

Tropical Birding Tours

Australia: From Top to Bottom (Birding Tour)



Tour Guide: Ben Knoot

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



Australia: From Top to Bottom (Birding) 2023

Tour Itinerary

| Arrival in Cairns & Afternoon in Etty Bay |
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| Great Barrier Reef & Cairns Hotspots |
| Cairns Hotspots to Daintree |
| Daintree River Cruise to Mareeba |
| Northern Tablelands (Mt. Lewis Area) |
| Atherton Tablelands and Crater Lakes |
| Crater Lakes/Cairns Hotspots/Etty Bay |
| Cairns to O'Reilly's via Brisbane |
| O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| O'Reilly's to Sydney to Lithgow |
| Capertee Valley to Forbes |
| Forbes Hotspots to Lake Cargelligo |
| Round Hill and Nombinni to Hay |
| Hay Hotspots to Griffith |
| Fivebough Swamp to Robertson |
| Budderoo NP/Heathlands to Sydney |
| Royal NP to Hobart |
| Bruny Island and Mainland Tasmania |
| Tasman Peninsula |
| Departure from Hobart |
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Australia: From Top to Bottom (Birding) 2023

Tour Summary

When you think of a dream birding destination, I bet Australia comes to mind or least is an "OH YA!" moment when someone mentions it. It is a truly captivating and awe inspiring place that 7 guests just had to experience for themselves. This seasons 'From Top to Bottom' tour took those guests across a huge variety of habitats, and witnessed some truly lovely species of birds and other animals. This trip is split in four parts; northern Queensland, montane forests of Brisbane, western reaches of Sydney and finally, Tasmania.

As usual, we started up in the tropical region of Cairns and then traveled west of the Kuranda and Gillies Ranges. Here we experienced everything from Sub-tropical Rainforest, Sandy Cays to our first Eucalypt Savannas. Birding in conditions that were hot, humid, dark, unshaded, and even sometimes a bit chilly were all worth it for the incredible variety of birds and animals we covered. Birds from the giant Southern Cassowary to the skulking Fernwren were abundant even though the year proved to be quite dry from a recent drought. Once we finished our time in the northern Queensland section, we flew south to Brisbane for a short stint in some Montane Rainforest at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat...an incredible place to unwind and do some great birding. Once we finished here, we flew down to Sydney for the third part of our tour.

Once we landed in Sydney it is all hands on deck. We usually land late and as a consequence, get to our hotel even later. The guests were serious troopers on this day, taking in a gourmet to-go dinner at Subway on our way towards Lithgow. In the western reaches of Sydney, we managed some amazing birds in the Mallee, Mulga, Grassy Plains, Eucalypt Savanna and various woodlands. Birds like Emu, Pink Cockatoo, and Splendid Fairywren could only be outdone by even more outrageous birds like the monotypic Plains Wanderer of the Hay plains. After reaching the outback we circled around and visit one of my favorite habitats, the coastal heathlands located just on the outskirts of Sydney. After a full 7-days in and west of Sydney we take a short plane ride to our last section of this adventure, the island of Tasmania.

Tasmania is arguably my favorite portion of this tour. Even though we are only there for a mere 2-days, something about it just connects with me, I love it! Here we set out on a mission to find all 12 Tasmanian endemics by visiting the even smaller Bruny Island and several hot birding areas on the Tasman Peninsula. Everything from the bold Flame Robin to the adorable Little Penguin, Tasmania is a truly special place to end what is arguably the most comprehensive Set-Departure of Australia offered on the market. Enjoy the report!



Day-to-Day Summary

Day 1: Arrival in Cairns/Afternoon around Etty Bay

Arrival day does not simply mean meet, greet and eat on this tour. We got started right away, ticking off a nesting Gray Goshawk in Vessey Park. This has been a good nesting site for this bird the last few years. After this first great success, we ventured over to a local Papuan Frogmouth roost where happily, we found the pair sitting nice and pretty for us.

Onward now to the main even for the afternoon. An hour and a half journey south we started some afternoon birding along Etty Bay Road. Here we picked up the more common and abundant birds like; Metallic Starling, Bar-shouldered, Spotted and Peaceful Dove, Bush Thick-knee, Rainbow Bee-eater, White-breasted Woodswallow, Forest Kingfisher, Masked Lapwing, Great and Eastern Cattle Egret, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Black Kite, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeet, Australasian Figbird, Willie Wagtail, Magpie Lark and Common Myna. It was lovely to get these common birds out of the way but not what we were here to see.



Masked Lapwing - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



We made our way down to Etty Beach to wait for our main star to appear. While we waited, myself and one guests got on a Pacific Reef Heron before it took flight and disappeared. We also enjoyed the local Laughing Kookaburra, Yellow-spotted Honeyeater and the newly named Sahul Sunbird. Though we waited and waited, our main target, the Southern Cassowary never showed...a serious pity but this is the exact reason I do this on the first afternoon. In the rare case we do not find this bird on the first afternoon, we have another chance, so of course, we will try again! We made our way to Innisfail after spotting some Agile Wallaby feeding in a yard and enjoyed a nice Italian dinner and then made our way back to our hotel in Cairns.

Day 2: Michaelmas Caye and The Great Barrier Reef

Today is always fun. A quick check of the South End of the Esplanade gave us a few of our shorebird and 'water-bird' targets. Here we picked up; Varied Honeyeater, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit, Great Knot, Sharp-tailed and Curlew Sandpiper, Terek Sandpiper, Gray-tailed Tattler, Caspian and Australian Tern, Black-necked Stork, Australian Pelican a fly over flock of Royal Spoonbill.

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 Caye home. Birds like; Great and Lesser Frigatebird, Sooty, Bridled, Roseate, Lesser Crested, Great Crested, and Blacknaped Tern, Red-footed Booby, Ruddy Turnstone, Brown Booby, Silver Gull and Brown Noddy.



Red-footed Booby - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Once we leave the Caye, we head to Hastings Reef which doesn't have any real target birds though sometimes you can see some cool stuff. This time, nothing other than just the shear 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! Notable non-birds were Green Sea Turtle, Black-tipped and White-tipped Reef Sharks and of course, the stunning display of tropical reef fish...amazing!

When we got back from the boat cruise we had a few hours so we decided to visit Centenary

Lakes for the rest of the afternoon. Here the freshwater and saltwater lakes along with the
mangroves and forests held a few new birds for us. Birds like; Radjah Shelduck, Pacific Black
Duck, Australian Brush Turkey, Orange-footed Megapode, Australian Grebe, Rock Pigeon, Fantailed Cuckoo, Australian Swiftlet, Plumed Egret, Little Egret, Osprey, Brown Goshawk,
Brahminy Kite, Torresian Kingfisher, Dollarbird, Red-tailed Black Cockatoo, Double-eyed Fig
Parrot, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Yellow Honeyeater, Dusky Myzomela, Helmeted Friarbird,
Varied Triller, Black Butcherbird, Spangled Drongo, and a few of the common birds like House
Sparrow and Welcome Swallow. We also had the pleasure of seeing the very cool and unique
Krefft's River Turtle. Great day all around!



Double-eyed Fig Parrot - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 3: Cairns Hotspots and Sub-Tropical Rainforest to Daintree

Today we started off by hitting the famous Cairns Esplanade. We walked the whole stretch but started off on the northern end in the mangroves. Here we added; Rose-crowned Fruit Dove, Large-billed Gerygone, Green Oriole, Mangrove Robin. All of the big targets checked off, we continued down the rest of the Esplanade. Over the course of the whole boardwalk we added; Greater Sand Plover, Black-fronted Dotterel, Pied Oystercatcher, Pacific Golden Plover, Little Tern, Australian Tern, Australian Pelican and Nankeen Night Heron.

After the Esplanade, we birded 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, Rufous Shrike-thrush, Pacific Baza, Victoria's Riflebird, Macleay's, and Cryptic Honeyeater, Dusky Myzomela, Barred Cuckoo-shrike, Fairy Gerygone, Varied Triller, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Pale-yellow Robin, and the ever abundant Silvereye. A pretty sweet haul for our midmorning birding.



Fairy Gerygone - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



After a quick lunch, we set off for some target chasing. We started with one of my personal favorite photo locations for the Metallic Starling in Mossman. The colony here is among the lowest I'v 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 to enjoy these birds!



Metallic Starling - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

We left Mossman and continued on towards our final destination in the Daintree. First, we need to make a quick stop off at Newell Beach. Here we were surprised with a pair of Little Curlew in the farm fields along with the usual Australian Pipit. Then, down on the beach itself, the main target, three Beach Thick-knees. This was a sweet pick up as sometimes these can be very difficult birds (both of them) - excellent afternoon!



Still trying to find a Little Kingfisher, I popped briefly into Daintree Ecolodge to see if we could get lucky. Unfortunately, no luck this time but we did run into a cute little Azure Kingfisher, a slithering Common Tree Snake and a slippery looking White-lipped Tree Frog.

En route to our next stop, we found Black-faced Cuckooshrike and Pheasant Coucal. The last stop before our hotel was a spot called Palm Road. Here I had hoped to run into a Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher which we did but barely. The bird made very quick fly-bys and called quite a bit but never really perched all that well. We'd have to try this guy again as we couldn't really count it, especially not for everyone. After a stellar meal, we hit the hay, eager to do some river and forest birding the next morning!

Day 4: Daintree Area/Daintree River Cruise to Mareeba

As our cruise wasn't until 9am, we tried again for the Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher with the same sort of luck as before...not good enough yet again. On the way to the ferry a few of us managed to get on a Pacific Emerald Dove. On the ferry itself we had a flyby Striated Heron. After we crossed the ferry, we ventured down Steward Creek Road. This bit of rainforest is often quite good. We struck gold quickly with a Lovely Fairywren, Pacific Koel, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Mistletoebird and Tree Martin.



Shining Flycatcher (female) - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

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Shining Flycatcher (male) - 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, Sacred Kingfisher, Great Egret, Shining Flycatcher, Australasian Darter, Great-billed Heron, Little Pied Cormorant and another great sighting of Papuan Frogmouth and surprise White-winged Tern that had wandered inland. We also ran into 'Barrat' the massive Saltwater Crocodile and another Common Tree Snake. Try as we did, we couldn't locate our Little Kingfisher.



After a fun boat ride, we made our way towards Mareeba but first we made a quick stop to Carr Road. Here we found; Red-legged Pademelon, Black-faced, Spectacled and Pied Monarch, and our last fruit dove, the Superb Fruit Dove. And finally, with all of our effort we managed to get everyone on great looks of a Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher...talk about a lot of work for one species!



Pied Monarch - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Once we finished up here we made a quick stop off at Abattoir Swamp where we picked up; Northern Fantail, Brown-backed Honeyeater, Rufous Whistler, Striated Pardalote and a super sweet pair of Black-chinned Honeyeaters. Continuing on to our next stop, Pickford Road. Nothing all that new here so we pressed on. On the way to our main birding destination, we found ourselves in the company of two Wedge-tailed Eagle...perched beautifully in the afternoon sun. A real treat. Now at Granite Gorge Nature Park, we enjoyed the healthy variety of birds in this drier eucalypt type habitat. Birds like; Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Noisy and Little Friarbird, Peaceful Dove, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, Crested and Squatter Pigeon, Laughing Kookaburra, and Pale-headed Rosella were all enjoying the flowering trees around the park. One of the fun highlights here are the Mareeba Rock Wallabies. A habituated but still fully wild group of animals that will literally eat out of your hand.





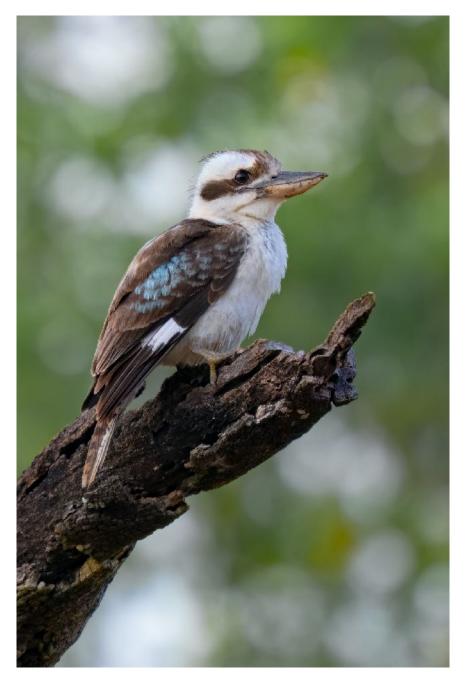
Wedge-tailed Eagle - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

On the way out of the park, we managed to catch up with Chestnut-breasted Munia. As the sun really started to set, we made one last play for a difficult Australasian robin species. We arrived at Jack Bethel Park and with a little bit of work and some great spotting by a guest, we managed to get everyone on a White-browed Robin. A great end to the day...but was it?! After a nice Thai dinner in downtown Mareeba, I offered a night excursion and nearly everyone decided to take it. A quick visit (and I mean that literally - probably the quickest I have ever found this bird) to Davies Creek gave us some cracking views at Australian Owlet Nightjar and my reliable Barn Owl was hunting in it's usual field. Now that, was a great end to the day.

Day 5: The Northern Tablelands around Mt. Lewis

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. This time was much better. We picked up Redbacked Fairywren, Lemon-bellied Flyrobin, Australian Hobby, Blue-winged and Laughing Kookaburra, Whistling Kite, Golden-headed Cisticola, and Fairy Martin. We also ran into a Leaden Flycatcher and some boxing Eastern Gray Kangaroo and more Agile Wallaby.

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Laughing Kookaburra - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

After a fairly successful stop here, I decided on a whim to stop off at the Rifle Creek Rest Stop. A decent move as we picked up one of the harder doves, a White-headed Pigeon. We also got some quick looks at White-throated Honeyeater (better looks to come later).

Now for a tricky bird. We stopped off at 'The Patch Opposite of Sides Road' where we were delighted to pick up a nice male Superb Fruit Dove, Brown Cuckoo Dove, Little Bronze Cuckoo and the target species...the Blue-faced Parrotfinch.

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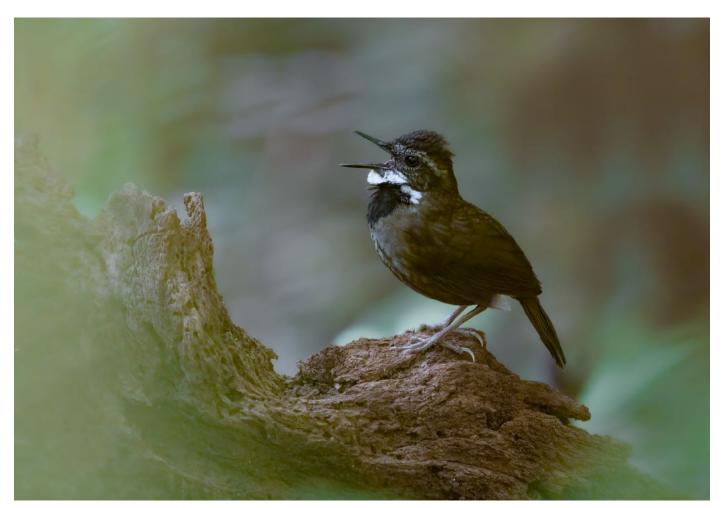
Brown Cuckoo Dove - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

We had one more stop to make before our primarily location for the morning. Mt. Lewis needs a little time to 'warm-up' so we killed a few more minutes and visited McDougal Road and Ponds. Here we picked up, Gray Teal, Comb-crested Jacana, Pacific Heron, Buff-banded Rail and a surprise White-browed Crake.



Now for our main event of the morning. We arrived at "The Clearing to Dam Track" on Mt. Lewis at a great time. Our first bird here was a big time target, the migratory Satin Flycatcher. We also picked up Gray and Rufous Fantail just by the parking area.

We began our roughly 2-mile walk along the trail and immediately began picking up some great species. On the way to our final stopping point on the trail, we picked up; Lewin's and Bridled Honeyeater, Spotted Catbird, Fernwren, Chowchilla, Atherton and Large-billed Scrubwren, Bower's Shrike-thrush, Golden Whistler, Topknot Pigeon, White-browed and Yellow-throated Scrubwren. We even ran into a little Musky Rat Kangaroo.



Fernwren - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Now it was time for the main event. At just over 2-miles down the trail, we arrived at the staging area for a stunning bird...the Golden Bowerbird. Here we enjoyed watching a beautiful male bounce from perch to perch, calling and displaying. We even got to witness him coming down to his bower to place some fresh lichen down. A very cool and privileged experience for sure.



We had a nice meal at The Continental Hotel in Mt. Molloy were we picked up our first of many Red-browed Firetail. After lunch we continued towards East Mary Road where we picked up Australian Bustard.

Finally it was time for the main location of the afternoon, Mt. Carbine RV Park. In this dry forested area we picked up some great new birds like; Tawny Frogmouth, Torresian Crow, Redtailed Black Cockatoo, Galah, Apostlebird, Great Bowerbird, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Blue-winged Kookaburra, Red-winged Parrot, and Blue-faced Honeyeater. One last stop at the Mareeba Golf Course gave us another shot at some Eastern Gray Kangaroos and a pretty sweet Brush Cuckoo.



Pied Butcherbird - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 6: The Southern Tablelands around Hypipamee National Park

Today is one of my favorite days mammal wise. We have three awesome mammals to find and of course, some stunning birds. On the road early we spotted a group of Sarus Crane in a agricultural field. Our first real stop was 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 Teal, White-eyed and Maned Duck, Pacific Black Duck, Eurasian Coot, Dusky Moorhen, Sharp-tailed and Marsh Sandpiper, Comb-crested Jacana, Pied Stilt, Little Black Cormorant, Pacific Heron, Royal Spoonbill, Yellow-faced and White-cheeked Honeyeater, Eastern-yellow Robin, Shining Bronze Cuckoo, Scarlet Myzomela, Dollarbird, and Olive-backed Oriole. One of the biggest surprises came while we were leaving Hasties and that was the super Squared-tailed Kite...terrific bird!

Our next stop was Hypipamee National Park. I was pretty shocked how quiet this park was this morning but we did end up gathering the last few species we needed. Those were; Mountain Thornbill, Gray-headed Robin and Brown Gerygone.



Gray-headed Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



After Hypipamee, we went for a bit of a target chase. We visited a little pond at the intersection of Curtain Fig Tree road. Here we found Cotton Pygmy Goose, Tawny Grassbird and Chestnutbreasted Munia.

After some sweet success here, we moved on to Wandecla "Bluff" State Forest. Here the dry eucalypt forest gave away; Brown and White-throated Treecreeper, Little Lorikeet, Noisy Miner, Fuscous and Yellow-tinted Honeyeater, Gray Shrike-thrush, Dusky Woodswallow and for a few of us, a beautiful Crested Shrike-tit. For those who didn't see this bird this time around, we'd get some great looks later in the tour. On the way out of the state forest, we found a great group of Brolga.



White-throated Treecreeper - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



We then ventured over to Lake Barrine for a nice afternoon walk around the lake. On the way over we ran into our first of many Black-shouldered Kites and once we arrived at the lake, we managed to see; Great-crested Grebe, Tooth-billed Bowerbird, Pied Currawong, Spectacled and White-eared Monarch, Spotted Catbird. A top mammal highlight here was another cute little Musky Rat Kangaroo.

Now that it was nearing sunset, we had a very important appointment to keep. We hustled over to Peterson Creek "Allumbah Pocket". Here we have three targets and I am stoked to report that we found all three. We started off with a pair of Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo, then a colony of Spectacled Flying Fox and finally, an amazing experience with a Duck-billed Platypus. Stupendous afternoon!

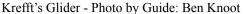


Duck-billed Platypus - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Our final event for the day is to visit the honey feeder at Chambers Lodge in Crater Lakes. This is all night mammals and we got some cool ones. We managed; Krefft's Glider, Striped Possum, Long-nosed Bandicoot and Fawn-footed Malomys. While we enjoying these mammals, I heard a Southern Boobook give off his unmistakable call so when everyone was ready, we enjoyed some nice views of this stunning owl. Then, off to bed!









Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 7: Target Chasing Around Cairns

Todays plan is simple...target chase. We spend the day going to various locations to target northern Queensland birds and we do this as fast as possible to get as many as possible. We started with an early morning around Chambers Lodge but didn't add anything new. Just more great looks at Spotted Catbird and a Pacific Emerald Dove for a few people. Next up, we traveled over to Centenary Lakes. Here we picked up Black Bittern, Glossy Ibis, Shining Bronze Cuckoo and Pale-vented Bush-hen. Next up, a quick stop at Cattana Wetlands to pick up an easy Green Pygmy Goose, Common Greenshank and a slightly more difficult Crimson Finch. Then it was back to the Cairns Esplanade to grab; Pacific Reef Heron, Black-tailed Godwit, Red-necked Stint (for a few), Red-capped Plover and Red-kneed Dotterel.



Continuing on with our afternoon we head back down south...remember that giant bird and indeed HUGE target we missed on the first day? How could you not...neither did I nor the guests...so round two! Let's do it. We made our way down to Etty Bay once more. This time I used the strategy of literally driving back and forth as not to put all of our eggs in one basket. And this time...it paid off. We were able to have a unique experience with a Southern Cassowary hanging out in a persons yard. We watched as their tiny child ran around nearly naked by this monstrous beast of a bird. What a hoot! A weird experience with a weird bird and a huge weight lifted. On this stretch of road while everyone was photographing the cassowary, I heard a Gray Whistler, something I thought we were going to miss but luckily, he came right down for everyone to get a great view of him. Incredibly successful day of target chasing deserved an excellent dinner so we grabbed some Italian and then hit the road for our long drive back to Carins. The day was not over. I asked if anyone wanted to go chase a Rufous Owl in nearby Les Davies Park (and by nearby I mean 2-minutes) - almost all said yes and within about 5-minutes, we had ourselves a juvenile and adult Rufous Owl. What a lovely evening and end to the northern Queensland section of this tour.



Rufous Owl - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 8: 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 picked up too many new birds here but we did add; Dusky Moorhen, Great Cormorant, and a cool Eastern Water Dragon.

We then made our way over to our second mangrove habitat of the tour. Here at the Nudgee Beach Mangroves we have two targets and two that we can't find anywhere else so it is pretty important we pick them up and luckily, the Mangrove Honeyeater and Mangrove Gerygone were cool enough to cooperate for us.

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 and an incredible spot by a guest of a Latham's Snipe. In the woodland nearby we managed to hit our two main targets; Variegated Fairywren and Gray Butcherbird.



Koala - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Now it was time for a date with a superb mammal. We entered Whites Hill Park and were elated to find six (6) Koala not far from the parking lot...so cool!! A quick check at a local roost allowed us some great views of an adult and juvenile Powerful Owl.



Marbled Frogmouth - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



On the way up the hill towards O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, we bagged the two biggest bird targets, the Glossy Black Cockatoo, and Bell Miner. We also got some cool 'other-animals' like Red-necked and Whip-tailed Wallaby, Gray-headed Flying Fox and Lace Monitor Lizard. I like to arrive at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat just as the sun starts to get real low to try and grab some thrushes on the road. One quick flyby hardly satisfied so we'd check for both thrushes a bit later. I like to try for the night targets the first night, just in case we need another night (same concept as with the Southern Cassowary). Happily, we nailed our main target, the Marbled Frogmouth. We also managed to see Common Ringtail and Mountain Brush-tailed Possum.

Day 9: O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat

During our time in O'Reilly's 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 add; Rose and Eastern Yellow Robin, Noisy Pitta, Paradise Riflebird, Superb Fairywren, Satin and Regent Bowerbird, Green Catbird, Albert's Lyrebird, Australian Logrunner, Eastern Whipbird, Russet-tailed and Bassian Thrush, Crimson Rosella, Australian King Parrot, Whitebrowed and Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Shining Bronze Cuckoo, Wonga Pigeon, Eastern Spinebill, White-throated Treecreeper and Brown Thornbill. Not to mention a cool Coastal Carpet Python!



Eastern Spinebill - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 10: O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat to Brisbane to Sydney to Lithgow

We had a few hours to spend in the morning around O'Reilly's but it was so foggy we hardly saw anything worth mentioning. We then made a quick trip back north to catch out flight to Sydney. Once we landed in Sydney we had a two plus hour drive to Lithgow. There wasn't much seen today that was noteworthy as it was mostly a travel day. What was somewhat notable was a Peregrine Falcon that was seen circling while we were waiting for our airport shuttle. Once we arrived in Lithgow, we were all pretty tired so we hit the hay and prepped for our first full day of this new section.

Day 11: Lithgow Hotspots, Capertee Valley and Hotspots towards Forbes

Our first stop of the day was the Lithgow Sewage Works. Here we found; Pink-eared Duck, Blue-billed Duck, Chestnut Teal, Australian Shoveler, Hoary-headed Grebe, Eastern Rosella, European Goldfinch, Red Wattlebird, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Little Raven, Australian Reed Warbler, European Starling, Eurasian Blackbird and Western Gray Kangaroo.



White-winged Chough - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



After a quick visit there, we made our way into the main location for the morning, the Capertee Valley. Hot and dry conditions here but we still managed some great birds like; Spotted Pardalote, Weebill, White-browed Woodswallow, Restless Flycatcher, White-winged Chough, White-plumed Honeyeater, Rufous Songlark, White-throated Gerygone, White-browed Babbler, Diamond Firetail, Jacky-winter, Crested Shrike-tit, Hooded Robin, Rufous Whistler, Sacred Kingfisher, Red-rumped Parrot and Brown Quail.



White-plumed Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

After a successful mission here, we grabbed a lovely lunch and continued on to our next stop, Lake Wallace. Here we had one target and we picked it up rather quickly, a Musk Duck. Afterwards we journeyed over to Eusdale Reserve to try our luck for a very cool treecreeper that we had missed in O'Reilly's. This time though, we nailed it. The striking Red-browed Treecreeper. We also had some much better looks at White-naped Honeyeater. One of our last stops for the day was in a place called Gosling Creek Reserve. Here was our best chance for my personal favorite parrot species on the whole tour. It didn't take long for us to locate our first views of the mighty Superb Parrot. We also got some great looks at White-winged Triller around the lake. We were still pretty far from our hotel so it really was time to go. We packed up and headed for our hotel and dinner. On way we spotted several European Rabbit and Eastern Bearded Dragon.

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Red-browed Treecreeper - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Day 12: Cunnamulla Area (Full-on Outback Birding)

The morning was spent in a place called Back-Yama State Forest. A very odd place honestly, especially compared to what we'd experienced until this point. Here we found; Greater Blue Bonnet, Common Bronzewing, Chestnut-rumped, Yellow and Inland Thornbill, White-eared Honeyeater, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Speckled Warbler, Western Gerygone, Southern Whiteface, Australian Raven, Red-capped Robin and for our 'other animals' we added European Hare and a stunning Swamp (Black) Wallaby.



Next up was another species chase plain and simple. I saw that a Red-backed Kingfisher had been reported at the Forbes Cemetery. This is a tough bird for this itinerary so we had to give it a shot. While driving around, I looked at two large birds in a tree, turned away and then said outloud, "Hang-on...no freaking way..." Sure enough, three Ground Cuckooshrike were perched up pretty right there in front of us, just staring! This is not an easy bird so I was stoked to see them again and to get them for the group.



Ground Cuckooshrike - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Throughout the cemetery we found lots of Sacred Kingfisher but no red-backed...oh, well. We'd end up missing this bird for the trip but hey, can't catch them all. While in the cemetery, we also added Yellow-throated Miner to our list.

Next up, a stop at Gum Swamp. This is a really cool place with several established blinds and short walking trails. We had great success here nailing several key targets. Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Cockatiel and the rarest duck in Australia, the Freckled Duck were all found and enjoyed throughly before we ventured off for another cockatoo hunt. Before I move on, it is worth noting we also enjoyed some great views of Common Long-necked Turtle at this swamp.



The afternoon was exceptionally windy. We spent the first part of it enjoying a flock of Pink {Major Mitchells (a way better name)} Cockatoo in McCann Park. We also had some nice views of White-faced Heron before we continued towards our hotel. The afternoon just kept getting windier so our time in West Wyalong STP and Rotary Park was relatively uneventful. Everything we saw here we'd see a lot better down the road so I will wait to report on those.

Day 13: Outback Mallee to Hay

The areas of Round Hill Reserve and Nombinni Reserve are our only areas of pure Mallee that we visit on this tour. We spend as much time in this environment as possible, but even the 4-hrs or so I try to spend here really isn't enough. In those hours, we managed to pick up lots of new species like; Emu, Chestnut Quail-Thrush, Pallid Cuckoo, Shy Heathwren, Southern Scrub Robin, Splendid Fairywren, White-fronted, Spiny-cheeked, Singing, Striped, Gray-fronted and Yellow-plumed Honeyeaters, Australian Ringneck (Mallee), Masked Woodswallow and to round it all out, some nice big Red Kangaroos.



Emu - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



On our way back to town, we stopped at a spot colloquially known as "Chat Alley". Here we did indeed grab a few chats and in total, we picked up; Orange and White-fronted Chat, White-winged Fairywren, Brown Falcon and the adorable little Zebra Finch.

The late afternoon and the evening was spent birding with local guide Phil Maher. For his privacy, his spots will remain "Phils Spots". Over the course of the afternoon and an incredible evening on his friends ranch, we found; Black-tailed Native Hen, Black-faced Woodswallow, Brown Songlark, Singing Bushlark, Banded Lapwing, Swamp Harrier, Stubble Quail, Redchested and Little Buttonquail and the monotypic highlight of the evening, the Plains Wanderer.



Plains Wanderer - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 14: Area around Hay to Hotspots around Griffith

Our next stop was in Darlington Point. I typically drive around here until I find our target. This time as it was last time, was quite easy. We ran into a small group of Long-billed Corella feeding in a random grassy field. Alongside them we also had a surprise group of Superb Parrot. Unexpected and very nice! Next up was a great area I have had a lot of luck with in the past called McCann Road. Here we were treated to our first Shingleback Lizard! We also managed to get the primary honeyeater target for this area and one of my personal favorites, the Painted Honeyeater along with Purple-backed Fairywren, Double-barred Finch and Little Crow.



Painted Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Nearby Lake Wynagan held some nice additional birds for our list like; Chestnut Teal, Pied Cormorant, and Australian Pelican.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in Binya State Forest near Griffith. It was pretty slow and unfortunately we just could not locate our main target, the Turquoise Parrot but we did add another family when we sighted a solo Varied Sittella. We also saw Gray-crowned Babbler and a stunning male Mulga Parrot.

Day 15: Fivebough Swamp and other Hotspots around Griffith

Today we visit so many different habitats. Everything from trace amounts of Mulga to caravan parks. Most of the birds on todays list are things we have seen before but we added some new birds right off the bat by starting in Fivebough Wetlands. Here we found; Australian, Baillon's and Spotless Crakes, Red-necked Avocet, Red-kneed Dotterel, Whiskered Tern, Little Grassbird, Golden-headed Cisticola, and a very cool Red-bellied Black Snake.



Australian Crake - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



We made our way into Robertson and after about an hour of rest, we went to nearby MacQuarries Pass National Park "Clover Trail". Here we found three great birds; Striated Thornbill, Bassian Thrush and the superb Superb Lyrebird. After a quick dinner, we hit the mountain roads for our best chance at one of our last big mammal targets. We ended up driving Jamberoo Mountain Road and getting two great mammals, the Common Wombat and the Rusa.

Day 16: Budderoo and Barren Grounds National Park/Royal National Park to Sydney

Our first stop of the day is an early morning walk down Budderoo Fire Trail. It was a nice windless morning and we did get most of our targets which included; Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Southern Emu Wren, New Holland Honeyeater, Eastern Bristlebird and we finally caught up with a Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo.



Southern Emu Wren - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

Our second location for the day was Barren Grounds. Overall, I was exceptionally shocked at how quiet this spot was. On the way in we nabbed another view of Superb Lyrebird. Once we were in the park itself, we saw very little. The only new bird for us here was Little Wattlebird, a bird we'd see a lot of in Tasmania so overall, a slightly disappointing location for us but that's how it goes sometimes. Onward to our next stop.



A quick stop just before Bass Point got us another introduced species for the tour, a Red-whiskered Bulbul. Once at the point itself, we had some distance but confirmative views of; Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Short-tailed Shearwater and Fluttering Shearwater. The rocks supported a pair of Sooty Oystercatcher and a few Australasian Gannets kept us entertained as we watched them dive on the helpful fish below.

Into Royal National Park we go and boy-o'-boy was it windy! I mean....yikes! We started off by visiting Fig Tree Flat. The extreme winds didn't help and we really only managed some better views of Topknot Pigeon.

It was so windy that while on the Wattamalla Coastal Track, one of the first birds we saw was a Short-tailed Shearwater resting in the bay. The gentle waterfalls across that very same bay were no longer 'falling' but instead, rising! So anyway, with this extreme wind we did our best but really didn't managed much except a really quick glimpse of Chestnut-rumped Heathwren for a few people.



Topknot Pigeon - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 17: Royal National Park to Sydney Airport to Hobart

This morning we had some work to do. We returned to Royal National Park. Still quite windy but much less so this time. We visited the same areas again and this time we were largely successful in picking up some of our missing species. We located; Common Cicadabird, Rock Warbler and Brush Bronzewing.

After a quick flight to Hobart, we picked up our van and immediately picked up our first new bird and first of twelve (12) Tasmanian endemics, the Tasmanian Nativehen. These guys just run around everywhere and is usually the first one we find regardless! After a nice dinner, most of the group decided to have a little night session over at the Waterworks Reserve. Here we found our main target, the Tasmanian Boobook along with another Tawny Frogmouth, Common Brushtailed Possum, Common Ring-tailed Possum, Bennet's Wallaby and Rufous-bellied Pademelon.



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



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, Blue-winged Parrot, Forest Raven, Dusky Robin, Yellow-throated Honeyeater, Green Rosella, Swift Parrot, and an absolutely stunning display from a Scarlet Robin.



Scarlet Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



We then made our way up to North Bruny where we picked up Black Currawong, 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!

After lunch, we birded the Adventure Bay area and picked up the threatened Hooded Plover, the owner of the chunkiest bill in Tasmania, the Pacific Gull (along with tons of Kelp Gull), 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 no matter how hard I tried I could not find the Scrubtit... but I have a few other spots to check for this bird. Before leaving Bruny we found several Short-beaked Echidna..our very last epic mammal!



Crescent Honeyeater - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Now back on the mainland 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.

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. A nice long drive home and we hit the hay to prep for our last full day of the tour on the Tasman Peninsula.



Musk Lorikeet - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



Day 19: Tasman Peninsula

Today is the last day of the tour and as such is plainly a target grab. As many species as possible kind of day. En route to our location we found a lone Australian Shelduck in a random pond. The real birding started the group off in Sedbury Saltmarsh to see if we could find a Lewin's Rail. No luck there so we moved on to our next stop. On the way, I noticed some 'small-tailed' parakeets flying by which pretty much had to be our next target. As soon as I got out (it had now started to rain!) I heard the call of the our bird, the Musk Lorikeet. Another one down...excellent!

We arrived at our next location, Eaglehawk Neck National Park "Devil's Kitchen and "The Blowhole". In these two spots I had a few targets in mind and we managed a good majority of them but not all, which is unfortunate but we still managed; Yellow Wattlebird, Flame Robin, Tasmanian Scrubwren and Crescent Honeyeater.



Flame Robin - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot



We then traveled east towards Sanford where 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. We ventured towards Mount Wellington, and once we arrived at 'The Springs'' - Mount Wellington, we got to work. I needed two bird here so I went towards the best habitat and within a few minutes we had one of our birds, a pair of Olive Whistlers. We then took a small trail system into the thick of it and found the last endemic I had missed on Bruny Island. This time we accomplished our mission and I was even able to get my first photo of the skulking Scrubtit. A quick trip to the Waterworks Reserve turned out to be rather fruitful. In only about 5-minutes I heard and then saw Gray Currawong, a species I had missed the previous day so it was really nice to pick this species up. A short stop at Brown's River Estuary and Marsh gave us a 95% pure Mallard which we all agreed...was close enough to check off. And finally, a quick drive through the neighborhoods in Hobart to round out our day gave us our very last introduced species, the European Greenfinch.

Overall, this trip to Australia left the guests quite satiated in regards to wildlife in Australia but I think I can safely say that all the guests wouldn't mind another crack at this amazing country and its stupendous flora and fauna.



Scrubtit - Photo by Guide: Ben Knoot

November 1st - 20th, 2023

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 Red-chested Buttonquail
- 2. Plain's Wanderer ——— Scrubtit
- 3. Satin Bowerbird Painted Honeyeater
- 4. Emu Ground Cuckooshrike
- 5. Paradise Riflebird Red-browed Treecreeper

Guests Top 5 'Other Animals'

- 1. Duck-billed Platypus Striped Possum
- 2. Koala—— Duck-billed Platypus
- 3. Spectacled Flying Fox Koala
- 4. Eastern Gray Kangaroo Krefft's Glider
- 5. Shingleback Lizard Common Wombat



Trip List of Birds and "Other Animal" Species

List Summary:

- 421 Bird species seen by group
- 001 Birds species seen by guide only
- 422 Birds total species seen on tour
- 050 'Other Animal' species seen by group

| BIRDS | Seen | Guide Only |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------|
| Cassowaries and Emu: Casuariidae | | |
| Southern Cassowary | Etty Bay Road | |
| Emu (E) | On the road en route to Round Hill and Nombinni Reserve | |
| Magpie Goose: Anseranatidae | | : |
| Magpie Goose | Various locations on tour | |
| Ducks, Geese and Waterfowl: Anatidae | | |
| Plumed Whistling Duck | Hasties Swamp | |
| Wandering Whistling Duck | Hasties Swamp | |
| Cape Barren Goose (E) | Near Rushy Lagoon in Sanford | |
| Black Swan | Minnippi Wetlands and in various locations on Tasmania | |
| Australian Shelduck (E) | Seen en route to Sedbury Marsh on Tasmania | |
| Freckled Duck | Gum Swamp | |
| Radjah Shelduck | Seen well in Daintree Village and at Centenary Lakes | |
| Green Pygmy-Goose | Cattana Wetlands | |
| Cotton Pygmy-Goose | Seen in a pond at the intersection of Curtain Fig Tree Road | |
| Maned Duck (E) | Various locations on tour | |
| Mallard | Brown's River Estuary and Marsh | |
| Pacific Black Duck | Various locations on tour | |
| Australian Shoveler | Seen well in Lithgow Sewage Ponds | |



| Gray Teal | Various locations on tour |
|--|--|
| Chestnut Teal (E) | Once at Wynagan Lake and then again in various locations on Tasmania |
| Pink-eared Duck (E) | Lithgow Sewage Ponds and Gum Swamp |
| White-eyed Duck (Hardhead) | Various locations on tour |
| Blue-billed Duck (E) | Lithgow Sewage Ponds |
| Musk Duck (E) | Wallace Lake and Orielton Lagoon |
| Megapodes: Megapodiidae | |
| Australian Brushturkey (E) | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Orange-footed Megapode | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Pheasants, Grouse, Allies: Phasianidae | |
| Stubble Quail | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Brown Quail | Seen briefly in the Capertee Valley |
| Grebes: Podicipedidae | |
| Australasian Grebe | Various locations on tour |
| Hoary-headed Grebe | Various locations on tour |
| Great Crested Grebe | Lake Barrine in the Tablelands |
| Pigeons and Doves: Columbidae | |
| Rock Pigeon | Various locations on tour |
| White-headed Pigeon (E) | Northern Tablelands en route to Mt. Lewis |
| Spotted Dove | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Brown Cuckoo-Dove | Best views at the patch opposite of Sides Road |
| Pacific Emerald Dove | Mt Lewis and Chambers Lodge |
| Common Bronzewing (E) | Best views in Back-Yama State Forest |
| Brush Bronzewing (E) | Royal NP |
| Crested Pigeon (E) | Various locations on tour |



| Squatter Pigeon (E) | Granite Gorge Nature Park |
|------------------------------|--|
| Wonga Pigeon (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Peaceful Dove | Various locations on tour |
| Bar-shouldered Dove | Various locations on tour |
| Wompoo Fruit-Dove | Lake Morris Road |
| Superb Fruit-Dove | Carr Road and Patch Opposite Sides Road |
| Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove | Northern Esplanade Mangroves |
| Torresian Imperial Pigeon | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Topknot Pigeon (E) | Best views in Royal National Park |
| Bustards: Otididae | |
| Australian Bustard | East Mary Farms Road |
| Cuckoos: Cuculidae | |
| Pheasant Coucal | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Pacific Koel | Daintree River Cruise |
| Channel-billed Cuckoo | Steward Creek Road, Daintree |
| Little Bronze Cuckoo | Best views at the patch opposite of Sides Road |
| Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo | Budderoo Fire Trail |
| Shining Bronze Cuckoo | O'Reilly's and Centenary Lakes |
| Pallid Cuckoo | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Fan-tailed Cuckoo | Various locations on tour |
| Brush Cuckoo | Mareeba Golf Course |
| Frogmouths: Podargidae | |
| Tawny Frogmouth (E) | Mt Carbine and Waterworks Reserve in Tasmania |
| Marbled Frogmouth | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Papuan Frogmouth | Known (but private) roost in Cairns |
| Owlet-Nightjar: Aegothelidae | |
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| Australian Owlet-Nightjar Australian Swiftlet (E) Wrious locations in Northern Queensland Various locations on tour Pale-vented Bush-hen Centenary Lakes White-browed Crake McDougal Road Ponds Australian Crake (E) Fivebough Swamp was the best location for this bird Spotless Crake Fivebough Swamp was the best location for this bird Australasian Swamphen Various locations on tour Dusky Moorhen Various locations on tour Black-tailed Nativehen (E) Hay plains with Phil Maher Tasmanian Nativehen (TE) All over Tasmania Eurasian Coot Various locations on tour Cranes: Gruidae Brolga Near Wandecla state forest Sarus Crane Seen en route to Hypipamee National Park in the Atherton Tablelands Thick-Knees: Burhinidae Bush Thick-knee Newell Beach Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae Pied Stilt Various locations on tour Various locations in Northern Queensland Newell Beach Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae Pied Stilt Various locations on tour Various locations in Northern Queensland Newell Beach Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae Pied Stilt Various locations on tour Red-necked Avocet (E) Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae | | |
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| Queensland Beach Thick-knee Newell Beach Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae Pied Stilt Various locations on tour Red-necked Avocet (E) Fivebough Swamp Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Thick-Knees: Burhinidae | |
| Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae Pied Stilt Red-necked Avocet (E) Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Bush Thick-knee | |
| Pied Stilt Various locations on tour Red-necked Avocet (E) Fivebough Swamp Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Beach Thick-knee | Newell Beach |
| Red-necked Avocet (E) Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae | |
| Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Pied Stilt | Various locations on tour |
| Pied Oystercatcher "The Neck" Game Reserve had the | Red-necked Avocet (E) | Fivebough Swamp |
| | Oystercatchers: Haematopodidae | |
| | Pied Oystercatcher | |



| Sooty Oystercatcher (E) | "The Neck" Game Reserve had the |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| | highest number of these birds |
| Plovers and Lapwings: Charadriidae | |
| Pacific Golden Plover | Cairns Esplanade |
| Banded Lapwing (E) | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Masked Lapwing | Various locations on tour |
| Greater Sand Plover | Cairns Esplanade |
| Red-capped Plover | Cairns Esplanade |
| Red-kneed Dotterel | Fivebough Swamp was the best location for this bird |
| Hooded Plover | Adventure Bay in Tasmania |
| Black-fronted Dotterel | Various locations on tour |
| Plains-Wanderer: Pedionomidae | |
| Plains-Wanderer | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Jacanas: Jacanidae | |
| Comb-crested Jacana | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Sandpipers and Allies: Scolopacidae | |
| Little Curlew | Continuing birds in Cairns sports complex |
| Whimbrel | Cairns Esplanade |
| Far Eastern Curlew | Cairns Esplanade |
| Black-tailed Godwit | Cairns Esplanade |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | Cairns Esplanade |
| Ruddy Turnstone | Michaelmas Caye |
| Great Knot | Cairns Esplanade |
| Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | Cairns Esplanade |
| Curlew Sandpiper | Cairns Esplanade |
| Red-necked Stint | Cairns Esplanade |
| Terek Sandpiper | Cairns Esplanade |
| Gray-tailed Tattler | Cairns Esplanade |
| | |



| Latham's Snipe | Minnippi Wetlands |
|---|----------------------------|
| Common Greenshank | Cattana Wetlands |
| Marsh Sandpiper | Hasties Swamp |
| Buttonquail: Turnicidae | |
| Painted Buttonquail | Seen near Round Hill |
| Little Buttonquail | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Red-chested Buttonqauil | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers: Laridae | |
| Silver Gull | Various locations on tour |
| Pacific Gull (E) | Bruny Island |
| Kelp Gull | All over Tasmania |
| Brown Noddy | Michaelmas Caye |
| Sooty Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Bridled Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Australian Tern | Cairns Esplanade |
| Caspian Tern | Cairns Esplanade |
| Whiskered Tern | Fivebough Swamp |
| White-winged Tern | Daintree River Cruise |
| Roseate Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Black-naped Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Little Tern | Cairns Esplanade |
| Great Crested Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Lesser Crested Tern | Michaelmas Caye |
| Penguins: Spheniscidae | |
| Little Penguin | Pirates Bay |
| Shearwaters and Petrels: Procellariidae | |
| Short-tailed Shearwater | Bass Point and Royal NP |
| Fluttering Shearwater | Bass Point |



| Wedge-tailed Shearwater | Bass Point |
|---|---|
| Storks: Ciconiidae | |
| Black-necked Stork | Cairns Esplanade and Cattana Wetlands |
| Frigatebirds: Fregatidae | |
| Great Frigatebird | Michaelmas Caye |
| Lesser Frigatebird | Michaelmas Caye |
| Boobies and Gannets: Sulidae | |
| Brown Booby | Michaelmas Caye |
| Red-footed Booby | Michaelmas Caye |
| Australasian Gannet | Bass Point and Adventure Bay in Tasmania |
| Anhingas: Anhingidae | |
| Australasian Darter | Various locations on tour |
| Cormorants and Shags: Phalacrocoracidae | |
| Little Pied Cormorant | Various locations on tour |
| Great Cormorant | Various locations on tour |
| Pied Cormorant | Lake Wynagan |
| Little Black Cormorant | Various locations on tour |
| Black-faced Cormorant | Adventure Bay in Tasmania |
| Pelicans: Pelecanidae | |
| Australian Pelican | Various locations on tour |
| Herons, Egrets and Bitterns: Ardeidae | |
| Black Bittern | Centenary Lakes |
| Pacific (White-necked) Heron (E) | Hasties Swamp |
| Great-billed Heron | Daintree River Cruise |
| Great Egret | Various locations on tour |
| Plumed Egret | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| White-faced Heron | Various locations on tour |



| Little Forest | Contonom. Lolos |
|--|---|
| Little Egret | Centenary Lakes |
| Pacific Reef Heron | First seen at Etty Bay and then Seen Flying by at the Cairns Esplanade |
| Eastern Cattle Egret | Various locations on tour |
| Striated Heron | Daintree River Cruise |
| Rufous (Nankeen) Night Heron | Cairns Esplanade (Southside Roosts) |
| Ibises and Spoonbills: Threskiornithidae | |
| Glossy Ibis | Centenary Lakes |
| Australian Ibis | Various locations on tour |
| Staw-necked Ibis | Various locations on tour |
| Royal Spoonbill | Various locations on tour |
| Yellow-billed Spoonbill | Gum Swamp and Fivebough Swamp |
| Osprey: Pandionidae | |
| Osprey | Various locations on tour |
| Hawks, Eagles and Kites: Accipitridae | |
| Black-shouldered Kite (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Square-tailed Kite (E) | Outside of Hasties Swamp |
| Little Eagle (E) | Seen while driving on a major freeway towards Sydney - all guests asleep (Guide Only) |
| Pacific Baza | Best views in White Hill Park |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle | Best views just outside of Granite Gorge Nature Park |
| Swamp Harrier | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Gray Goshawk (E) | Vessey Park, Cairns |
| Brown Goshawk | Various locations on tour |
| Collared Sparrowhawk | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Black Kite | Various locations on tour |
| Whistling Kite | Various locations on tour |
| Brahminy Kite | Various locations in Northern Queensland |



| White-bellied Sea Eagle | Etty Bay and Royal National Park |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Barn Owls: Tytonidae | |
| Barn Owl | Davies Creek near Mareeba |
| Owls: Strigidae | |
| Rufous Owl | Les Davies Park in Cairns |
| Powerful Owl (E) | White Hill Park |
| Southern Boobook | Chambers Lodge |
| Tasmanian Boobook | Waterworks Reserve in Tasmania |
| Kingfishers: Alcedinidae | |
| Azure Kingfisher | Daintree River Cruise |
| Laughing Kookaburra (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Blue-winged Kookaburra | Mt. Carbine |
| Forest Kingfisher | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Sacred Kingfisher | Various locations on tour |
| Torresian Kingfisher | Northern Esplanade Mangroves and Centenary Lakes |
| Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher | Best views on Carr Road |
| Bee-eaters: Meropidae | |
| Rainbow Bee-eater | Various locations on tour |
| Rollers: Coraciidae | |
| Dollarbird | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Falcons and Caracaras: Falconidae | |
| Nankeen Kestrel | Various locations on tour |
| Australian Hobby | Best views were on Pickford Road near Mareeba |
| Brown Falcon | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Peregrine Falcon | Best views in Gum Swamp |
| Cockatoos: Cacatuidae | |



| Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (E) | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Glossy Black Cockatoo (E) | Road up to O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (E) | Best views on north Bruny Island |
| Pink (Major Mitchell's) Cockatoo (E) | McCann Park |
| Galah (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Long-billed Corella (E) | Darlington Point |
| Little Corella | Various locations on tour |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | Various locations on tour |
| Cockatiel (E) | Gum Swamp |
| Old World Parrots: Psittaculidae | |
| Superb Parrot (E) | Best views in Darlington Point |
| Australian King-Parrot (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Red-winged Parrot | Mt. Carbine |
| Blue-winged Parrot (E) | North Bruny Island, Tasmania |
| Swift Parrot (E) | North Bruny Island, Tasmania |
| Australian Ringneck (Mallee) (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Green Rosella (TE) | All over Tasmania |
| Crimson Rosella (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Eastern Rosella (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Pale-headed Rosella (E) | Mt. Carbine |
| Greater Bluebonnet (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Red-rumped Parrot (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Mulga Parrot (E) | Binya State Forest |
| Double-eyed Fig-Parrot | Centenary Lakes and Cairns Esplanade (south) |
| Musk Lorikeet (E) | Seen in-between Sedbury Creek Marsh and Pirates Bay in Tasmania |
| Little Lorikeet (E) | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| Rainbow Lorikeet | Various locations on tour |
| | |



| Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E) | Various locations on tour |
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| Pittas: Pittidae | |
| Noisy Pitta (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Lyrebirds: Menuridae | |
| Albert's Lyrebird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Superb Lyrebird (E) | Around Barren Grounds and MacQuarries Pass NP |
| Bowerbirds: Ptilonorhynchidae | |
| Spotted Catbird (E) | Best views at Chambers Lodge |
| Green Catbird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Tooth-billed Bowerbird (E) | Lake Barrine in the Tablelands |
| Golden Bowerbird (E) | Mt. Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Regent Bowerbird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Satin Bowerbird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Great Bowerbird (E) | Mt. Carbine |
| Australasian Treecreepers: Climacteridae | |
| White-throated Treecreeper (E) | Best views in Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| Brown Treecreeper (E) | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| Red-browed Treecreeper (E) | Eusdale Reserve |
| Fairywrens: Maluridae | |
| Southern Emu-wren | Budderoo Fire Trail |
| Lovely Fairywren (E) | Steward Creek Road, Daintree |
| Purple-backed Fairywren (E) | Best views on McCann Road |
| Variegated Fairywren (E) | Minnippi Wetlands |
| Splendid Fairywren (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Superb Fairywren (E) | Various locations on tour |
| White-winged Fairy Wren (E) | Hay plains with Phil Maher and "Chat Alley" |
| Red-backed Fairywren (E) | Pickford Road in Mareeba |
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| Eastern Spinebill (E) Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E) Various locations in Northern Queensland Lewin's Honeyeater (E) Various locations on tour Cryptic Honeyeater Lake Morris Road Yellow Honeyeater (E) Cairns Esplanade White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Hasties Swamp Bell Miner (E) Rolly Warious locations on tour Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Warious locations on tour Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Warious locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Forbes Cemetery Bridled Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-flow All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (E) Little Wattlebird (E) Little Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Waried Honeyeater (E) Mugee Beach Mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-fineted Chat (E) White-fronted Chat (E) Warieus locations on tour Various locations on tour Readward Alae Warieus Reserve Round Hill Nature Reserve Readward | Honeyeaters: Meliphagidae | |
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| Lewin's Honeyeater (E) Various locations on tour Cryptic Honeyeater Lake Morris Road Yellow Honeyeater (E) Cairns Esplanade White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Hasties Swamp Bell Miner (E) Rointer of O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat Noisy Miner (E) Yarious locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Forbes Cemetery Bridled Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-Brounds Red Wattlebird (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) Little Wattlebird (E) Little Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater (E) All over Tasmania All over Tasmania Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Pellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Pellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Whow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Whow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park | Eastern Spinebill (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Cryptic Honeyeater (E) Cairns Esplanade White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Hasties Swamp Bell Miner (E) On the road up to O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat Noisy Miner (E) Various locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Forbes Cemetery Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater (E) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Vellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Vellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park | Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E) | |
| Yellow Honeyeater (E) White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Bell Miner (E) On the road up to O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat Noisy Miner (E) Yarious locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (TE) Varied Honeyeater (E) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Lewin's Honeyeater (E) | Various locations on tour |
| White-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Hasties Swamp Bell Miner (E) On the road up to O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat Noisy Miner (E) Various locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Frobes Cemetery Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (E) Littgow Sewage Ponds Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Cryptic Honeyeater | Lake Morris Road |
| Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) Bell Miner (E) Noisy Miner (E) Various locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) Red Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow Honeyeater (E) | Cairns Esplanade |
| Bell Miner (E) Roisy Miner (E) Various locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania All over Tasmania Waried Honeyeater (E) All over Tasmania Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | White-fronted Honeyeater (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Rainforest Retreat Noisy Miner (E) Various locations on tour Yellow-throated Miner (E) Bridled Honeyeater (E) Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Little Wattlebird (E) Red Wattlebird (E) Littlgow Sewage Ponds Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E) | Hasties Swamp |
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| Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Little Wattlebird (E) All over Tasmania and Barren Grounds Red Wattlebird (E) Lithgow Sewage Ponds Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow-throated Miner (E) | Forbes Cemetery |
| Little Wattlebird (E) Red Wattlebird (E) Lithgow Sewage Ponds Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wander Honeyeater (E) Wander Wa | Bridled Honeyeater (E) | Mt Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Red Wattlebird (E) Lithgow Sewage Ponds Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Singing Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Yellow Wattlebird (TE) All over Tasmania Varied Honeyeater Cairns Esplanade mangroves Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Nudgee Beach Mangroves Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Little Wattlebird (E) | |
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| Mangrove Honeyeater (E) Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Singing Honeyeater (E) Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow Wattlebird (TE) | All over Tasmania |
| Gray-fronted Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Varied Honeyeater | Cairns Esplanade mangroves |
| Singing Honeyeater (E) Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) Round Hill Nature Reserve White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Mangrove Honeyeater (E) | Nudgee Beach Mangroves |
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| Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Singing Honeyeater (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| White-plumed Honeyeater (E) Capertee Valley Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow-tinted Honeyeater (E) | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| Fuscous Honeyeater (E) Wandecla "Bluff" State Park Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Brown-backed Honeyeater Abbattoir Swamp Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | White-plumed Honeyeater (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Orange Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Fuscous Honeyeater (E) | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| | Brown-backed Honeyeater | Abbattoir Swamp |
| White-fronted Chat (E) "Chat Alley" | Orange Chat (E) | "Chat Alley" |
| | White-fronted Chat (E) | "Chat Alley" |



| Brown Honeyeater (E) The New Holland Honeyeater (E) Budd Tasn White-cheeked Honeyeater (E) Hast White-eared Honeyeater (E) Roun Yellow-throated Honeyeater (TE) Nort Blue-faced Honeyeater White-throated Honeyeater White-naped Honeyeater (E) Best Black-headed Honeyeater (TE) Nort Brown-headed Honeyeater (E) Back Brown-headed Honeyeater (E) Back Brown-headed Honeyeater (E) Abb Strong-billed Honeyeater (TE) Mou Tasn Macleay's Honeyeater (E) Lake NP Striped Honeyeater (E) Roun Painted Honeyeater (E) Roun Roun Roun McC | ies Swamp Morris Road and Abattoir mp Devils Kitchen in Tasmania deroo Fire Trail and all over nania ies Swamp nd Hill Nature Reserve th Bruny Island, Tasmania ous locations on tour ford Road and Rifle Rest Area views were in Eusdale Reserve |
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| Strong-billed Honeyeater (TE) Mour Tash Macleay's Honeyeater (E) Striped Honeyeater (E) Painted Honeyeater (E) McC | z-Yama State Forest |
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| NP Striped Honeyeater (E) Roun Painted Honeyeater (E) McC | nt Mangana Road, Bruny Island nania |
| Painted Honeyeater (E) McC | Morris Road and Hypipamee |
| , , | nd Hill Nature Reserve |
| Little Friarbird Varie | ann Road near Griffith |
| | ous locations on tour |
| Helmeted Friarbird Cent | enary Lakes |
| Noisy Friarbird Mt. 0 | Carbine and Pickford Road |
| Pardalotes: Pardalotidae | · |
| Spotted Pardalote (E) Varie | ous locations on tour |
| Forty-spotted Pardalote (TE) | |
| Striated Pardalote (E) Vario | h Bruny Island, Tasmania |
| Bristlebirds: Dasyornithidae | |



| Eastern Bristlebird (E) | Budderoo Fire Trail |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Thornbills and Allies: Acanthizidae | ' |
| Fernwren (E) | Mt. Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Rockwarbler | Royal National Park |
| Yellow-throated Scrubwren (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| White-browed Scrubwren (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Tasmanian Scrubwren (TE) | Various locations on Tasmania |
| Atherton Scrubwren (E) | Mt. Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Large-billed Scrubwren (E) | Mt. Lewis and Mt. Hypipamee |
| Scrubtit (TE) | Mount Wellington "The Springs" trails |
| Striated Fieldwren (E) | Sedburry Creek and Marsh |
| Speckled Warbler (E) | Binya State Forest and Back Yamma State Forest |
| Chestnut-rumped Heathwren (E) | Royal National Park |
| Shy Heathwren (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Mountain Thornbill (E) | Mt. Hypipamee |
| Brown Thornbill (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Tasmanian Thornbill (TE) | Various locations on Tasmania |
| Inland Thornbill (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Yellow-rumped Thornbill (E) | Binya State Forest |
| Chestnut-rumped Thornbill (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Yellow Thornbill (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Striated Thornbill (E) | MacQuarries NP |
| Weebill (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Fairy Gerygone | Lake Morris Road |
| White-throated Gerygone | Capertee Valley |
| Large-billed Gerygone | Cairns Esplanade north mangroves |
| Brown Gerygone (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |



| Western Gerygone (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Mangrove Gerygone (E) | Nudgee Beach Mangroves |
| Southern Whiteface (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Pseudo-Babblers: Pomatostomidae | |
| Gray-crowned Babbler | Binya State Forest |
| White-browed Babbler (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Logrunners: Orthonychidae | |
| Australian Logrunner (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Chowchilla (E) | Mt. Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Quail-Thrushes: Cinclosomatidae | |
| Chestnut Quail-thrush (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Cuckooshrikes: Campephagidae | |
| Ground Cuckooshrike | Forbes Cemetery |
| Barred Cuckooshrike | Lake Morris Road and Hypipamee NP |
| Black-faced Cuckooshrike | Various locations on tour |
| White-bellied Cuckooshrike | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| White-winged Triller | Gosling Creek Park |
| Varied Triller | Lake Morris Road |
| Common Cicadabird | Royal National Park |
| Sitellas: Neosittidae | |
| Varied Sitella | Binya State Forest |
| Whipbirds and Wedgebills: Psophodidae | |
| Eastern Whipbird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Shrike-tit: Falcunculidae | |
| Crested Shrike-tit (E) | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park, Capertee Valley, Gum Swamp |
| Whistlers and Allies: Pachycephalidae | |
| Rufous Shrikethrush | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| | |



| Gray Shrikethrush | Various locations on tour |
|---|--|
| Bower's Shrikethrush (E) | Mt. Lewis Dam to Clearing Track |
| Olive Whistler (E) | Mount Wellington "The Springs" |
| Golden Whistler (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Gray Whistler | Etty Bay Road |
| Rufous Whistler | Various locations on tour |
| Old World Orioles: Oriolidae | |
| Olive-backed Oriole | Wandecla "Bluff" State Park |
| Green (Yellow) Oriole | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Australasian Figbird (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Boatbills: Machaerirhynchidae | |
| Yellow-breasted Boatbill | Lake Morris Road |
| Woodswallows, Bellmagpies and Allies: Artamidae | |
| White-breasted Woodswallow | Various locations on tour |
| Masked Woodswallow (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| White-browed Woodswallow (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve and Capertee Valley |
| Black-faced Woodswallow | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Dusky Woodswallow (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Gray Butcherbird (E) | Minnippi Wetlands and in various locations on Tasmania |
| Pied Butcherbird (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Black Butcherbird | Centenary Lakes and Lake Morris Road |
| Australian Magpie (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Pied Currawong (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Black Currawong (TE) | Bruny Island and Waterworks Reserve |
| Gray Currawong (E) | Waterworks Reserve in Tasmania |
| Fantails: Rhipiduridae | |
| | |



| Northern Fantail | Abbattoir Swamp |
|--|---|
| Willie-wagtail | Various locations on tour |
| Rufous Fantail | Mt. Lewis and Mt. Hypipamee |
| Gray Fantail | Various locations on tour |
| Drongos: Dicruridae | |
| Spangled Drongo | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Birds-of-Paradise: Paradisaeidae | |
| Paradise Riflebird (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Victoria's Riflebird (E) | Lake Morris Road and Lake Barrine |
| Monarch Flycatchers: Monarchidae | |
| White-eared Monarch (E) | Lake Barrine |
| Pied Monarch (E) | Carr Road |
| Black-faced Monarch | Carr Road |
| Spectacled Monarch | Carr Road |
| Magpie-Lark | Various locations on tour |
| Leaden Flycatcher | End of Pickford Road |
| Satin Flycatcher | Mt. Lewis Clearing |
| Restless Flycatcher (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Shining Flycatcher | Daintree River Cruise |
| White-winged Chough and Apostlebirds: Corcoracidae | |
| White-winged Chough (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Apostlebird (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Crows, Jays and Magpies: Corvidae | |
| Torresian Crow | Mt. Carbine |
| Little Crow (E) | Near Griffith |
| Australian Raven (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Little Raven (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Forest Raven | All over Tasmania |
| | |



| Australian Robins: Petroicidae | |
|--|--|
| Lemon-bellied Flyrobin | End of Pickford Road |
| Jacky-Winter | Capertee Valley |
| Hooded Robin (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Scarlet Robin (E) | North Bruny Island, Tasmania |
| Red-capped Robin (E) | Back-Yama State Forest |
| Flame Robin (E) | The Devils Kitchen in Tasmania |
| Rose Robin (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Pink Robin (E) | Mount Mangana Road, Bruny Island Tasmania |
| Dusky Robin (TE) | North Bruny Island, Tasmania |
| Pale-yellow Robin (E) | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Eastern Yellow Robin (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Mangrove Robin | Cairns Esplanade north mangroves |
| Gray-headed Robin (E) | Mt. Hypipamee |
| White-browed Robin (E) | Jack Bethel Park |
| Southern Scrub Robin (E) | Round Hill Nature Reserve |
| Larks: Alaudidae | |
| Singing Bushlark | Hay plains with Phil Maher |
| Cisticolas and Allies: Cisticolidae | |
| Golden-headed Cisticola | Best views on Pickford Road and Fivebough Swamp |
| Reed-Warblers and Allies: Acrocephalidae | |
| Australian Reed Warbler | Fivebough Swamp |
| Grassbirds and Allies: Locustellidae | |
| Little Grassbird | Fivebough Swamp |
| Tawny Grassbird | Seen on grassy edges/fields near a pond at the intersection of Curtain Fig Tree Road |
| Rufous Songlark (E) | Capertee Valley |



| Brown Songlark (E) | Hay plains |
|---|--|
| Swallows: Hirundinidae | |
| Welcome Swallow (E) | Various locations on tour |
| Fairy Martin | Various locations on tour |
| Tree Martin | Various locations on tour |
| Bulbuls: Pycnonotidae | |
| Red-whiskered Bulbul | Bass Point Area |
| White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies: Zosteropidae | |
| Silver-eye | Various locations on tour |
| Starlings: Sturnidae | |
| Metallic Starling | Various locations on tour |
| European Starling | Various locations on tour |
| Common Myna | Various locations on tour |
| Thrushes and Allies: Turdidae | |
| Bassian Thrush (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat and McQuarries NP |
| Russet-tailed Thrush | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Eurasian Blackbird | Various locations on tour |
| Flowerpeckers: Dicaeidae | |
| Mistletoebird | Various locations on tour |
| Sunbirds and Spiderhunters: Nectariniidae | |
| Sahul Sunbird | Various locations in Northern Queensland |
| Waxbills and Allies: Estrildidae | |
| Diamond Firetail (E) | Capertee Valley |
| Red-browed Firetail (E) | O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat |
| Cimson Finch | Cattana Wetlands |
| Zebra Finch | "Chat Alley" |
| Double-barred Finch (E) | McCann Road near Griffith |

| Blue-faced Parrotfinch | "Patch Opposite Sides Road" |
|---|--|
| Chestnut-breasted Munia | Seen on grassy edges/fields near a pond at the intersection of Curtain Fig Tree Road |
| Old World Sparrows: Passeridae | |
| House Sparrow | Various locations on tour |
| Wagtails and Pipits: Motacillidae | |
| Australian Pipit | Road to Newell Beach |
| Finches, Euphorias and Allies: Fringillidae | |
| European Goldfinch | Neighborhoods of Hobart |
| European Greenfinch | Neighborhoods of Hobart |
| | |
| 'OTHER ANIMALS' | |
| Duck-billed Platypus | |
| Long-nosed Bandicoot | |
| Short-beaked Echinda | |
| Common Wombat | |
| Koala | |
| Mountain Brushtail Possum | |
| Common Brushtail Possum | |
| Common Ringtail Possum | |
| Striped Possum | |
| Krefft's Glider | |
| Musky Rat Kangaroo | |
| Lumholt'z Tree Kangaroo | |
| Agile Wallaby | |
| Whiptail (Pretty-faced) Wallaby | |
| Eastern Grey Kangaroo | |
| Western 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 | |
| Fawn-footed Melomys | |
| Rusa | |
| Saltwater Crocodile | |
| Lace Monitor Lizard | |
| Green Sea Turtle | |
| Black-tipped Reef Shark | |
| White-tipped Reef Shark | |
| Eastern Bearded Dragon | |
| Australian Water Dragon | |
| White-lipped Tree Frog | |
| Trilling Frog | |
| Shingleback Lizard | |
| Major Skink | |
| Southern Dwarf Crowned Snake | |
| Coastal Carpet Python | |
| Red-bellied Black Snake | |
| Common Tree Snake | |
| Krefft's River Turtle | |



November 1st - 20th, 2023

| Common Long-necked Turtle | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Red Fox | |
| Feral Pig | |
| Feral Goat | |
| European Hare | |
| European Rabbit | |

*Extras

One of the group members was really into butterflies and managed to create a list of all of the ones seen on this tour. Very nice! - Thanks John!

Another member of the group is a map maker as a profession and offered to make up some maps of our birding spots throughout the tour. Super cool! - Thanks Robert!



*Extras: Butterfly List - John K.

| COMMON NAME | SCIENTIFIC NAME |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Swallowtails | Papilionidae |
| Cairns Birdwing | Ornithoptera euphorian |
| Ulysses Swallowtail | Papilio ulysses |
| Dainty Swallowtail | Papilio anactus |
| Ambrax Swallowtail | Papilio ambrax |
| Clearwing Swallowtail | Cressida cressida |
| Blue Triangle | Graphium sarpedon choredon |
| Whites and Sulphurs | Pieridae |
| Macleay's Grass-Yellow | Eurema herla |
| Cabbage White | Pieris rapae |
| Caper White | Belenois java |
| Red-banded Jezebel | Delias mysis |
| Black Jezebel | Delias nigrina |
| Brushfoots | Nymphalidae |
| Lesser Wanderer | Danaus petillia |
| Monarch | Danaus plexippus |
| Common Crow | Euploea core corinna |
| Varied Eggfly | Hypolimnas bolina |
| White-banded Plane | Phaedyma shepherdi |
| Orange Lacewing | Cethosia penthesilea |
| Australian Painted Lady | Vanessa kershawi |
| Chocolate Pansy | Junonia hedonia |
| Meadow Argus | Junonia villida |
| Cruiser | Vindula arsinoe |
| Dusky Knight | Yphtima arctous |
| Cedar Bushbrown | Mycalesis sirius |
| Orange Bushbrown | Mycalesis terminus |
| North Sword-grass Brown | Tisiphone helena |
| Varied Sword-grass Brown | Tisiphone abeona |
| Evening Brown | Melanitis leda |
| Common Brown | Heteronympha merope |
| Brown Ringlet | Hypocysta metirius |
| Gossamer-Winged | Lycaenidae |
| Tiny Grass Blue | Zizula hylax |
| Lesser Grass-Blue | Zizina otis |
| Pale Pea-Blue | Catochrysops panormus |
| Yellow-spotted Blue | Candalides xanthospilos |
| Skippers | Hesperiidae |
| Pied Flat | Tagiades japetus |
| Broad-banded Awl | Hasora hurama |
| Wide-brand Grass Dart | Suniana sunias |



*Extras: Birding Spots Maps - Robert G.



