

Tropical Birding Tours

Australia: From Top to Bottom



(Variegated Fairywren - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Guide: Ben Knoot

The photos in this report were photographed by guide Ben Knoot

Tour Introduction

With almost 900 resident species, Australia is a one of a kind destination for birders and general nature enthusiasts. Our “Top to Bottom” Tour is a fast paced, intense vacation that targets a high bird species list, an impressive mammal list and a one of a kind experience for our guests. This 21-day excursion down the east coast of Australia starts in the north of Cairns, travels to Brisbane and Sydney and finishes on the scenic island of Tasmania. There were many excellent birds seen on this trip, **422 species** to be exact, but eventually the group was able to narrow down a list of their **TOP FIVE** and even a **TOP BIRD** of the trip. Similarly, even though there were a lot of excellent mammals seen on the trip, the group narrowed the list of **25 species** to their favorite **TOP THREE**.

Top Five Birds

1. Southern Cassowary
2. Pink (Major Mitchell’s) Cockatoo
3. Inland Dotterel
4. Southern Emu-Wren
5. Flame Robin

Top Three Mammals

1. Koala
2. Duck-billed Platypus
3. Common Wombat

Top Bird of the Trip

Well, what are you supposed to say when your guide asks this question during the last dinner? You’re enjoying your wine and steak and then all of a sudden, you’re hit with this impossible question. To select one bird out of 400+ is hard enough but to select one bird out of 400+ Australian birds?! That’s just cruel. And to be frank, it’s always a little fun for the guide to see the smiles appear when this question is asked, because the guests know it’s coming so the whole trip you know they’re toiling with the possibility of the most recent bird they’ve seen making the list. However, there is one bird that is always in the **TOP FIVE** and subsequently usually takes the gold for everyone’s favorite bird of the trip. And that bird of course is the prehistoric, completely unique and insane looking **SOUTHERN CASSOWARY**. Congratulations again on your gold medal finish you beautiful specimen.

Bird of the Trip



(Southern Cassowary - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)



Itinerary

October 25th.....	Arrival in Cairns
October 26th.....	Great Barrier Reef to Kuranda
October 27th.....	Cassowary House to Daintree
October 28th.....	Daintree to Mareeba
October 29th.....	Atherton Tablelands
October 30th.....	Atherton Tablelands
October 31st.....	Mareeba to Cairns
November 1st.....	Cairns to Brisbane
November 2nd.....	Lamington (O'Reilly's)
November 3rd.....	Lamington to Lithgow
November 4th.....	Capertee Valley to Forbes
November 5th.....	Back Yamma to Cargelligo
November 6th.....	Round Hill to Plains Wanderer
November 7th.....	Hay to Griffith
November 8th.....	Binya to Robertson
November 9th.....	Barren Grounds to Sydney
November 10th.....	Royal NP to Hobart
November 11th.....	Mainland Tasmania/Peninsula
November 12th.....	Bruny Island, Tasmania
November 13th.....	Departures

Tour Summary

Day 1 (October 25th)

The tour began in Cairns around 2:00pm after everyone had themselves a bite to eat. There are several ways to start this tour but my favorite is with a bang. We did just that when we bumped into **THREE**, yes three **Southern Cassowary**. On the road to **Etty Bay** we found the female feeding by the side of the road. Then down by the beach itself we located the male and a juvenile bird who had not yet started to turn from brown to black. After a quick visit, we traveled back towards Cairns and checked off all of the common species one might find in Cairns and on the rest of the tour. Birds like: **Torresian Imperial Pigeon, Willie Wagtail, Straw-necked and Australian White Ibis, Australasian Figbird, Forest Kingfisher, Masked Lapwing, Spotted Dove, Peaceful Dove, White-breasted Woodswallow, Brown Honeyeater, Sulfur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeets and Scaly-breasted Lorikeet.**



(Willie Wagtail - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 2 (October 26th)

Today is one of the most anticipated days of the tour, the day trip to the Great Barrier Reef. We woke up early to catch the first rays of light that strike the mangroves along the **Cairns Esplanade**. Here, we were able to locate all of our targets; **Varied Honeyeater, Rose-crowned Fruit Dove and Mangrove Robin**. We also had a really quick fly over from a **Double-eyed Fig Parrot** and a fantastic flyby view of a **Channel-billed Cuckoo**. Our lovely Coral Tree Inn was

beginning their breakfast service so we returned to grab a quick bite to eat before heading out on the boat for the day. The boat ride to **Michaelmas Caye** can be pretty good for seabirds but unfortunately, due to some high winds and slightly rough seas, the doors remained closed until we reached the Caye. Just before reaching the Caye we were able to locate several **Bridled Tern** sitting amongst the buoys. Thankfully, the tide was just right for us to take one of the smaller boats around to the backside of the caye. The boat trip was fantastic. Not only did we see: **Brown Booby, Sooty, Roseate, Black-naped, Great Crested and Lesser Crested Tern, Brown Noddy, Great Frigatebird** but we also had a surprise **Masked Booby**.



(Brown Booby - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

After the boat trip around the island, we went to the designated viewing area to see if we could pick up the few species we still had to find. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate any Little and White-fronted Tern or Black Noddy but we managed a late **Lesser Frigatebird** and a surprising number of juvenile **Red-footed Booby**! We then ventured to **Hastings Reef** where we snorkeled and took a few glass bottom-boat tours. The boat dropped us back on shore and we immediately took advantage of a decent tide on the **Cairns Esplanade**. In the fading light we picked up: **Australian Pelican, Gull-billed Tern, Silver Gull, Black-fronted Dotterel, Greater and Lesser Sand Plover, Red-necked Stint, Pied Stilt, Curlew Sandpiper, Black-tailed and Bar-tailed Godwit, Far Eastern Curlew, Whimbrel, Striated Heron, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Great Knot, Common Greenshank and Pied Oystercatcher**. We then made our way up to Kuranda for the evening. Here we spent the night in **Cassowary House**.



(Pied Stilt - Photo by guide Ben Knoot on a BWC Tour)

Day 3 (October 27th)

It is imperative that on this morning, we get an early start. This made possible in part due to the excellent service we are given at **Cassowary House**. The rainforests of Kuranda are extremely lively in the morning. The cocktail of song along **Black Mountain Road** provided us excellent views of all of our targets for this area. Birds like: **Pied, Spectacled and White-eared Monarch, Wompoo Fruit Dove, Fairy Gerygone, Victoria's Riflebird and Barred Cuckooshrike** were all seen extremely well. Other birds present in the area were **Little Shrikethrush, Black Butcherbird, Brown Cuckoo Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Pale-headed Robin, Orange-footed Scrubfowl, and Australian Brush Turkey**. The honeyeaters of the area also showed quite nicely as well. Those were: **McCleay's and Yellow-spotted Honeyeater, Dusky Myzomela and Helmeted (Hornbill) Friarbird**.

After a truly fantastic morning, we returned back to the house for Sue's legendary breakfast. It again did not disappoint. We ventured back out along the same road after breakfast to see if we could pick up the few species we missed during the early morning, the Noisy Pitta, Rufous Fantail and Spotted Catbird. Before exiting the driveway, I turned the corner and was confronted by a large female **Southern Cassowary**. We watched as she made her way towards the little pond out back and fished for tadpoles. We now had ourselves a four cassowary trip and still couldn't quite believe our luck. After some terrific birding, we made our way towards **Lake Mitchell**.



(Bar-shouldered Dove - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

There is an area here that has historically been decent for White-browed Robin, one of the harder robins of this tour. Unfortunately, even though we spent a great deal of effort and time, we were unable to locate the bird. However, we did locate our first **Blue-faced and White-throated Honeyeater**, **Double-barred Finch** and a few female and young **Red-backed Fairywren**, but no adult male. We traveled just up the road to **Mt. Molloy** to see the very popular, **Great Bowerbird** bower. In the same area, thanks to the sharp eyes of one of the guests, we were also able to see our first **Squatter Pigeon**.



(Squatter Pigeon - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

After this brilliant find, we made the drive to **Abattoir Swamp**. Here we were able to find all of our targets with the exception of one. The birds we were able to find were: **Northern Faintail**, **Yellow-faced Honeyeater**, **Tawny Grassbird**, **White-cheeked Honeyeater**, **Tree Martin** and the most unexpected and best bird on location, the **Banded Honeyeater**. We would have to wait to pick up Black-faced Monarch at an alternate location. Next we walked a small patch of forest near the base of Mt. Lewis, coequally known as “**The Patch Opposite of Sides Road**”. Here we got our first looks at **Red-browed Firetail**, **Brush Cuckoo** and **Blue-winged Kookaburra**. Our final stop for the evening was a small pond on a farm where we were hoping for several species of crake, coequally known as “**Crake Pond**”. While we were unable to find the specific crakes we were after, we did manage to locate two **Buff-banded Rail**, **Gray Teal** and some fantastic looks at the usually skittish **Brown Quail**. We then made our way up to Daintree for the night.



(Brown Quail - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 4 (October 28th)

Our time in Daintree is split between two general areas, **Steward Creek Road** and the **Daintree River** itself. Our boat trip was scheduled for 6:30am so we woke up nice and early to do some birding before hand. Our early morning efforts were rewarded handsomely with a stunning male **Lovely Fairywren**, a specialty of the northern rainforests. After some killer looks, I decided we should try to find a huge target for the area, the Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher. Unfortunately, we could not locate any individuals. It was perhaps just slightly too early for this species. Sometimes they are around late October but more often than not, early November sees the first arrivals. Then we set out on the **Daintree River Cruise** with expert river guide Murray. The tides were good and the weather was even better. While on the boat we saw: **Azure Kingfisher**, **Intermediate and Great Egret**, **Australasian Darter**, **Little Pied Cormorant**, **Large-billed Gerygone**, **Leaden and Shinning Flycatcher**, **Green Oriole**, **Little Bronze Cuckoo**, **Graceful Honeyeater** and almost everyone's favorite, the **Papuan Frogmouth**. Another highlight of the cruise was a pair of **Green Tree Snakes**.



(Azure Kingfisher - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

After a lovely cruise we traveled towards our next city, Mareeba. On the way, we stopped off in the town of Mossman. There is a large nesting colony of **Metallic Starling** that are usually quite photogenic so we made a quick stop to admire these under appreciated birds. With still plenty of daylight to burn, we made another stop at **Crake Pond**. This time we were able to locate one of our two main targets, the **White-browed Crake**. Now with the light really starting to get low, it was time to head off to our last location of the day, **Granite Gorge Nature Park**. This location is great for birds but really, the attraction here are the adorable little **Mareeba Rock Wallabies**. On the grounds we also found, **Black-faced Cuckooshrike**, **Yellow Honeyeater**, **Squatter Pigeon**, **Striated Pardalote**, **Laughing Kookaburra** and an excellent look at a **White-throated Gerygone** on a nest. Excellent day!

Day 5 (October 29th)

“Well, we might as well, it’s on the way...” is what I said as we began our drive up to Mount. Lewis. During the small hours of the morning we again stopped off at the **Crake Pond!** We had one last chance to see the last target at this location and just a few minutes in, I picked up the faint call. Then, thanks to the eagle eyes of one of the guests, the bird was found. A small, slate

grey skulking bird called **Spotless Crake**. Perseverance certainly paid off at this location. Three visits and three crakes! Time to head up **Mount. Lewis**. While there is plenty of great birding on the way up the mountain, I opted to head straight for our main location, a small open space on the mountain coequally known as “**The Clearing**”. On this mountain, as it is with many of the locations for this tour, timing is critical. We had two main targets that we had the best chance to find early in the morning, Fernwren and Chowchilla. We stepped out of the car and I immediately picked up the unmistakable call of Chowchilla. We slowly made our way into the forest and found a male and female **Chowchilla** calling back and forth to each other. We quietly crept through the dense forest and had excellent views. Unfortunately, no Fernwren was present at this location but other birds in the area were: **Bower’s Shrikethrush, Golden Whistler, Grey Fantail, Red-browed Firetail, Grey-headed Robin, Mountain Thornbill, White-headed Pigeon, Topknot Pigeon, White-throated Treecreeper and Spotted Catbird**. However, the one little bird that really stole the show on this trail was an **Atherton Scrubwren**. Specifically, either a male or female bird that was very actively building a nest just a few feet from us. Epic!



(Red-browed Firetail - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

After nailing all of the targets except Fernwren, we drove on down the road. I was looking hard for some good habitat to try so we could find our last bird. I stopped in an area I thought would be good and sure enough, we were on the trail of a bird within in a few minutes of careful listening. After another few minutes of searching through the dark forest, this secretive bird finally revealed himself allowing us to finally check off the **Fernwren**. We went down the mountain and stopped off at a **Tooth-billed Bowerbird** staging area which is always fun to see. Here we were able to get some decent views of this wonderful bird. We drove down the rest of the mountain and had a celebratory coffee before traveling to our next location, **Bustard Downs** and **East Mary Road**. These two areas are usually quite good for Australia's only bustard species, the **Australian Bustard**. Another excellent spot by a guest gave us excellent views of four birds taking it nice and easy in the afternoon sun. Next it was time for the legendary **Mount Carbine**. We were able to check off some great birds here. Specifically: **Red-winged Parrot**, **Pale-headed Rosella**, **Noisy Friarbird**, **Apostlebird**, **Galah**, **Pied Currawong**, **Pied Butcherbird**, **Great Bowerbird**, **Pacific Koel** and the highlight, two nesting pair of **Tawny Frogmouth**.



(Tawny Frogmouth - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

After lunch nearby, it was time to make our way towards our overnight halt in Mareeba. We arrived, checked into the hotel and took advantage of the last few hours of light by once again searching for White-browed Robin that I had heard about in **Jack Bethel Park**. This time, just a few meters into the trail, one flew right by us and landed just meters away. After the trials and hardships of trying to find this bird last time, I calmly said, “Well now that’s a **White-browed Robin!**” Great day of birding, but we weren’t done... We tried a location for some night birding. On our way to the location (**Davies Creek**) I came to a sudden stop as I had seen our target sitting on the road! A beautiful **Australian Owlet Nightjar**. It is not common to see this bird on the road and I actually had just finished telling one of the guests that “...no, it would be in a tree, not on the road...” Boy did I eat my words! On the way back, another night bird was seen on the road... amazing! This time a stunning **Eastern Barn Owl** took off from the dirt and flew up into a tree just across from us, allowing us great looks. Fantastic day and night of birding!



(Eastern Barn Owl - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 6 (October 30th)

Today was another early morning (as if we ever start that late) as we had a decent drive towards **Mount. Hypipamee**. This location is excellent. It consists of more rainforest like Mt. Lewis with one or two additional birds, the Golden Bowerbird and Southern Cassowary. Having already excellent views of the cassowary, we had all morning to find the **Golden Bowerbird**. After a few hours of walking around just listening for the display call, I finally gave up on that plan and went into the forest. We found a beautiful bower and were able to locate a 1 to 2-year old bird tending it. This bird doesn't reach it's full plumage until about 4-years into his life span so our bird was mostly brown. We also had another visit from a Southern Cassowary. A young bird this time. We walked the "**Crater Trail**" and were able to find a few new birds: **Sacred Kingfisher**, **Shining Bronze Cuckoo** and our first look at **Brown Gerygone**. Back down the mountain now. A quick stop again at the rainforest opposite of **Sides Road** gave us great looks at **Superb Fruit Dove**, **Yellow-breasted Boatbill** and **Rufous Fantail**.



(Rufous Fantail - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

We made a quick stop in **Bluff Forest Reserve** and were able to find the incredible **Crested Shirketit**. In that area we also found: **Red-backed Fairywren**, **Olive-backed Oriole** and fly-over views of **Little Lorikeet**. We then moved on towards a wonderful birding location named **Hasties Swamp**. Here we found: **Plumed and Wandering Whistling Duck**, **Marsh and Wood Sandpiper**, **Latham's Snipe**, **Black-fronted Dotterel**, **Hardhead**, **Royal Spoonbill**, **Whistling Kite**, **Purple Swamphen**, **Pacific Heron**, **Australasian Grebe**, **Little Black Cormorant**, **Eurasian Coot** and by far the most impressive bird, the **Cotton Pygmy Goose**. Along the road we had an excellent show by a **Scarlet Myzomela**. As we made our way towards lunch, we were able to pick up **Sarus Crane** in the farming fields. Our lunch location was the famous, **Nerada Tea Plantation**. This also happens to be the best (but not only) place to pick up the **Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo**.



(Red-backed Fairywren - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Next, one of Australia's most unique species. In the beautiful park of **Tarzali Lakes** we were able to locate at least three **Platypus**. Another quick stop for us was **Lake Barrine**. This lake is amazing as it seems to have a fairly consistent number of **Great-crested Grebe**. Our next location

was for one target in particular and just a few minutes into the walk at **The Curtain Fig Tree** I heard the call of our bird, the **Black-faced Monarch**. We were granted excellent looks at our last monarch species of the trip. We went for a quick dinner but then we had some important business to get down to. We returned to **The Curtain Fig Tree** for some owl-ing, well, one in particular. Allow me to set the stage...It's dark, we know there is a giant beautiful tree and a dark dense forest with a single boardwalk breaking the cryptic forest pattern. The van doors open and all you hear is this amazing call, like a bomb dropping through the sky. A tremendous high pitched whistle. I turned to everyone and said softly, "...that was it, that was the owl..." We moved fast but cautiously, terrified to scare the owl. Now on the boardwalk, surrounded by fireflies and absolute silence, it calls again, just feet above our heads. A quick shine of the flashlight... nothing...the bird had flown off just seconds before. Continuing along the boardwalk, we hear the alternate call, again just feet away. Another quick shine of the flash light but this time, right there in the middle of my light a beautiful **Lesser Sooty Owl**. What a way to end the day.



(Lesser Sooty Owl - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 7 (October 31st)

Today was our day to get back to **Cairns** to try for some of the species we missed on the first afternoon. Our first stop was the **Barren River Mouth** for some shore-birding. We were able to locate: **Red-capped Plover, Terek Sandpiper, Pacific Golden Plover and Gray-tailed Tattler**. Our next stop was the **Cairns Esplanade** for one species in particular. Just a few minutes of waiting and we were able to get excellent views of **Torresian Kingfisher**.



(Bush Thick-Knee - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Also present was a bonus **Varied Triller**. We then went to **Centenary Lakes** for a few more common species: **Little Bronze Cuckoo, Common Sandpiper, Bush Thick-Knee, Willie Wagtail, Orange-footed Scrubfowl and Olive-backed Sunbird**. Our next stop was a real last ditch effort for a beautiful bird. We traveled just south towards Edmonton, specifically, the **Farm Fields of Edmonton**. After all hope seemed lost, and on the way out of the location, a beautiful **Black-necked Stork** flew by and landed in the field adjacent to our car. Then we made a short hop to nearby **Redford Road**. Here we were able to find **Chestnut-breasted and Nutmeg Manakin (Scaly-breasted Munia) Golden-headed Cisticola** and our main target, **Crimson Finch**.



(Green Pygmy Goose - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

It was success after success so we went to our next location, **Cattana Wetlands**. Here after a bit of a walk, we found our sole target, **Green Pygmy Goose**. As the sun started to sink, we tried the **Cairns Esplanade** one more time to locate two targets we missed previously. Within a few minutes we found one, the **Pacific Reef Heron**. The second unfortunately eluded us for that evening. Blitz birding at its finest.

Day 8 (November 1st)

Today is travel day. An extremely early flight to **Brisbane** means we are able to spend more time birding around the city...or so it was originally planned. We began at a small pond called the **Nudgee Waterhole**. Here we were able to add a few new species, the **Chestnut Teal**, **Grey Butcherbird** and **Noisy Miner**. It began to sprinkle a bit but I still wanted to try the local mangroves for two main targets. Unfortunately, after just being able to find **Mangrove Gerygone**, one of targets, we were met with a very heavy rain and windstorm. But no worries, we at

Tropical Birding have contingencies for just these situations. Instead of wasting time in the rain, I decided we should head up to the beautiful **O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat** early. What I had done essentially was reverse our itinerary, easy! On the way up to this magical place, we stopped at Canungra for a lunch and two target species. After a nice lunch we were able to locate both of the targets, **Bell Miner and Variegated Fairywren**.



(Glossy Black Cockatoo - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Continuing up to the resort we found the sometimes difficult **Glossy Black Cockatoo**. We spent the entire afternoon targeting the common species of this rainforest retreat, that way we could spend the entire next day focusing on the more difficult birds. That afternoon we were quite successful and found: **Eastern Whipbird, Bassian and Russet-tailed Thrush, Australian Logrunner, White-browed and Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Eastern Yellow Robin, Brown Thornbill, Grey Shrikethrush, Superb Fairywren, Lewin's Honeyeater, Satin and Regent Bowerbird, Rose Robin, Golden Whistler, Pied Currawong, Australian King Parrot and Crimson Rosella**. After a great day of birding, we indulged in the delicious food made by the O'Reilly's chefs and returned to our rooms to prepare for some night birding. Our first target, **Marbled**

Frogmouth was easily seen. The next, **Southern Boobook**, appeared out of nowhere as it was seen hunting just in front of our van. It was later re-found just next to the trail with excellent views for all. A two out of two night time excursion... awesome!



(Marbled Frogmouth - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)



(Southern Boobook - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

**All guides have a different method of night-time photography which is fine but personally, I do not flash owls/nightjars/etc. I use a flashlight. This requires the assistance of the guests which I always greatly appreciate!*

Day 9 (November 2nd)

Today was our full day in O'Reilly's and thanks to yesterday's success, we only had a handful of birds to find. Just how I wanted it. The day found us: **Wonga Pigeon, Albert's Lyrebird, Paradise Riflebird, Green Catbird, Noisy Pitta, Eastern Spinebill and Red-browed Treecreeper.** We were

also able to add **Red-necked Pademelon**. This is exactly what I wanted to happen so that we could head out of O'Reilly's good and early the next morning to bird the Brisbane area before our flight at 4:30pm. With no other target species and several hours to kill, I gave the group some free time to bird, do some photography or better yet, catch up on some sleep. We had another great dinner and prepared for the next day.



(Australian King Parrot - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 10 (November 3rd)

We left early in order to meet with one of Brisbane's premiere birders, Stuart Pickering. He took us to some of his local patches where we were able to pick up some great species. Out of respect for him and his locations, they will not be named. In the **Brisbane Area** we were able to add, **Red-kneed Dotterel, Baillon's Crake, Powerful Owl and Koala**. It was then time for our flight to Sydney. By the time we got to our hotel, everyone was pretty tired so we called it a day and got to bed early for the next day. Especially since I told everyone, "It'll be an early morning."



(Koala - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day11 (November 4th)

The guests would later see why it was imperative we arrived at our next location nice and early. We arrived at **Wallace Lake** good an early to target a few species of bird but primarily, the **Musk Duck**. We timed it perfectly as we were able to witness an early morning display by a male. Also present: **Red Wattlebird, Australian Reed Warbler, Blue-billed Duck, Eastern Rosella, Hoary-headed Grebe, Australian Pelican and Dusky Moorhen**. We then tried our luck at the **Lithgow Sewage Plant** where we were able to find **Pink-eared Duck, Australian Shoveler and Gray Teal**. It was now time to head into the **Capertee Valley**. This valley is tough birding but we go into this area for some very special targets. The day in the Capertee Valley found us: **Brown-headed, White-naped, Yellow-tufted, White-plumed and Fuscous Honeyeater, Little and Musk Lorikeet, Spotted and Striated Pardalote, White-browed Babbler, White-browed and Masked Woodswallow, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo and Zebra Finch**.

We left the Capertee Valley missing a few of the main targets and one that unfortunately we would miss for the trip, the Regent Honeyeater. We then went into Forbes for the night via Caldun. There is one particular reason we take this route and just minutes before sunset, we found our target bird, the **Superb Parrot** (Above). We managed to find a small flock of these spectacular birds along with a group of **Red-rumped Parrot, Galah and Sulfur-crested Cockatoo**.

Day 12 (November 5th)

Another early morning was needed for today. We had several new species to find and also a few that we needed to catch up on from the Capertee Valley. On the road to our destination we found: **Greater Bluebonnet and Cockatiel**. We arrived in **Back Yamma State Forest** nice and early and the forest was alive with birds. In the forest, we found: **Common Bronzewing, Gray-crowned Babbler, Red-capped Robin, Western Gerygone**, and four thornbills, **Buff-rumped, Chestnut-rumped, Inland and Yellow-rumped Thornbill**. We even had all four of them in the same bush! After a few hours of searching the various waterholes and flowering trees, we finally located one of the birds we had missed in the Capertee Valley, the **Black-chinned Honeyeater**. We located a solitary bird and after a few minutes of watching it bounce around from tree to tree, it eventually flew up to the top of a tree next to another bird. One of the guests said, “oh, there’s two!” A quick binocular look revealed it was not another Black-chinned Honeyeater but in fact the second bird we had missed in the Capertee Valley, the **Diamond Firetail!** Talk about some great luck, the two birds we needed sitting together in the same tree. The firetail then proceeded down to the waterhole to grab a drink of water before flying off.



(Common Bronzewing - Photo by guide Ben Knoop on a Photo Tour)

After a very successful visit to Back Yamma, we ventured onwards to **Blue Gum Swamp**. Here we picked up two new species; **Yellow-billed Spoonbill** and **Freckled Duck**. We found these two birds within minutes and decided to head off to Lake Cargelligo a bit early. After a nice lunch, we birded the **Lake Cargelligo Sewage Works**. This area is usually quite good for birds and this time was no exception. With a little bit of walking we were able to add: **Black Swan, Australian Spotted Crake, Black-tailed Nativehen, White-winged Fairywren, Little Raven** and perhaps most impressively all three chats, **Orange, White-fronted and Crimson Chat**. After such a successful afternoon, we spent the remaining daylight chasing the odd species. We visited two locations; **Curlew Lake** and **Sheet Water Lake**. We found, **Australian Ringneck (Mallee), Pied Cormorant and Brolga**. Another great day of birding.

Day 13 (November 6th)

Guess what? Yep, another early morning. **Round Hill and Nombinni Reserve** are both excellent birding locations, but, they have to be done early in the morning. We arrived just before dawn and the chorus of birds was electric. We were able to pick up all of the special species; **Southern Scrub Robin, Shy Heathwren, Mulga Parrot, Chestnut Quail Thrush, Rainbow Bee-eater, Crested Bellbird, Splendid Fairywren, White-fronted, Yellow-plumed, Pied and White-eared Honeyeater and Emu**.



(Crested Bellbird - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Unfortunately, though we searched and searched we could not locate the mythical Malleefowl; maybe next time! Even so, with such a successful morning behind us, we made our way towards Hay. After dropping our luggage off in the room, we traveled toward our afternoon activities. We met up with the legendary Phil Maher for a guided afternoon of specialty birds. On the way there we found a **Black Falcon**. The reason these birds are difficult is because mostly, they are on private land that Phil just happens to have access to. They will coequally been known as “**Phil’s Places**”. With his help, we picked up; **Australian Pratincole, Emu, Brown Falcon, Banded Lapwing, Swamp Harrier, White-backed Swallow, Brown Songlark, Horsfield’s Bushlark, Australian Hobby, Ground Cuckooshrike, and Black-faced Woodswallow**. The real reason we visit Phil is for a night spent looking for Plains Wanderer. After a quick field dinner, Phil and his friend Robert took us out on Robert’s ranch to begin the search. After an hour or so, we located a solitary male **Plains Wanderer** doing his best to stay upright in the howling wind. We then spent another 30 minutes or so roaming the fields and were able to locate our last target for the evening, the **Inland Dotterel**. We found several families with some very adorable chicks.



(Australian Pratincole - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)



(Inland Dotterel - Photo by Ben Knoot)



(Plains Wanderer - Photo by Ben Knoot)

Day 14 (November 7th)

After a very long night, this was a great day for a bit of a sleep in and a nice breakfast. See, we are not completely brutal! We actually do plan it this way so we can catch up on a bit of sleep because it is not uncommon that the previous night ends around midnight. And for this day, there are no locations that are time sensitive. The first location for the day was **Wynagan Lake**. Specifically, we wanted to find one of the more nomadic shorebirds on our itinerary. With a little bit of searching we were able to find eight **Red-necked Avocet** working the shoreline. Just a few minutes away, on **McCann Road**, we were able to find more nomadic honeyeaters including one of the most sought after, the **Painted Honeyeater**. Also present on the road; **Mistletoebird**, **Striped, Singing, Black and Pied Honeyeater**.



(Painted Honeyeater - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

With now almost every honeyeater on mainland Australia ticked off, we moved on for another massive target on this tour, the Pink Cockatoo. We ventured towards the town of Griffith where these birds have been known to frequent. We checked all the major areas in the early afternoon but had no luck. We took a break from our hunt to check out **Binya State Forest**. We had hoped to pick up the stunning Turquoise Parrot but unfortunately had no luck that afternoon. We did manage to find a small flock of **Varied Sittella and Rufous Whistler**. We quickly visited **Campbell's Swamp** and picked up great views of **Little Grassbird** and a flyby look at **Collared**

Sparrowhawk. On the road around the swamp we got very luck and found another **Black Falcon**. We checked all of the major hotspots for Pink Cockatoo as the sun began to sink and again had no luck.

Day 15 (November 8th)

Today was going to be a tough day. We had two birds we needed to find and both needed to be looked for early morning. We all agreed we'd like to try again for the Turquoise Parrot at Binya. We parked at its favorite waterhole pre-dawn and waited a good long while but unfortunately, skunked again. It would seem we were going to miss this bird for the trip. A real shame but not for lack of effort. We then searched again for Pink Cockatoo. Again, skunked. But I could not let this bird go so I looked around our current location, found some suitable habitat and we set off one last time. On the outskirts of Griffith, I spotted what I thought might have been one flying across the road. I didn't say anything at the time because I wasn't 100% sure and I didn't want to give false hope. Then, another flew by and this time I knew we were on them. We had excellent views of eight **Pink Cockatoo** all huddled together atop a dead tree.



(Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Awesome views and a great relief. We then traveled towards one of my favorite locations of the tour, **Five Bough Swamp**. However, because we had already seen the shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds and crakes, we spent our time in the forest looking for our last thornbill, the Striated Thornbill. While we were unable to pick up the thornbill in this location, we did manage great looks at **Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo and Weebill**. We spent the rest of the afternoon driving towards our next overnight halt. We made a quick stop off at **Budderoo NP**. We were only able to do a bit of scouting as it was quite windy and already pretty dark. On our way down towards our hotel I spotted a gray mammal on the side of the road and knew instantly what it was. I was elated to show the group a handsome **Common Wombat**.



(Common Wombat - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

Day 16 (November 9th)

We spent a very chilly morning in **Budderoo NP** for one reason, the Eastern Ground Parrot. We arrived pre-civil twilight but unfortunately, we had no luck locating this very difficult species. After 10-minutes of hand warming in the van, we did manage to find; **Eastern Bristlebird**, **Southern Emu Wren**, **New Holland Honeyeater**, **Fan-tailed Cuckoo** and **Crimson Rosella**. We had

hoped to also find Beautiful Firetail here but unfortunately, no luck. We ventured towards **Barren Grounds** with the goal of finding our last thornbill and a few other key species. Upon arrival, we easily located our last thornbill, the **Striated Thornbill**. Though our ears were wide open and eyes acutely focused, we could not locate the Pilotbird. It was completely silent throughout the morning. In the area, we were also able to find: **Gang Gang Cockatoo**, **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo** and a beautiful look at **Scarlet Myzomela**.



(Scarlet Myzomela - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

With some decent luck at Barren Grounds, I wanted another shot at Beautiful Firetail so we went back to **Budderoo NP** and just a few minutes into the trail, I spotted a single **Beautiful Firetail** feeding on the edge of the trail. After now a very successful morning, we made our way towards Sydney. We stopped off in **Bass Point** to do some sea-birding as we had a relatively favorable on-shore wind. We were able to find: **Sooty Oystercatcher**, **Kelp Gull**, **Pied Cormorant**, **Short-tailed Shearwater** and **Australasian Gannet**. On the way out, we managed to find a **Red-whiskered Bulbul**. We spent the fading light in **Royal National Park** where we were able to find; **Little Wattlebird**, **Red Wattlebird**, **Rockwarbler** and **Chestnut-rumped Heathwren**.

Day 17 (November 10th)

This day was spent chasing species we had missed. We started back in **Royal National Park - Bonnie Vale Campground**. After a decent walk and a bit of searching we were able to check off **Rufous (Nankeen) Night Heron**. On the way out of the campground, we were able to check off **White-throated Needletail**. Pretty good on the way out, two for two! We then made a long drive north of Sydney to **Warriewood Wetland** for a few species. Unfortunately, we were unable to find our two targets, Black Bittern and Lewin's Rail. However, a big surprise came in the form of an extremely cooperative and stunning **Barking Owl**. We decided that was a great bird to end our time on mainland Australia and went off towards the airport for our flight to Tasmania.

Day 18 (November 11th)

Oh Tasmania, a real highlight for me personally and a lot of the guests tend to agree. It is a stunning island with truly amazing wildlife. Today we focused on **Mainland Tasmania and the Tasman Peninsula**. We began the day on **Mount Nelson** where we found: **Yellow-throated and Black-headed Honeyeater, Yellow Wattlebird, Green Rosella and Tasmanian Thornbill**.



(Yellow Wattlebird - Photo by guide Ben Knoot on a Photo Tour)

On the way down towards our next stop, we stopped in a neighborhood full of flowering eucalyptus trees. Here we added: **Swift Parrot and Musk Lorikeet** to our Tasmania list. Continuing down Mount. Nelson, we ended up at the base of **Truganini Reserve**. Here we found our sole target **Brush Bronzewing**. Now that it was 8:30am, one of my favorite locations in Tasmania was open, the **Waterworks Reserve**. Here we found: **Scarlet Robin, Tasmanian Scrub Wren, Striated Pardalote, Black and Grey Currawong** and the very adorable **Tasmanian Pademelon**. Next stop was to venture up the highest point in Tasmania, **Mt. Wellington**. Stopping half way up, we were able to find **Scrubtit**. Generally this bird is quite tricky but in just a few minutes, the sharp eyes of one of the participants found this secretive little bird. Continuing up the mountain, a brief stop at a location coequally known as “**The Big Bend**” we found **Striated Fieldwren** and **Flame Robin**.



(Scarlet Robin - Photo by guide Ben Knoot)

The top of Mount. Wellington is for scenic purposes only so after everyone got some quick phone pics, we went back down to Hobart for lunch. After lunch we started to make our way east. We began at **Gould's Lagoon** and found **Mallard** and **Tasmanian Nativehen**. As the afternoon progressed we went to **Eagle-hawk Neck** for some birding before our appointment

with the Little Penguin. We found **Pied Oystercatcher**, **Tree Martin** and **Pacific Gull**. As the sun faded we checked the farm fields just outside of **Taranna**. Here we were able to find **Cape Barren Goose** and we were able to get much better looks at **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo**. Finally, it was time to see if we could find our Little Penguin. We arrived in **Pirates Bay** at the perfect time to step out of the car and find a group of four **Little Penguin** huddled together. On the way back we attempted some owl-ing but a strong wind and a small drizzle keep the night silent.



(Little Penguin - Photo by guide Ben Knoot on a BWC Tour)

Day 19 (November 12th)

Today is our last full day of the tour and there is nowhere better to end this tour than **Bruny Island**. We spent the entire day searching for the remaining Tasmanian endemics. On the island we found: **Eurasian Skylark**, **Strong-billed Honeyeater**, **Forty-spotted Pardalote**, **Hooded Plover**, **Pink Robin**, **Forest Raven**, **Pallid Cuckoo**, **Olive Whistler** and **Dusky Robin**. Unfortunately, all of our efforts did not result in Blue-winged Parrot. For the last evening, we went back out to the

Waterworks Reserve for some owl-ing and mammal-ing. We arrived and found a few mammals; the **Common Brush-tailed Possum** and the **Common Ring-tailed Possum**. Towards the end of the night, we got very distant looks at **Tasmanian Morepork**. We went to bed, extremely satisfied with the tour but ready to fly home the next day.



(Common Ring-tailed Possum - Photo by guide Ben Knoop)

***See below for a full species account**

***Also, one of our guests was an avid “herper” and butterfly enthusiasts and has generously created a list of all herps and butterflies seen on the trip. This is also included.**

Species Account

Summary:

- Birds: 422 Species (with 1 “Guide Only”)

- Mammals: 25 Species

*E denotes endemic to Australia

*TE denotes endemic to Tasmania

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		
Cape Barren Goose (E)		
Freckled Duck (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)		
Musk Duck (E)		
Blue-billed Duck (E)		
Megapodes: Megapodiidae		
Australian Brushturkey (E)		
Orange-footed Scrubfowl		
Pheasants, Grouse, Allies: Phasianidae		
Brown Quail		
Grebes: Podicipedidae		
Australasian Grebe		
Hoary-headed Grebe		
Great Crested Grebe		
Penguins: Spheniscidae		
Little Penguin		
Albatrosses: Diomedidae		
White-capped (Shy) Albatross		
Short-tailed Shearwater		
Storks: Ciconiidae		
Black-necked Stork		
Frigatebirds: Fregatidae		
Lesser Frigatebird		
Great Frigatebird		
Boobies and Gannets: Sulidae		
Brown Booby		
Red-footed Booby		
Masked Booby		
Australasian Gannet		

Cormorants and Shags: Phalacrocoracidae		
Little Pied Cormorant		
Great Cormorant		
Little Black Cormorant		
Pied Cormorant		
Black-faced Cormorant		
Anhingas: Anhingidae		
Australasian Darter		
Pelicans: Pelecanidae		
Australian Pelican		
Hérons, Egrets and Bitterns: Ardeidae		
Pacific (White-necked) Heron (E)		
Great Egret		
Intermediate Egret		
White-faced Heron		
Little Egret		
Pacific Reef Heron		
Cattle Egret		
Striated Heron		
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		
Australian Kite (E)		
Little Eagle (E)		
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		
Lesser Sooty Owl		
Eastern Barn Owl		
Owls: Strigidae		
Powerful Owl (E)		
Barking Owl		
Southern Boobook		
Tasmanian Morepork		
Bustards: Otidae		
Australian Bustard		
Rails, Gallinules and Coots: Rallidae		
Buff-banded Rail		
Australian Crake (E)		
Baillon's Crake		
White-browed Crake		
Spotless Crake		



Australasian Swamphen		
Dusky Moorhen		
Black-tailed Nativehen (E)		
Tasmanian Nativehen (TE)		
Eurasian Coot		
Cranes: Gruidae		
Sarus Crane		
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		
Pacific Golden Plover		
Banded Lapwing (E)		
Masked Lapwing		
Lesser Sand Plover		
Greater Sand Plover		
Red-capped Plover		
Red-kneed Dotterel		
Hooded Plover		
Black-fronted Dotterel		
Inland Dotterel (E)		



Plains-Wanderer: Pedionomidae		
Plains-wanderer		
Jacanas: Jacanidae		
Comb-crested Jacana		
Sandpipers and Allies: Scolopacidae		
Whimbrel		
Far Eastern Curlew		
Black-tailed Godwit		
Bar-tailed Godwit		
Ruddy Turnstone		
Great Knot		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		
Curlew Sandpiper		
Red-necked Stint		
Latham's Snipe		
Terek Sandpiper		
Common Sandpiper		
Gray-tailed Tattler		
Common Greenshank		
Marsh Sandpiper		
Wood Sandpiper		
Pratincoles and Coursers: Glareolidae		
Australian Pratincole		
Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers: Laridae		
Silver Gull		
Pacific Gull (E)		
Kelp Gull		
Brown Noddy		



Sooty Tern		
Bridled Tern		
Gull-billed Tern		
Caspian Tern		
Whiskered Tern		
Roseate Tern		
Black-naped Tern		
Common Tern		
Great Crested Tern		
Lesser Crested Tern		
Pigeons and Doves: Columbidae		
Rock Pigeon		
White-headed Pigeon (E)		
Spotted Dove		
Brown Cuckoo-Dove		
Pacific Emerald Dove		
Brush Bronzewing (E)		
Common Bronzewing (E)		
Crested Pigeon (E)		
Squatter Pigeon (E)		
Wonga Pigeon (E)		
Peaceful Dove		
Bar-shouldered Dove		
Wompoo Fruit-Dove		
Superb Fruit-Dove		
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove		
Torresian Imperial Pigeon		
Topknot Pigeon (E)		



Cuckoos: Cuculidae		
Pheasant Coucal		
Pacific Koel		
Channel-billed Cuckoo		
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo		
Shining Bronze Cuckoo		
Little Bronze Cuckoo		
Pallid Cuckoo		
Brush Cuckoo		
Fan-tailed Cuckoo		
Frogmouths: Podargidae		
Tawny Frogmouth (E)		
Papuan Frogmouth		
Marbled Frogmouth		
Owlet-Nightjar: Aegothelidae		
Australian Owlet-Nightjar		
Swifts: Apodidae		
Australian Swiftlet (E)		
White-throated Needletail		
Pacific (Fork-tailed) Swift		
Kingfishers: Alcedinidae		
Azure Kingfisher		
Laughing Kookaburra (E)		
Blue-winged Kookaburra		
Forest Kingfisher		
Sacred Kingfisher		
Torresian Kingfisher		
Bee-eaters: Meropidae		

Rainbow Bee-eater		
Rollers: Coraciidae		
Common Dollarbird		
Falcons and Caracaras: Falconidae		
Australian Kestrel		
Australian Hobby		
Brown Falcon		
Black Falcon (E)		
Cockatoos: Cacatuidae		
Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)		
Glossy-black Cockatoo (E)		
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)		
Gang-Gang 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		
Swift Parrot (E)		
Australian Ringneck (Mallee) (E)		
Green Rosella (E)		
Crimson Rosella (E)		
Crimson "Yellow" Rosella (E)		

Eastern Rosella (E)	Green	White
Pale-headed Rosella (E)	Green	Grey
Greater Bluebonnet (E)	Green	White
Red-rumped Parrot (E)	Green	Grey
Mulga Parrot (E)	Green	White
Double-eyed Fig-Parrot	Grey	Black
Musk Lorikeet (E)	Green	White
Little Lorikeet (E)	Green	Grey
Rainbow Lorikeet	Green	White
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E)	Green	Grey
Pittas: Pittidae	White	White
Noisy Pitta (E)	Green	Grey
Lyrebirds: Menuridae	White	White
Albert's Lyrebird (E)	Green	Grey
Superb Lyrebird (E)	Green	White
Bowerbirds: Ptilonorhynchidae	Grey	Grey
Spotted Catbird (E)	Green	White
Green Catbird (E)	Green	Grey
Tooth-billed Bowerbird (E)	Green	White
Golden Bowerbird (E)	Green	Grey
Regent Bowerbird (E)	Green	White
Satin Bowerbird (E)	Green	Grey
Greater Bowerbird (E)	Green	White
Australasian Treecreepers: Climacteridae	Grey	Grey
White-throated Treecreeper (E)	Green	White
Brown Treecreeper (E)	Green	Grey
Red-browed Treecreeper (E)	Green	White
Fairywrens: Maluridae	Grey	Grey



Southern Emuwren (E)		
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)		
Pied Honeyeater (E)		
Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E)		
Lewin's Honeyeater (E)		
Graceful 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 (E)		
Varied Honeyeater		
Singing Honeyeater (E)		



Yellow-plumed Honeyeater		
White-plumed Honeyeater (E)		
Fuscous Honeyeater (E)		
Brown-backed Honeyeater		
Crimson Chat (E)		
Orange Chat (E)		
White-fronted Chat (E)		
Black Honeyeater (E)		
Dusky Myzomela		
Scarlet Myzomela (E)		
Banded Honeyeater (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		
Bristlebirds: Dasyornithidae		
Eastern Bristlebird (E)		
Pardalotes: Pardalotidae		
Spotted Pardalote (E)		
Forty-spotted Pardalote (TE)		
Striated Pardalote (E)		
Thornbills and Allies: Acanthizidae		
Rockwarbler (E)		
Fernwren (E)		
Yellow-throated Scrubwren (E)		
White-browed Scrubwren (E)		
Tasmanian Scrubwren (TE)		
Atherton Scrubwren (E)		
Large-billed Scrubwren (E)		
Scrubtit (TE)		
Speckled Warbler (E)		
Shy Heathwren (E)		
Chestnut-rumped Heathwren (E)		
Striated Fieldwren (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)		
Logrunners: Orthonychidae		
Australian Logrunner (E)		
Chowchilla (E)		
Whipbirds and Wedgebills: Psophodidae		
Eastern Whipbird (E)		
Quail-Thrushes: Cinclosomatidae		
Chestnut Quail-thrush (E)		
Boatbills: Machaerirhynchidae		
Yellow-breasted Boatbill		
Woodswallows: Artamidae		
White-breasted Woodswallow		
Masked Woodswallow (E)		
White-browed Woodswallow (E)		
Black-faced Woodswallow		
Dusky Woodswallow (E)		

Bellmagpies and Allies: Cracticidae		
Gray Butcherbird (E)		
Pied Butcherbird (E)		
Black Butcherbird		
Australian Magpie (E)		
Pied Currawong (E)		
Gray Currawong (E)		
Black Currawong (TE)		
Cuckooshrikes: Campephagidae		
Ground Cuckooshrike (E)		
Barred Cuckooshrike		
Black-faced Cuckooshrike		
White-bellied Cuckooshrike		
White-winged Triller		
Varied Triller		
Sitellas: Neosittidae		
Varied Sitella		
Shrike-tit: Falcunculidae		
Crested Shrike-tit (E)		
Whistlers and Allies: Pachycephalidae		
Little Shrikethrush		
Gray Shrikethrush		
Bower's Shrikethrush (E)		
Olive Whistler (E)		
Gray Whistler		
Golden Whistler (E)		
Rufous Whistler		
Australo-Papuan Bellbirds: Oreoicidae		

Crested Bellbird (E)		
Old World Orioles: Oriolidae		
Olive-backed Oriole		
Green (Yellow) Oriole		
Australasian Figbird (E)		
Drongos: Dicuridae		
Spangled Drongo		
Fantails: Rhipiduridae		
Northern Fantail		
Willie-wagtail		
Rufous Fantail		
Gray Fantail		
Monarch Flycatchers: Monarchidae		
White-eared Monarch (E)		
Black-faced Monarch		
Spectacled Monarch		
Pied Monarch (E)		
Magpie-Lark		
Leaden Flycatcher		
Satin Flycatcher		
Restless Flycatcher (E)		
Shining Flycatcher		
Crows, Jays and Magpies: Corvidae		
Torresian Crow		
Little Crow (E)		
Australian Raven (E)		
Little Raven (E)		
Forest Raven		



White-winged Chough and Apostlebirds: Corcoracidae		
White-winged Chough (E)		
Apostlebird (E)		
Birds-of-Paradise: Paradisaeidae		
Paradise Riflebird (E)		
Victoria's Riflebird (E)		
Australian Robins: Petroicidae		
Jacky-Winter		
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		
White-browed Robin (E)		
Gray-headed Robin (E)		
Southern Scrub Robin (E)		
Larks: Alaudidae		
Australasian Bushlark		
Eurasian Skylark		
Swallows: Hirundinidae		
Welcome Swallow (E)		
Fairy Martin		
Tree Martin		
White-backed Swallow (E)		

Bulbuls: Pycnonotidae		
Red-whiskered Bulbul		
Reed-Warblers and Allies: Acrocephalidae		
Australian Reed Warbler		
Grassbirds and Allies: Locustellidae		
Little Grassbird		
Tawny Grassbird		
Brown Songlark (E)		
Rufous Songlark (E)		
Cisticolas and Allies: Cisticolidae		
Golden-headed Cisticola		
White-eyes and Allies: Zosteropidae		
Silver-eye		
Thrushes and Allies: Turdidae		
Bassian Thrush (E)		
Russet-tailed Thrush		
Eurasian Blackbird		
Starlings: Sturnidae		
Metallic Starling		
European Starling		
Common Myna		
Flowerpeckers: Dicaeidae		
Mistletoebird		
Sunbirds and Spiderhunters: Nectariniidae		
Olive-backed Sunbird		
Wagtails and Pipits: Motacillidae		
Australasian Pipit		
Finches, Euphorias and Allies: Fringillidae		



European Goldfinch		
Old World Sparrows: Passeridae		
House Sparrow		
Waxbills and Allies: Estrildidae		
Beautiful Firetail (E)		
Diamond Firetail (E)		
Red-browed Firetail (E)		
Cimson Finch		
Zebra Finch		
Double-barred Finch (E)		
Chestnut-breasted Munia		
Scaly-breasted Munia		
MAMMALS		
Platypus		
Northern Brown Bandicoot		
Long-nosed Bandicoot		
Common Wombat		
Koala		
Common Brushtail 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-necked Pademelon		
Red-legged Pademelon		
Spectacled Flying-fox		
House Mouse		
Water Rat		
Feral Pig		
European Hare		
European Rabbit		

Other Species Account

Butterflies:

Australian Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa kershawi</i>
Bordered Rustic	<i>Cupha prosope</i>
Brown Ringlet	<i>Hypocysta metirius</i>
Cairns Birdwing	<i>Ornithoptera euphorion</i>
Chocolate Argus	<i>Junonia hedonia</i>
Common Brown	<i>Heteronympha merope</i>
Common Crow	<i>Euploea corinna</i>
Lined Grass-yellow	<i>Eurema laeta</i>
Long-tailed Pea-blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>
Orange Bush-brown	<i>Mycalesis terminus</i>
Scarlet Jezebel	<i>Delias argenthona</i>
Small Green-banded Blue	<i>Psychonotis caelius</i>
Ulysses Swallowtail	<i>Papilio ulysses</i>
Varied (or Common) Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>
Varied Sword-grass Brown	<i>Tisiphone abeona</i>
Yellow Albatross	<i>Appias paulina</i>

Dragonfly:

Painted Grasshawk	<i>Neurothemis stigmatizans</i>
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Reptiles and Amphibians:

Cane Toad	<i>Rhinella marina</i>
Curl Snake	<i>Suta suta</i>
Gould's (Sand) Goanna	<i>Varanus gouldii</i>
Green Sea Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>
Green Tree Snake	<i>Dendrelaphis punctulatus</i>



Australia: Set Departure Birding Tour
2019

October 25th - November 12th

House Gecko

Gehyra dubia

Kreffft's (Macquarie) Turtle

Emydura macquarii krefftii

Shingleback Skink

Tiliqua rugosa

Tessellated Gecko

Diplodactylus tessellatus

Water Dragon

Intellagama leseurii

Skink sp.

(maybe Major Skink *Egernia frerei*)

Participant Photos

*Here are 5 photos chosen by each of the participants as their favorites (not just birds!)







