

# TROPICAL BIRDING

## AUSTRALIA'S TOP END

Victoria River to Kakadu

9 – 17 October 2009

Tour Leader: Iain Campbell

Having run the Northern Territory trip every year since 2005, and multiple times in some years, I figured it really is about time that I wrote a trip report for this tour. The tour program changed this year as it was just so dry in central Australia, we decided to limit the tour to the Top End where the birding is always spectacular, and skip the Central Australia section where birding is beginning to feel like pulling teeth; so you end up with a shorter but jam-packed tour laden with parrots, pigeons, finches, and honeyeaters. Throw in some amazing scenery, rock art, big crocs, and thriving aboriginal culture you have a fantastic tour. As for the list, we pretty much got everything, as this is the kind of tour where by the nature of the birding, you can leave with very few gaps in the list.

### 9 October: Around Darwin

The Top End trip started around three in the afternoon, and the very first thing we did was shoot out to Fogg Dam. This is a wetlands to behold, as you drive along a causeway with hundreds of Intermediate Egrets, Magpie-Geese, Pied Herons, Green Pygmy-geese, Royal Spoonbills, Rajah Shelducks, and Comb-crested Jacanas all close and very easy to see. While we were watching the waterbirds, we had tens of Whistling Kites and Black Kites circling overhead. When I was a child birder and thought of the Top End, Fogg Dam and its birds was the image in my mind, so it is always great to see the reaction of others when they see it for the first time. When we finished with the waterbirds we tried the surrounding open grassland woodland, where we saw Lemon-bellied Flycatcher, White-throated Honeyeater, and Rufus-banded Honeyeater. Although it was still too hot for it to be productive, we had a quick walk in the monsoon forest (which looks like a dry rainforest) where we picked up our first Rainbow Pitta, although he did not want to show himself very well. Other cool species in this section included a nesting Green Oriole.



*Pied Heron*



*Whistling Kite*

We finished the day with a quick visit to East Point Reserve, which is a very good, condensed patch of monsoon forest right in Darwin. Arriving just on dusk we hardly picked anything up of note, and although the site of thousands of stunning Torresian Imperial-Pigeons was reward enough for the visit, I knew it was just a shadow of what it was going to be like the next morning.

### **10 October: Darwin to Katherine**

Now I am well aware that some people do not dig having breakfast in the field, but when you spotlight a couple of Large-tailed Nightjars that then sit on a wire before you start, and then have ridiculous looks at a Rainbow Pitta halfway through your bowl of cornflakes, you have to start to see things my way. The forest at East Point was just pumping with Rose-crowned Fruit-Doves being far more common than I have ever had before and Figbirds seeming to be on ever branch. The usual suspects of Large-billed Gerygone, Green-backed Gerygone, and Varied Triller were all there, and like just about every time I go, the Cicadabird was calling but did not want to come in.

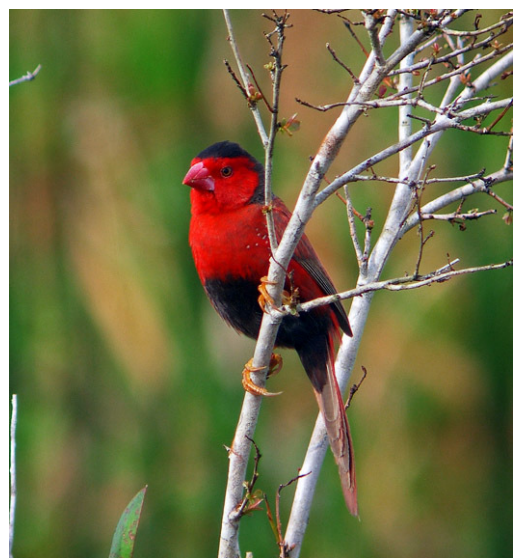
When it started to get hot at around 9am we headed over to Buffalo Creek and Lee point where you can pick up shorebirds and some mangrove specialists. As we hopped out of the car, the Chestnut Rail started calling nearby so we had our priorities set fast. While looking for the rail we picked up Red-headed Myzomela, Australian Yellow White-eye, Mangrove Gerygone, and a Black Butcherbird flew off a nest. We then crossed over to the sandbar to look for shorebirds where we saw masses of Great Knot, Pacific Golden Plover, and Bar-Tailed Godwit.

Now it was time for a quick lunch and then to head south to Pine Creek for our first attempt at Hooded Parrot. And no, we did not see it despite wandering around the town, the water park and up at the lookout. We just plain dipped, but we had another crack in a few days.

Things were looking hot and sticky when we arrived at the next site, which is a little dry creek near the main road. Much of the grass had been burnt and the areas didn't look like anywhere you would expect to find a bunch of finches, but finches there were and we had Masked, Long-tailed, Double-barred, and lots of Crimson. That combined with many Banded Honeyeaters made for quite a show. We cruised into Katherine just before dark.



*Crested Pigeon*



*Crimson Finch*

### **11 October: Katherine to Victoria River**

We started the day at dawn in the field just west of Katherine, where from the piles of cans and bottles lying about, must be a very popular drinking spot for the locals. It is also clear that VB has massive market penetration in this area, and given that I drink it, I was starting to feel a bond with the people of Katherine. Now the Hooded Parrot gave us the run-around again, but there were Varied Lorikeets everywhere. I could see nothing in flower, but there must have been lots around given the sheer numbers of these guys hanging about. After breakfast we looked above the car to see a small group of Gouldian Finches watching us, and we saw many of the widespread open woodland species such as Rufous-throated and Rufous-banded Honeyeaters, Lemon-bellied Flycatcher, Silver-crowned Friarbird, and Pallid Cuckoo. For such a crappy looking spot, it really did pay off until it got hot around 8.30, and we headed off towards Victoria River.

Now the feelings I get when I go to Victoria River are very mixed. The scenery and birding is spectacular, and the roadhouse itself is well run by pleasant staff, but it is too often overrun by rude, bigoted, half-drunk, Crocodile Dundee wannabes from the local road repair crews.

But the birds, the birds... We dropped our gear off, rested for two hours in the midday heat, and went down towards the river where it took just a few minutes till we had crippling views of Purple-crowned Fairy-Wren. This guy is just so wonderful that no painting I have ever seen comes close to bring out its brilliance. After this we headed up a fascinating escarpment through metamorphosed quartzite sandstone in search of White-quilled Rock-Pigeon and the local Rock-Wallaby. The walk up was tiring and it really only started to cool down when we were on top, but we took it slowly up there and the view alone was worth the effort.



*Purple-crowned Fairywren*

### **Day 4: Timber Creek**

Surprisingly we had not had the Bush Stone-Curlew yet, so we got up very early to have a look around the roadhouse, and in the process, we spotlighted Barking Owl sitting on the ground. It was a cracking start to the day, so we headed left with a good hour before daylight.

Now Timber Creek is all about finches and this day did not disappoint. We had met someone the night before who was adamant that there were no Star Finches around and almost nothing else either, so I was hoping he was very wrong. Well, when we arrived there it was very quiet, and I mean deathly quiet. Normally the finches are up early so I had that cold chill of a big dip, and we spent some time looking at Australian Bushlark until the first group of finches went past. These guys were Zebras (Chestnut-eared), which are great looking, if a little common further south and in any pet store in the US. Next we had the Long-tailed and Masked, so things were looking up, and then about half an hour after the dipping pains had started, we had a small group of Star Finches, then more and more, until we must have had well over one hundred individuals. This is the nature of birding up here. The guy who had dipped the day before knew what he was looking at, they just were not around for him, but common for us. When we saw Gouldian and Yellow-rumped Munia I knew we were in for a big finch day, so we kept searching, getting Double-barred again and Crimson. I knew we had some monsoon birds we had to chase so we left mid morning and picked up Oriental Plover and an early Fork-tailed Swift before heading to Timber Creek.



*Red-collared (Rainbow) Lorikeet*

We grabbed a quick cup of coffee in the town, which is not much more than a shop and a pub, parked the car, and walked down to a riverside patch of forest. A Koel was calling the whole time but refused to leave a very thick patch of vegetation. The Honeyeaters were going insane, and the buzz was incredible. One of my favorites is the Bar-breasted Honeyeater, which is also very responsive to playback, so we had great looks at him. Yellow-tinted and White-gaped Honeyeaters were also common, but my prize bird there was the White-browed Robin, which is a very sexy little beast indeed. Calling this bird in took ages, and there was no response, but I knew the extent of the territory, and in this heat we might as well wait in the thick shade, so wait we did. Anyway, the bird did pitch in the end and gave us a great show for our efforts (or lack thereof).

Now was about the time that sensible people went inside, but we decided to turn the AC right up and cruise along a nearby ridgeline, just because we could. This was one of the most surprising parts of the trip. I had had luck up there before, but this time it was pumping. It was as if the birds were flying around to keep cool and everything was moving. We started with a group of Black-tailed Treecreepers, giving calls unlike those I was used to from further east, then we had Varied

Sittellas, Gray-crowned Babblers, Gray-fronted Honeyeater, Red-backed Kingfisher, and a huge flock of Black-faced Woodswallows. In the afternoon we took a road south to try to get into some dry scrub and we came across a little creek that was worth waiting at. The wait was worth it as we had a stunning Black-breasted Kite slowly fly low overhead with its big white patches in the dark wings. We also had many honeyeaters and finches coming into drink at the creek along with Leaden Flycatcher and Paperbark Flycatcher. Shortly afterwards we had Diamond Dove on the road and large flocks of Gouldian Finches in a burnt area with a few Pictorella Manakin with them.

### **Day 5: Victoria River to Mary River Roadhouse**

The day was spent birding our way from Victoria River towards Mary River, on the outskirts of world famous Kakadu National Park. Along the way we took in sites such as Chinaman Creek, Fergusson River, and Pine Creek. It was another great day for finches with the clients starting to doubt my word when I said that Gouldians really were a hard bird. Along the way, around Sullivan's Camp we had lots of common species such as Red-backed Fairywren, Rufus-throated Honeyeater, and Rufus-banded Honeyeaters. We decided that the hillside on the other side of the creek had some sexy looking spinifex. That is if any grass that grows so sharp and hard that it goes through jeans like it was pantyhose can be regarded as sexy. Well anyway it looked thick, and on that rocky slope, well I just had to walk up there to see what was around. An hour and a half later the answer came back a flat zero. Yep, it was a sweaty hard walk in the sun with nothing to show for it except great rock outcrops which no one else was really interested in at all, but it seemed better than nothing.



By the time we reached Pine Creek we were desperate for the Hooded Parrot; searching all the known spots on the way to and Victoria River had not really delivered and it was time for one last hit at the park in town. Things started to look good when I turned into a side street of Pine Creek and saw a gray-bearded guy pointing his camera at the power lines. I slammed on the brakes, jumped out and there they were. I was even more shocked to see the guy with the beard was a mate of mine for the US, Dick Paine, who used to be the CEO of the ABA. So after fifteen

minutes of catching up and realizing this was the 4th continent we had bumped into each other, he took of to Darwin with his group and we headed to Mary River Roadhouse.

Now it is hard to emphasize just how different this place is for birders than the last. The people that run this place are great, birders are made to really feel at home and you get the feeling that the locals really like you being there, and you're not just being fleeced. We arrived just a little too late to get in any birding so went straight to the bar for dinner.

### **Day 6: Plum Creek and Gunlum Falls**

The next day was an early start to walk up Gunlum Falls before the heat set in. I had done this walk a few times before, and I was not looking forward to it, but for some reason it just seemed easier this time than others. You have to walk past the edge of some thin monsoon forest, up the edge of the Arhnam Escarpment to the top, which is very rocky and dominated by Spinifex. Now I should hedge this bit by saying there were lots of targets and we saw loads. Well we did, but the big cigar was the White-throated Grasswren, which just gave the group the run around. We heard it a few times and chased the calls, but the slopes were just too irregular to move at the speed it did, so it was a dip for most of us with only me getting a fleeting glimpse. While chasing this guy we did get very good views at a couple of other serious targets including White-lined Honeyeaters, Collared Sparrowhawk, and Common Bronzewing.

In the afternoon we decided to take a comparatively easy walk over the outcrops around Plum Creek, which is similar habitat to Gunlom, but much flatter and easier to get around. After a bit of a chase we came across our first of many Chestnut-quilled Rock-Pigeons for the afternoon. This is one large, gorgeous, plump bird, and the plates in the guide do not do show the subtle vermiculations on the feathers, so you have to get a great look to notice it, and we did.



*Sandstone Shrike-Thrush*

### **Day 7: Nourlangie Rock**

Nourlangie Rock is the place that many people think of when they hear of Kakadu. It is quite simply my favorite place there, and dawn on that rock face is so spectacular that the painting and photos never really seem to capture it. You are basically birding around a traditional aboriginal art gallery, so one minute you are watching Black-tailed Treecreepers, and the next you are focused on a thousand-year-old rock painting. The surrounding woodland is pretty monotypic, but at the very base of the escarpment there is some great monsoon forest where you have Orange-footed Scrubfowl and even Noisy Pittas foraging around. To get everything in before sun got too

high, we went straight to the main lookout to the escarpment wall. This is where the Sandstone Shrike-thrush is easiest to find, and the birds did oblige; it was a case of hearing him a long way off, playing its call and then silence. A minute later one of the guests asked what the bird was bouncing around at his feet. White-lined Honeyeaters were also very common at the lookout, and their song became the main thing we heard that morning. The other main escarpment target was the Black-banded Fruit-Dove, which has a ridiculously small distribution in Australia. Now this bird was not even calling, so after having searched the lookout and the main walkways through the monsoon forest with no luck we had to go for a bit of a scramble. There is one spot which has not let me down in five years, so scramble we did, got to the spot in 20 minutes and there they were, sitting up as though they had been waiting there for a year. I have a policy that if I really have to work for a bird, we are going to savor it for all its worth, so we set the scope up and all had cracking looks as this beauty.



*Black-banded Fruit-Dove*

We headed back to Yellow Creek and checked into Coinda Resort, an aboriginal venture designed to relieve visitors of their cash as quickly as possible. However it was hot in the middle of the day and they serve beer in chilled glasses, so we relaxed for a while before heading out in the afternoon to do some general birding in the open woodland, and spending a lot of time looking at Paperbark Flycatchers.

### **Day 8: Yellow Water cruise and back to Darwin**

The Yellow Water is a billabong (oxbow lake) on the edge of East Alligator River and is jam packed with birds. Now the cruise may seem dudey and usually the driver/guide has a limited knowledge of anything other than the normal talk, but the guy today was great. He knew many of the birds and where they were, so we all just sat back for a few hours and had him take us around. Now the barges have 60 people on board and most are just interested in seeing crocodiles, so we did spend half the time staring at very big crocs, but along the way we had Plumed and Wandering Whistling-Ducks, Magpie Goose, Radjah Shelduck, Green Pygmy-goose along with nesting White-bellied Sea-Eagles, and Black-necked Stork. We pulled up on the bank of a drier area to get great looks at Australian Pratincole and he even had a site for Little Kingfisher. It was a superb morning and easily worth the time involved.

In the afternoon we headed back towards Darwin stopping off at a dried wetlands first for a recap on most of the wetland birds of the morning, then to a large river crossing where we saw Great-billed Heron. We then headed over towards Fogg Dam to another wetlands called Henderson Dam where we had trouble getting close to the birds as there were hunters shooting Magpie-geese. We did have a few shorebirds around including the rare Little Curlew. We headed into Darwin to hit the coast and had another crack at the shorebirds where we saw Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Marsh Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Terek Sandpiper, Great Knot, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, and Red-necked Stint. With them were our first Lesser-crested Terns and a Caspian Tern. We then headed to our last spot of the tour, which is some mangroves in Darwin. When we got there, it was late afternoon, and I was surprised just how quiet the mangroves were. It felt dead, but we had a group of Chestnut-breasted Munias on the edge of the mangroves, so spent some time looking at them. We entered the mangroves, had great looks at Red-headed Myzomela, Mangrove Fantail, we heard Mangrove Golden-Whistler, and although a common bird, had our first good looks at Australian Yellow White-eye. It was now dark so we headed back for a relaxed farewell dinner.



*Little Kingfisher*

### **Day 9: Departure**

Flights left especially early today, so there was no time for any birding. A few of us headed over to Cairns early this morning to join the Eastern Australia tour; check out Michael Retter's report on that trip here:

[http://www.tropicalbirding.com/tripReports/pdf/TR\\_Australia\\_Eastern\\_Oct-Nov2009.pdf](http://www.tropicalbirding.com/tripReports/pdf/TR_Australia_Eastern_Oct-Nov2009.pdf)

## BIRD LIST

This list includes all the bird species that were recorded by at least one of the group, including the leader. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow: **Clements, James F. *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World. Sixth Edition, 2007, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press***, including all updates through December 2008.

### **GREBES: Podicipedidae**

Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

### **PELICANS: Pelecanidae**

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

### **CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae**

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

### **ANHINGAS: Anhingidae**

Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

### **HERONS, EGRETS and BITTERNs: Ardeidae**

Pacific Heron *Ardea pacifica*

Great-billed Heron *Ardea sumatrana*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Pied Heron *Egretta picata*

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Pacific Reef-Heron *Egretta sacra*

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Rufous Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

### **STORKS: Ciconiidae**

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

### **IBISES and SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae**

Australian Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

### **DUCKS, GEESE and SWANS: Anatidae**

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*

Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah*

Green Pygmy-goose *Nettapus pulchellus*

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

White-eyed Duck *Aythya australis*

### **HAWKS, EAGLES and KITES: Accipitridae**

Australian Kite *Elanus axillaris*

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

Black-breasted Kite *Hamirostra melanosternon*

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

Gray Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*  
Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*  
Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus*  
Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*  
Little Eagle *Aquila morphnoides*

**FALCONS: Falconidae**

Australian Kestrel *Falco cenchroides*  
Australian Hobby *Falco Longipennis*  
Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

**MEGAPODES: Megapodiidae**

Orange-footed Scrubfowl *Megapodius reinwardt*

**CRANES: Gruidae**

Brolga *Grus rubicunda*

**RAILS, GALLINULES and COOTS: Rallidae**

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*  
White-browed Crake *Porzana cinerea*  
Australian Crake *Porzana fluminea*  
Chestnut Rail *Eulabeornis castaneoventris* (H)  
Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*  
Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

**JACANAS: Jacanidae**

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*

**AVOCETS and STILTS: Recurvirostridae**

White-headed Stilt *Himantopus leucocephalus*

**THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae**

Bush Thick-knee *Burhinus grallarius*

**PRATINCOLES: Glareolidae**

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

**PLOVERS and LAPWINGS: Charadriidae**

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*  
Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythronyctes albus*  
Pacific Golden-Plover *Pluvialis fulva*  
Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*  
Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*  
Lesser Sandplover *Charadrius mongolus*  
Greater Sandplover *Charadrius leschenaultii*  
Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*  
Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseya melanops*  
**SANDPIPERS and ALLIES: Scolopacidae**  
Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*  
Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*  
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*  
Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*  
Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*  
Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*  
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*  
Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*  
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*  
Gray-tailed Tattler *Heterosceles brevipes*  
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*  
Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*  
Red Knot *Calidris canutus*  
Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

**GULLS: Laridae**Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae***TERNs: Sternidae**Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*Great Crested Tern *Sterna bergii*Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis*Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia***PIGEONS and DOVES: Columbidae**Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*Crested Pigeon *Geophaps lophotes*Partridge Pigeon *Geophaps smithii*Chestnut-quilled Rock-Pigeon *Petrophassa rufipennis*White-quilled Rock-Pigeon *Petrophassa albipennis* (H)Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida*Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis*Black-banded Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus alligator*Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*Torresian Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula bicolor***COCKATOOS: Cacatuidae**Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus banksii*Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus*Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus***PARROTS: Psittacidae**Varied Lorikeet *Psitteuteles versicolor*Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*Port Lincoln Parrot *Barnardius zonarius*Northern Rosella *Platycercus venustus*Hooded Parrot *Psephotus dissimilis*Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus***CUCKOOS: Cuculidae**Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*Pallid Cuckoo *Cuculus Pallidus*Black-eared Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx osculans*Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalis*Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus*Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*Australian Koel *Eudynamys cyanocephalus***TYPICAL OWLS: Strigidae**Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*Southern Boobook *Ninox boobook* (l)**NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae**Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus*Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus***SWIFTS: Apodidae**Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus***KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae**Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*Little Kingfisher *Alcedo pusilla*Blue-winged Kookaburra *Dacelo leachii*

Forest Kingfisher *Todirhamphus macleayi*  
 Red-backed Kingfisher *Todirhamphus pyrrhopygia*  
 Sacred Kingfisher *Todirhamphus sanctus*  
**BEE-EATERS: Meropidae**  
 Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*  
**TYPICAL ROLLERS: Coraciidae**  
 Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*  
**PITTAS: Pittidae**  
 Rainbow Pitta *Pitta iris*  
**LARKS: Alaudidae**  
 Australasian Bushlark *Mirafra javanica*  
**SWALLOWS: Hirundinidae**  
 Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*  
 Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel*  
**WAGTAILS and PIPITS: Motacillidae**  
 Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*  
**CUCKOO-SHRIKES: Campephagidae**  
 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*  
 White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*  
 Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*  
 White-winged Triller *Lalage tricolor*  
 Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*  
**CISTICOLAS: Cisticolidae**  
 Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*  
 Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*  
**OLD WORLD WARBLERS: Sylviidae**  
 Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis* (H)  
**FANTAILS: Rhipiduridae**  
 Northern Fantail *Rhipidura rufiventris*  
 Willie-wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*  
 Arafura Fantail *Rhipidura dryas* (H)  
 Mangrove Fantail *Rhipidura phasiana*  
**OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS: Muscicapidae**  
 Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*  
 Broad-billed Flycatcher *Myiagra ruficollis*  
 Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*  
 Shining Flycatcher *Myiagra alecto*  
**AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS: Petroicidae**  
 Jacky-winter *Microeca fascinans*  
 Lemon-bellied Flycatcher *Microeca flavigaster*  
 White-browed Robin *Poecilodryas superciliosa*  
 Mangrove Robin *Eopsaltria pulverulenta*  
**WHISTLERS and ALLIES: Pachycephalidae**  
 Gray Whistler *Pachycephala simplex*  
 Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*  
 Sandstone Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla woodwardi*  
 Gray Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*  
 Mangrove Golden Whistler *Pachycephala melanura* (H)  
**PSEUDO-BABBLERS: Pomatostomidae**  
 Gray-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*  
**FAIRYWRENS: Maluridae**  
 Red-backed Fairywren *Malurus melanocephalus*  
 Variegated Fairywren *Malurus lamberti*  
 Lilac-crowned Fairywren *Malurus coronatus*

White-throated Grasswren *Amytornis woodwardi*

**THORNBILLS and ALLIES: Acanthizidae**

Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris*

Green-backed Gerygone *Gerygone chloronotus*

Large-billed Gerygone *Gerygone magnirostris*

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone Olivacea*

Mangrove Gerygone *Gerygone levigaster*

**SITELLAS: Neosittidae**

Varied Sittella *Neositta chrysoptera*

**AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS: Climacteridae**

Black-tailed Treecreeper *Climacteris melanura*

**FLOWERPECKERS: Dicaeidae**

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

**PARDALOTES: Pardalotidae**

Red-browed Pardalote *Pardalotus rubricatus*

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

**WHITE-EYES: Zosteropidae**

Australian Yellow White-eye *Zosterops luteus*

**HONEYEATERS: Meliphagidae**

Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*

Dusky Myzomela *Myzomela obscura*

Red-headed Myzomela *Myzomela erythrocephala*

Banded Honeyeater *Certhionyx pectoralis*

White-lined Honeyeater *Meliphaga albilineata*

White-gaped Honeyeater *Lichenostomus unicolor*

Yellow-tinted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus flavescens*

Grey-fronted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus*

White-throated Honeyeater *Melithreptus albogularis*

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

Helmeted Friarbird *Philemon buceroides*

Silver-crowned Friarbird *Philemon argenticeps*

Bar-breasted Honeyeater *Ramsayornis fasciatus*

Rufous-banded Honeyeater *Conopophila albogularis*

Rufous-throated Honeyeater *Conopophila rufogularis*

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*

Yellow-throated Miner *Manorina flavigula*

**OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae**

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*

Green Oriole *Oriolus flavocinctus*

Green Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*

**DRONGOS: Dicruridae**

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*

**MUDNEST BUILDERS: Grallinidae**

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

**WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH AND APOSTLEBIRD: Corcoracidae**

Apostlebird *stutnidea cinerea*

**WOODSWALLOWS: Artamidae**

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Black-faced Woodswallow *Artamus cinereus*

Little Woodswallow *Artamus minor*

**BELLMAGPIES and ALLIES: Cracticidae**

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Silver-backed Butcherbird *Cracticus*

Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi*

**BOWERBIRDS: Ptilonorhynchidae**

Great Bowerbird *Chlamydera nuchalis*

**CROWS, JAYS and MAGPIES: Corvidae**

Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*

**WAXBILLS and ALLIES: Estrildidae**

Crimson Finch *Neochmia phaeton*

Star Finch *Neochmia ruficauda*

Chestnut-eared Finch *Taeniopygia castanotis*

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

Yellow-rumped Munia *Lonchura flaviprymna*

Masked Finch *Poephila personata*

Long-tailed Finch *Poephila acuticauda*

Gouldian Finch *Chloebia gouldiae*

Pictorella Munia *Heteromunia pectoralis*

Chestnut-breasted Munia *Lonchura castaneothorax*