was pretty cooperative this time around so we picked up; [Crescent and Strong-billed Honeyeaters](#), [Pink Robin](#), [Tasmanian Scrubwren](#) and the very skulky and endemic, [Scrubtit](#).



White-fronted Chat - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Now back on the mainland we did some quick target chasing in a field near [Sorell](#) and found [Banded Lapwing](#) and [Eurasian Skylark](#). A few nice birds for sure! We kept going east as we had a very important and special appointment with a cool bird. But first, a stop-off at [Sedbury Creek and Saltmarsh](#). Here we found loads [White-fronted Chats](#) and what used to be a very hit or miss bird, a pair of [Striated Fieldwren](#). We also saw several [Little Wattlebirds](#) around this general area. Great to catch up with these birds again!

Alas, after dinner, it was time for the main event of the evening. Typically somewhere around 45min - 1hr after sunset, [Pirates Bay](#) hosts a fun 'home-coming' event for those who can brave the chilly conditions. In the dark of night, [Little Penguins](#) make their way ashore from a day of fishing to roost in the sandy banks. They are typically a little weary but with a little patience, you can have a really fun night with the worlds smallest penguin. It really is an awesome way to end the day. We tried for Tasmanian Boobook and Australian Masked Owl on the way back but unfortunately, no luck this evening but we did snag a look at [Southern Brown Bandicoot](#).



Striated Fieldwren - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 19: Tasman Peninsula

Today is the last day of the tour and as such is a target grab. As many species as possible kind of day. A quick drive through the neighborhoods while I was still finishing my 'to-go' pie gave us **European Greenfinch**. The real birding started the group off in **Sandown Park** to quickly grab **Musk Lorikeet**. Within minutes we had him. Moving on then to **Truganinni Reserve** for a difficult bird. This one took some time and effort but we finally got all eyes on a beautiful **Brush Bronzewing** that was perched in a tree. Next up, somewhere I had hoped would get me the endemic species I missed on Bruny Island. A quick trip to the **Waterworks Reserve** which turned out to be a good decision. Not only did we pick up our last two mammals, the **Bennett's Wallaby** and the **Rufous-bellied Pademelon** but after only about 5-minutes I heard and then saw **Black Currawong**, the species I had missed the previous day. Excellent, that's all endemics, CHECK! Now it was time to get some altitude. We ventured towards Mount Wellington, the highest point for miles around. On the way up we ran into ANOTHER **Short-beaked Echidna**. Once we arrived at 'The Springs' - **Mount Wellington**, we got to work. I needed one bird here so I went towards the best habitat and within a few minutes we had our bird, a pair of **Olive Whistlers**. We took a short break to enjoy the view and then we started back down the mountain.

Continuing on now towards [Gould's Lagoon](#) to see if we could pick up Mallard. You think I'm joking? HECK NO! This is probably the best place for [Mallard](#) and it is where we found one. We also had another run in with [Pink-eared Duck](#) and [Australian Shoveler](#), both excellent waterfowl species. Why Ben do you go for Mallard...?? Well...because everyone loves a sweep on the checklist (especially a big family like waterfowl) and getting the mallard meant we were one more bird closer to that! The next stop would be to see if we could add one more to get even closer. We visited the huge [Risdon Brook Reservoir and Park](#) but unfortunately, after scoping the whole lake, I couldn't find the Blue-billed Duck. Too bad, we had to keep moving. We traveled east towards Sanford where I was now at least hoping to at least get close to the sweep, but more than that, the target here really is quite a cool one. I had intended to go all the way to Rushy Lagoon but on the drive [somewhere near Sanford](#), I spotted our target just a few miles from our destination. A lone [Cape Barren Goose](#) was sitting calmly in the grass by some random ranch pond. A nice and easy pickup to get close to sweeping this large family...or so I thought!

At this time, two of the guests wished to return to town to do some souvenir shopping while the other two wished to take an hour and a half drive north to my surprise to see if we could catch up with that [Blue-billed Duck](#). Not only did we find it, but along the shoreline of [Lake Dulverton Conservation Area](#), we nailed it, getting my best photos of this bird to date! An incredible way to end the day and indeed bird filled tour of Australia!



Blue-billed Duck - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Top Birds and Animals of the Trip as Voted on by the Guests

*The guides personal favorites are in **Purple**

Guests Top 5 Favorite Birds

1. Southern Cassowary ——— Beautiful Firetail
2. Laughing Kookaburra ——— Turquoise Parrot
3. Three-way Tie ——— Painted Buttonquail
 - a) Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo
 - b) Superb Fairywren
 - c) Golden Bowerbird
4. Two-way Tie ——— Golden Bowerbird
 - a) Rose-crowned Fruit Dove
 - b) Rainbow Lorikeet
5. Two-way Tie ——— Blue-faced Parrot-finch
 - a) Galah
 - b) Painted Buttonquail

Guests Top 5 'Other Animals'

1. Duck-billed Platypus ——— Short-beaked Echidna
2. Two-way Tie ——— Duck-billed Platypus
 - a) Short-beaked Echidna
 - b) Koala
3. Two-way Tie ——— Koala
 - a) Spectacled Flying Fox
 - b) Eastern Gray Kangaroo
4. Common Wombat ——— Eastern Quoll
5. Two-way Tie ——— Common Wombat
 - a) Mareeba Rock Wallaby
 - b) Shingleback Lizard

Trip List of Birds and “Other Animal” Species

List Summary:

- 408 Bird species seen by group
- 001 Birds species seen by guide only
- 409 Birds total species seen on tour

- 045 ‘Other Animal’ species seen by group

*This was a record breaking tour for me personally, numbers wise...absolutely insane.

BIRDS	Seen	Guide Only
Cassowaries and Emu: Casuariidae		
Southern Cassowary		
Emu (E)		
Magpie Goose: Anseranatidae		
Magpie Goose		
Ducks, Geese and Waterfowl: Anatidae		
Plumed Whistling Duck		
Wandering Whistling Duck		
Spotted Whistling Duck		
Cape Barren Goose (E)		
Black Swan		
Australian Shelduck (E)		
Radjah Shelduck		
Green Pygmy-Goose		
Cotton Pygmy-Goose		
Maned Duck (E)		
Mallard		
Pacific Black Duck		
Australian Shoveler		

Gray Teal		
Chestnut Teal (E)		
Pink-eared Duck (E)		
White-eyed Duck (Hardhead)		
Blue-billed Duck (E)		
Musk Duck (E)		
Megapodes: Megapodiidae		
Australian Brushturkey (E)		
Orange-footed Megapode		
Pheasants, Grouse, Allies: Phasianidae		
Brown Quail		
Grebes: Podicipedidae		
Australasian Grebe		
Hoary-headed Grebe		
Great Crested Grebe		
Pigeons and Doves: Columbidae		
Rock Pigeon		
White-headed Pigeon (E)		
Spotted Dove		
Brown Cuckoo-Dove		
Pacific Emerald Dove		
Common Bronzewing (E)		
Brush Bronzewing (E)		
Crested Pigeon (E)		
Squatter Pigeon (E)		
Wonga Pigeon (E)		
Diamond Dove (E)		
Peaceful Dove		

Bar-shouldered Dove		
Wompoo Fruit-Dove		
Superb Fruit-Dove		
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove		
Torresian Imperial Pigeon		
Topknot Pigeon (E)		
Bustards: Otidae		
Australian Bustard		
Cuckoos: Cuculidae		
Pheasant Coucal		
Pacific Koel		
Little Bronze Cuckoo		
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo		
Shining Bronze Cuckoo		
Pallid Cuckoo		
Fan-tailed Cuckoo		
Brush Cuckoo		
Frogmouths: Podargidae		
Tawny Frogmouth (E)		
Marbled Frogmouth		
Papuan Frogmouth		
Owlet-Nightjar: Aegothelidae		
Australian Owlet-Nightjar		
Swifts: Apodidae		
Australian Swiftlet (E)		
Rails, Gallinules and Coots: Rallidae		
Buff-banded Rail		
Pale-vented Bush-hen		

Australian Crake (E)		
Spotless Crake		
Baillon's Crake		
Australasian Swamphen		
Dusky Moorhen		
Black-tailed Nativehen (E)		
Tasmanian Nativehen (TE)		
Eurasian Coot		
Cranes: Gruidae		
Brolga		
Thick-Knees: Burhinidae		
Bush Thick-knee		
Beach Thick-knee		
Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae		
Pied Stilt		
Red-necked Avocet (E)		
Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae		
Pied Oystercatcher		
Sooty Oystercatcher (E)		
Plovers and Lapwings: Charadriidae		
Banded Lapwing (E)		
Masked Lapwing		
Siberian Sand Plover		
Greater Sand Plover		
Red-capped Plover		
Red-kneed Dotterel		
Hooded Plover		
Black-fronted Dotterel		

Jacanas: Jacanidae		
Comb-crested Jacana		
Sandpipers and Allies: Scolopacidae		
Whimbrel		
Far Eastern Curlew		
Black-tailed Godwit		
Bar-tailed Godwit		
Ruddy Turnstone		
Great Knot		
Red Knot		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		
Curlew Sandpiper		
Red-necked Stint		
Asian Dowitcher		
Terek Sandpiper		
Gray-tailed Tattler		
Wood Sandpiper		
Buttonquail: Turnicidae		
Painted Buttonquail		
Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers: Laridae		
Silver Gull		
Pacific Gull (E)		
Kelp Gull		
Brown Noddy		
Black Noddy		
Sooty Tern		
Bridled Tern		
Australian Tern		

Caspian Tern		
Whiskered Tern		
Roseate Tern		
Black-naped Tern		
Common Tern		
Little Tern		
Great Crested Tern		
Lesser Crested Tern		
Penguins: Spheniscidae		
Little Penguin		
Shearwaters and Petrels: Procellariidae		
Short-tailed Shearwater		
Storks: Ciconiidae		
Black-necked Stork		
Frigatebirds: Fregatidae		
Great Frigatebird		
Lesser Frigatebird		
Boobies and Gannets: Sulidae		
Brown Booby		
Australasian Gannet		
Anhingas: Anhingidae		
Australasian Darter		
Cormorants and Shags: Phalacrocoracidae		
Little Pied Cormorant		
Great Cormorant		
Pied Cormorant		
Little Black Cormorant		
Black-faced Cormorant		

Pelicans: Pelecanidae		
Australian Pelican		
Herons, Egrets and Bitterns: Ardeidae		
Black Bittern		
Pacific (White-necked) Heron (E)		
Great Egret		
Plumed Egret		
White-faced Heron		
Little Egret		
Eastern Cattle Egret		
Rufous (Nankeen) Night Heron		
Ibises and Spoonbills: Threskiornithidae		
Glossy Ibis		
Australian Ibis		
Staw-necked Ibis		
Royal Spoonbill		
Yellow-billed Spoonbill		
Osprey: Pandionidae		
Osprey		
Hawks, Eagles and Kites: Accipitridae		
Black-shouldered Kite (E)		
Little Eagle (E)		
Pacific Baza		
Wedge-tailed Eagle		
Swamp Harrier		
Gray Goshawk (E)		
Brown Goshawk		
Collared Sparrowhawk		

Black Kite		
Whistling Kite		
Brahminy Kite		
White-bellied Sea Eagle		
Barn Owls: Tytonidae		
Barn Owl		
Owls: Strigidae		
Southern Boobook		
Kingfishers: Alcedinidae		
Azure Kingfisher		
Laughing Kookaburra (E)		
Blue-winged Kookaburra		
Forest Kingfisher		
Sacred Kingfisher		
Torresian Kingfisher		
Red-backed Kingfisher (E)		
Bee-eaters: Meropidae		
Rainbow Bee-eater		
Falcons and Caracaras: Falconidae		
Australian Kestrel		
Australian Hobby		
Brown Falcon		
Black Falcon (E)		
Cockatoos: Cacatuidae		
Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)		
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)		
Pink (Major Mitchell's) Cockatoo (E)		
Galah (E)		

Long-billed Corella (E)		
Little Corella		
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo		
Cockatiel (E)		
Old World Parrots: Psittaculidae		
Superb Parrot (E)		
Australian King-Parrot (E)		
Red-winged Parrot		
Turquoise Parrot (E)		
Blue-winged Parrot (E)		
Swift Parrot (E)		
Australian Ringneck (Mallee) (E)		
Green Rosella (TE)		
Crimson Rosella (E)		
Eastern Rosella (E)		
Pale-headed Rosella (E)		
Greater Bluebonnet (E)		
Bourke's Parrot (E)		
Red-rumped Parrot (E)		
Mulga Parrot (E)		
Double-eyed Fig-Parrot		
Musk Lorikeet (E)		
Little Lorikeet (E)		
Rainbow Lorikeet		
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E)		
Pittas: Pittidae		
Noisy Pitta (E)		
Lyrebirds: Menuridae		

Albert's Lyrebird (E)		
Superb Lyrebird (E)		
Bowerbirds: Ptilonorhynchidae		
Spotted Catbird (E)		
Green Catbird (E)		
Tooth-billed Bowerbird (E)		
Golden Bowerbird (E)		
Regent Bowerbird (E)		
Satin Bowerbird (E)		
Great Bowerbird (E)		
Spotted Bowerbird (E)		
Australasian Treecreepers: Climacteridae		
White-throated Treecreeper (E)		
Brown Treecreeper (E)		
Red-browed Treecreeper (E)		
Fairywrens: Maluridae		
Lovely Fairywren (E)		
Purple-backed Fairywren (E)		
Variegated Fairywren (E)		
Splendid Fairywren (E)		
Superb Fairywren (E)		
White-winged Fairy Wren (E)		
Red-backed Fairywren (E)		
Honeyeaters: Meliphagidae		
Eastern Spinebill (E)		
Black Honeyeater (E)		
Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E)		
Lewin's Honeyeater (E)		

Cryptic Honeyeater		
Yellow Honeyeater (E)		
White-fronted Honeyeater (E)		
Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E)		
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater (E)		
Bell Miner (E)		
Noisy Miner (E)		
Yellow-throated Miner (E)		
Bridled Honeyeater (E)		
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E)		
Little Wattlebird (E)		
Red Wattlebird (E)		
Yellow Wattlebird (TE)		
Varied Honeyeater		
Mangrove Honeyeater (E)		
Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E)		
Singing Honeyeater (E)		
White-plumed Honeyeater (E)		
Fuscous Honeyeater (E)		
Brown-backed Honeyeater		
Orange Chat (E)		
White-fronted Chat (E)		
Dusky Myzomela		
Scarlet Myzomela (E)		
Brown Honeyeater		
Crescent Honeyeater (E)		
New Holland Honeyeater (E)		
White-cheeked Honeyeater (E)		

White-eared Honeyeater (E)		
Yellow-throated Honeyeater (TE)		
Blue-faced Honeyeater		
White-throated Honeyeater		
White-naped Honeyeater (E)		
Black-headed Honeyeater (TE)		
Brown-headed Honeyeater (E)		
Black-chinned Honeyeater (E)		
Strong-billed Honeyeater (TE)		
Macleay's Honeyeater (E)		
Striped Honeyeater (E)		
Painted Honeyeater (E)		
Little Friarbird		
Helmeted Friarbird		
Noisy Friarbird		
Pardalotes: Pardalotidae		
Spotted Pardalote (E)		
Forty-spotted Pardalote (TE)		
Striated Pardalote (E)		
Thornbills and Allies: Acanthizidae		
Fernwren (E)		
Pilotbird (E)		
Yellow-throated Scrubwren (E)		
White-browed Scrubwren (E)		
Tasmanian Scrubwren (TE)		
Atherton Scrubwren (E)		
Large-billed Scrubwren (E)		
Scrubtit (TE)		

Striated Fieldwren (E)		
Speckled Warbler (E)		
Shy Heathwren (E)		
Buff-rumped Thornbill (E)		
Mountain Thornbill (E)		
Brown Thornbill (E)		
Tasmanian Thornbill (TE)		
Inland Thornbill (E)		
Yellow-rumped Thornbill (E)		
Chestnut-rumped Thornbill (E)		
Yellow Thornbill (E)		
Striated Thornbill (E)		
Weebill (E)		
Fairy Gerygone		
White-throated Gerygone		
Large-billed Gerygone		
Brown Gerygone (E)		
Western Gerygone (E)		
Mangrove Gerygone (E)		
Southern Whiteface (E)		
Pseudo-Babblers: Pomatostomidae		
Gray-crowned Babbler		
White-browed Babbler (E)		
Chestnut-crowned Babbler (E)		
Hall's Babbler (E)		
Logrunners: Orthonychidae		
Australian Logrunner (E)		
Chowchilla (E)		

Quail-Thrushes: Cinclosomatidae		
Chestnut Quail-thrush (E)		
Chestnut-breasted Quail-thrush (E)		
Spotted Quail-thrush (E)		
Cuckooshrikes: Campephagidae		
Black-faced Cuckooshrike		
White-bellied Cuckooshrike		
White-winged Triller		
Varied Triller		
Common Cicadabird		
Sitellas: Neosittidae		
Varied Sitella		
Whipbirds and Wedgebills: Psophodidae		
Eastern Whipbird (E)		
Australo-Papuan Bellbirds: Psophodidae		
Crested Bellbird (E)		
Shrike-tit: Falcunculidae		
Crested Shrike-tit (E)		
Whistlers and Allies: Pachycephalidae		
Rufous Shrikethrush		
Gray Shrikethrush		
Bower's Shrikethrush (E)		
Gilbert's Whistler (E)		
Olive Whistler (E)		
Golden Whistler (E)		
Gray Whistler		
Rufous Whistler		
Old World Orioles: Oriolidae		

Olive-backed Oriole		
Green (Yellow) Oriole		
Australasian Figbird (E)		
Boatbills: Machaerirhynchidae		
Yellow-breasted Boatbill		
Woodswallows, Bellmagpies and Allies: Artamidae		
White-breasted Woodswallow		
Masked Woodswallow (E)		
White-browed Woodswallow (E)		
Black-faced Woodswallow		
Dusky Woodswallow (E)		
Little Woodswallow (E)		
Gray Butcherbird (E)		
Pied Butcherbird (E)		
Black Butcherbird		
Australian Magpie (E)		
Pied Currawong (E)		
Black Currawong (TE)		
Gray Currawong (E)		
Fantails: Rhipiduridae		
Northern Fantail		
Willie-wagtail		
Rufous Fantail		
Gray Fantail		
Drongos: Dicruridae		
Spangled Drongo		
Birds-of-Paradise: Paradisaeidae		
Paradise Riflebird (E)		

Victoria's Riflebird (E)		
Monarch Flycatchers: Monarchidae		
White-eared Monarch (E)		
Pied Monarch (E)		
Black-faced Monarch		
Spectacled Monarch		
Magpie-Lark		
Leaden Flycatcher		
Restless Flycatcher (E)		
Shining Flycatcher		
White-winged Chough and Apostlebirds: Corcoracidae		
White-winged Chough (E)		
Apostlebird (E)		
Crows, Jays and Magpies: Corvidae		
Torresian Crow		
Little Crow (E)		
Australian Raven (E)		
Little Raven (E)		
Forest Raven		
Australian Robins: Petroicidae		
Lemon-bellied Flyrobin		
Jacky-Winter		
Hooded Robin (E)		
Scarlet Robin (E)		
Red-capped Robin (E)		
Flame Robin (E)		
Rose Robin (E)		
Pink Robin (E)		

Dusky Robin (TE)		
Pale-yellow Robin (E)		
Eastern Yellow Robin (E)		
Mangrove Robin		
Gray-headed Robin (E)		
Southern Scrub Robin (E)		
Larks: Alaudidae		
Eurasian Skylark		
Cisticolas and Allies: Cisticolidae		
Golden-headed Cisticola		
Reed-Warblers and Allies: Acrocephalidae		
Australian Reed Warbler		
Grassbirds and Allies: Locustellidae		
Little Grassbird		
Rufous Songlark (E)		
Brown Songlark (E)		
Swallows: Hirundinidae		
Welcome Swallow (E)		
Fairy Martin		
Tree Martin		
White-backed Swallow (E)		
White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies: Zosteropidae		
Silver-eye		
Starlings: Sturnidae		
Metallic Starling		
European Starling		
Common Myna		
Thrushes and Allies: Turdidae		

Bassian Thrush (E)		
Russet-tailed Thrush		
Eurasian Blackbird		
Flowerpeckers: Dicaeidae		
Mistletoebird		
Sunbirds and Spiderhunters: Nectariniidae		
Sahul Sunbird		
Waxbills and Allies: Estrildidae		
Red-browed Firetail (E)		
Beautiful Firetail (E)		
Cimson Finch		
Zebra Finch		
Double-barred Finch (E)		
Plum-headed Finch (E)		
Blue-faced Parrotfinch		
Chestnut-breasted Munia		
Scaly-breasted Munia		
Old World Sparrows: Passeridae		
House Sparrow		
Wagtails and Pipits: Motacillidae		
Australian Pipit		
Finches, Euphorias and Allies: Fringillidae		
European Goldfinch		
European Greenfinch		
MAMMALS		
Duck-billed Platypus		
Eastern Quoll		

Northern Brown Bandicoot		
Southern Brown Bandicoot		
Short-beaked Echinda		
Common Wombat		
Koala		
Mountain Brushtail Possum		
Common Brushtail Possum		
Common Ringtail Possum		
Musky Rat Kangaroo		
Lumholt'z Tree Kangaroo		
Agile Wallaby		
Whiptail (Pretty-faced) Wallaby		
Eastern Grey Kangaroo		
Red Kangaroo		
Red-necked Wallaby		
Bennett's Wallaby		
Black (Swamp) Wallaby		
Mareeba Rock Wallaby		
Rufous-bellied (Tasmanian) Pademelon		
Red-legged Pademelon		
Red-necked Pademelon		
Spectacled Flying-fox		
Gray-headed Flying-fox		
Saltwater Crocodile		
Lace Monitor Lizard		
Eastern Argus Monitor Lizard		
Sand Goana		
Central Bearded Dragon		



Land Mullet		
Shingleback Lizard		
Red-bellied Snake		
Common Tree Snake		
Kreffft's River Turtle		
Macquaries Turtle		
Maroon Mangrove Crab		
White-tailed Rat		
Red Fox		
Feral Cat		
Feral Pig		
Feral Goat		
European Hare		
European Rabbit		