

## LIST OF COMMON BIRDS

Musk Duck  
Black Swan  
Australian Wood Duck  
Australasian Shoveler  
Grey Teal  
Chestnut Teal  
Pacific Black Duck  
Hardhead  
Australasian Grebe  
Spotted Dove  
Brown Cuckoo-Dove  
Crested Pigeon  
Bar-shouldered Dove  
Topknot Pigeon  
Wandering Albatross  
Black-browed Albatross  
Wedge-tailed Shearwater  
Short-tailed Shearwater  
Fluttering Shearwater  
Australasian Gannet  
Australasian Darter  
Little Pied Cormorant  
Great Cormorant  
Little Black Cormorant  
Pied Cormorant  
Australian Pelican  
Eastern Great Egret  
Cattle Egret  
Striated Heron  
White-faced Heron  
Little Egret  
Australian White Ibis  
Straw-necked Ibis  
Royal Spoonbill  
Black-shouldered Kite  
White-bellied Sea-Eagle  
Brown Goshawk  
Grey Goshawk  
Swamp Harrier  
Nankeen Kestrel  
Australian Hobby  
Peregrine Falcon  
Purple Swamphen  
Dusky Moorhen  
Eurasian Coot  
Australian Pied Oystercatcher  
Sooty Oystercatcher  
Black-winged Stilt  
Pacific Golden Plover  
Red-capped Plover  
Black-fronted Dotterel  
Masked Lapwing  
Bar-tailed Godwit  
Eastern Curlew  
Red-necked Stint  
Arctic Jaeger  
Little Tern  
Caspian Tern  
Crested Tern  
Kelp Gull  
Silver Gull  
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo  
Galah  
Long-billed Corella  
Little Corella  
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo  
Rainbow Lorikeet  
Australian King-Parrot  
Crimson Rosella  
Eastern Rosella

Eastern Koel  
Channel-billed Cuckoo  
Fan-tailed Cuckoo  
Brush Cuckoo  
Azure Kingfisher  
Laughing Kookaburra  
Sacred Kingfisher  
Dollabird  
Superb Lyrebird  
White-throated Treecreeper  
Green Catbird  
Satin Bowerbird  
Superb Fairy-wren  
Variegated Fairy-wren  
Southern Emu-wren  
Eastern Bristlebird  
Rockwarbler  
Yellow-throated Scrubwren  
White-browed Scrubwren  
Large-billed Scrubwren  
Brown Gerygone  
Striated Thornbill  
Yellow Thornbill  
Yellow-rumped Thornbill  
Brown Thornbill  
Spotted Pardalote  
Eastern Spinebill  
Lewin's Honeyeater  
Yellow-faced Honeyeater  
Noisy Miner  
Little Wattlebird  
Red Wattlebird  
New Holland Honeyeater  
Noisy Friarbird  
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike  
Golden Whistler  
Rufous Whistler  
Grey Shrike-thrush  
Australasian Figbird  
Olive-backed Oriole  
Dusky Woodswallow  
Grey Butcherbird  
Australian Magpie  
Pied Currawong  
Spangled Drongo  
Rufous Fantail  
Grey Fantail  
Willie Wagtail  
Australian Raven  
Black-faced Monarch  
Magpie-lark  
Rose Robin  
Eastern Yellow Robin  
Golden-headed Cisticola  
Australian Reed-Warbler  
Little Grassbird  
Silvereye  
Welcome Swallow  
Fairy Martin  
Tree Martin  
Red-whiskered Bulbul  
Bassian Thrush  
Common Blackbird  
Common Starling  
Common Myna  
Mistletoebird  
Red-browed Finch  
Beautiful Firetail  
House Sparrow  
Australasian Pipit

The aim of the Illawarra Bird Observers Club (IBOC) is to join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the birdlife around them.

IBOC meets on the 2nd Monday of the month (except January) at Fairy Meadow Community Centre, Princes Highway, Fairy Meadow.

For more information contact  
the Secretary  
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Email: [secretary@iboc.org.au](mailto:secretary@iboc.org.au)  
or visit our website at  
[www.iboc.org.au](http://www.iboc.org.au)

A full list of bird walks can be found at  
[www.iboc.org.au](http://www.iboc.org.au)

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## Acknowledgements

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# BIRDS OF THE ILLAWARRA



Cover picture: Eastern Rosella

**Illawarra Bird Observers Club**

## Welcome to the Illawarra

The Illawarra is only one hour's drive south of Sydney. Stretching from Stanwell Park in the north to the Shoalhaven River in the south, it is a region of golden beaches, rainforests, wet eucalypt forests, open eucalypt woodlands, heathlands, wetlands, marine habitats and many National Parks. The wide range of habitats supports some 350 bird species and offers a diverse birdwatching experience for local and visiting bird enthusiasts. In addition Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama offer visitors a wide diversity of other recreational activities and have a range of accommodation to suit all budgets.

This brochure outlines some of the key birdwatching locations in the region, but the list is by no means exhaustive. It should be used in conjunction with road and topographic maps. The locations have been chosen to include a variety of habitats and are described in broad terms. Geographic coordinates are given as a guide only. The datum used is WGS84. Please note that all walks are carried out at your own risk. Visitors are advised not to undertake them in times of high fire danger or heavy rainfall.

We hope you will find this brochure helpful.

## Locations of Bird Walks

Birds seen will depend on the season, weather, conditions, etc.

### A. Bellambi Lagoon

Coastal wetland and sand dunes.

**Access:** Park at the end of Bott Drive off Rothery Street.

**Grade:** Easy along the shared cycle way to medium along the beach and headland.

**Birds include:** White-faced Heron, Sooty Oystercatcher, Black-fronted Dotterel and various birds of prey.

**Unusual sightings:** White-winged Triller.

**Coordinates:** 34° 22' 12" S, 150° 55' 25" E.

### B. Mount Keira Ring Track

Rainforest and dry eucalypt. Panoramic views of the Illawarra from the lookout.

**Access:** At the intersection of Mt Keira Rd and Queen Elizabeth Drive.

**Grade:** Difficult 7 km loop track with a steep grade and steps.

**Birds include:** Australian Brush-turkey, Wonga Pigeon, Grey Goshawk, Superb Lyrebird, Green Catbird, Large-billed Scrubwren, Rufous Fantail, Black-faced Monarch, Rose Robin.

**Unusual sightings:** Emerald Dove, White-throated Nightjar, Noisy Pitta, Logrunner.

**Coordinates:** 34° 23' 47" S, 150° 50' 57" E.

### C. Puckey's Estate

Open banksia and casuarina woodland. Close to centre of Wollongong with good picnic facilities.

**Access:** From Stuart Park at the corner of George Hanley Drive and Cliff Road over the pedestrian main road bridge.

**Grade:** Easy 3km loop walk. Park in the main car park and walk along the shared cycleway.

**Birds include:** Striated Heron, Southern Emu-wren, Yellow Thornbill, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Little Wattlebird, Rufous Whistler, Golden-headed Cisticola.

**Coordinates:** 34° 24' 33" S, 150° 53' 59" E.

### D. Primbee Dunes and Korrungulla Swamp

Important nesting site for Pied Cormorants.

**Access:** Primbee Dunes at western end of the lane at the southern end of the golf course beside communication tower, following track between dunes and golf course. For Korrungulla Swamp there is a gate at end of Nicolle Rd, Primbee.

**Grade:** Easy on rough trails.



**Birds include:** Bar-shouldered Dove, Brown and Grey Goshawk, Spotted Pardalote, Scarlet Honeyeater, Spangled Drongo, Little Grassbird, Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo.

**Unusual sightings:** Swift Parrot.

**Coordinates:** Primbee Dunes 34° 31' 00" S, 150° 52' 38" E;  
Korrungulla Swamp 34° 30' 17" S, 150° 52' 43" E.



### E. Lake Illawarra and Windang Estuary

Rocky island, sand and mud flats and coastal woodland. A well known location for shorebirds.

**Access:** Via the Windang Surf Club on the north side, and also Lake Illawarra South to Mt Warrigal, via Reddall Parade on the south side of the bridge.

**Grade:** Easy along rough tracks and shared cycle ways.

**Birds include:** Red-capped Plover, Double-banded Plover, Common Greenshank, Little Tern, Southern Emu-wren, Golden-headed Cisticola.

**Unusual sightings:** Striated Heron, Eastern Osprey, Lesser and Greater Sand Plovers, Sanderling, Tawny Grassbird.

**Coordinates:** Windang Estuary 34° 32' 16" S, 150° 52' 17" E.  
Lake Illawarra South to Mount Warrigal 34° 32' 23" S, 150° 51' 56" E.

### F. Blackbutt Forest Reserve

Open woodland, temperate rainforest and dam. The only coastal plain forest in the Illawarra.

**Access:** Off Blackbutt Way, Barrack Heights or Shellharbour Rd.

**Grade:** Easy along well-formed and rough tracks.

**Birds include:** Dollarbird, Variegated Fairy-wren, Golden Whistler, Grey Butcherbird, Black-faced Monarch.

**Unusual sightings:** Pacific Baza, Spotted Harrier, Bailion's Crake.

**Coordinates:** 34° 34' 16" S, 150° 51' 19" E.

### G. Croome Regional Sporting Complex

Open eucalypt and paperbark woodland. A good variety of birds can be found here as well as the Greenhood Orchid.

**Access:** Off Croome Rd, Albion Park Rail.

**Grade:** Easy along rough trails.

**Birds include:** Eastern Rosella, Azure Kingfisher, Buff-rumped Thornbill, Olive-backed Oriole, Rose Robin, Mistletoebird.

**Unusual sightings:** Pacific Baza, Flame Robin.

**Coordinates:** 34° 34' 41" S, 150° 47' 38" E.

### H. Macquarie Pass and Clover Hill Road

Temperate rainforest, wet sclerophyll forest. Logrunners have been seen here.

**Access:** At the base of and 3 km up Macquarie Pass on the Illawarra Hwy, 8 km west of Albion Park. Limited parking.

**Grade:** Easy.

**Birds include:** Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl, Superb Lyrebird, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Striated Thornbill, Grey Goshawk, Australian King-Parrot.

**Unusual sightings:** Emerald Dove, Grey Goshawk, Logrunner, Cicadabird.

**Coordinates:** Macquarie Pass 34° 34' 19" S, 150° 40' 42" E;  
Clover Hill 34° 33' 58" S, 150° 39' 45" E.

### I. Bass Point

Littoral rainforest, coastal rock shelf, inshore waters. A good spot for seabirds, especially in wild weather.

**Access:** Via Boolwarroo Pde., Shellharbour, signposted. Central parking.

**Grade:** Easy along formed tracks at the entrance.

**Birds include:** Bar-shouldered Dove, Sooty Oystercatcher, Kelp Gull, White-browed Scrubwren, Red-whiskered Bulbul, seabirds during wild weather.

**Unusual sightings:** Swift Parrot, Powerful Owl, Noisy Pitta (in winter).

**Coordinates:** 34° 35' 43" S, 150° 53' 19" E.



### J. Killalea State Park including Minnamurra Spit

Coastal reserve including fresh-water lagoon, rocky shore, dunes and littoral rainforest. Over the years some interesting rarities have turned up here.

**Access:** Via Killalea Drive, Shellcove, sign-posted off Shellharbour Road with lagoon in the north east, and bush tracks in the south from the end car park or the camping ground.

**Grade:** Easy along rough tracks.

**Birds include:** Musk Duck, Australasian Shoveler, White-browed Scrubwren, Eastern Whipbird, Golden Whistler, Black-faced Monarch, Eastern Spinebill.

**Unusual sightings:** Blue-billed Duck, Australasian Bittern, Large-billed Scrubwren.

**Coordinates:** Killalea State Park 34° 36' 00" S, 150° 51' 35" E;  
Minnamurra Spit 34° 36' 51" S, 150° 51' 11" E.

### K. Minnamurra Rainforest

Temperate rainforest. One of the best places to find Lyrebirds.

**Access:** 3 km west of Jamberoo on the Jamberoo Mountain Road to Robertson.

**Grade:** Easy with wheelchair access on boardwalk, steeper formed track to upper falls.

**Birds include:** Superb Lyrebird, Green Catbird, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Large-billed Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Eastern Spinebill.

**Unusual sightings:** Emerald Dove, Grey Goshawk, Logrunner.

**Coordinates:** 34° 38' 40" S, 150° 45' 35" E.



### L. Barren Grounds Nature Reserve and Budderoo Fire Trail

Heathland plateau, woodland and hanging swamp. A well-known location for Ground Parrots and Eastern Bristlebirds.

**Access:** 10 and 13 km west of Jamberoo, off the Jamberoo Mountain Road to Robertson.

**Grade:** Easy to moderate with more than 30 km of trails.

**Birds include:** Ground Parrot, Southern Emu-wren, Eastern Bristlebird, Pilotbird, Crescent Honeyeater, Beautiful Firetail.

**Unusual sightings:** White-throated Nightjar, Square-tailed Kite, Barking Owl, Logrunner.

**Coordinates:** Barren Grounds Nature Reserve 34° 40' 27" S, 150° 42' 45" E;  
Budderoo Fire Trail 34° 38' 47" S, 150° 41' 59" E.

### M. Bomaderry Creek

Shallow sandstone creek gorge with smooth barked eucalypt woodland with heath understorey. This is a good location for observing Rockwarblers, the one bird endemic to New South Wales.

**Access:** Walking tracks are off the end of Narang Road.

**Grade:** Easy along well maintained tracks.

**Birds include:** Rockwarbler, Yellow-tufted Honeyeater, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Olive-backed Oriole.

**Unusual sightings:** Square-tailed Kite, Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

**Coordinates:** 34° 50' 42" S, 150° 35' 30" E.

### N. Shoalhaven Heads and Comerong Island

Estuarine, sand and mud flats, mangroves, littoral rainforest. This is one of the best spots for observing shorebirds on the South Coast.

**Access:** Park at the end of River Road, Shoalhaven Heads.

**Grade:** Easy but beware of sandflies in summer.

**Birds include:** Pacific Golden Plover, Double-banded Plover, Eastern Curlew, and White-fronted Chat.

**Unusual sightings:** Oriental Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Little Curlew, Australian Pratincole.

**Coordinates:** 34° 51' 16" S, 150° 44' 49" E.

**PELAGIC TRIPS:** The world famous seabird trips run by SOSSA (Southern Oceans Seabird Study Association) depart from Wollongong harbour on the 4th Saturday of the month. Booking is essential. For more information contact: Ph: (02) 4271 6004; email: [sossa@tpg.com.au](mailto:sossa@tpg.com.au) - [www.sossa-international.org](http://www.sossa-international.org)



- Quarry 34° 40'S
- Bushland
- Spot Height 390
- Escarpment
- Railway
- Main Road
- Other Selected Road
- Main Built-up Areas



151° 00'E      151° 10'E      151° 20'E

34° 50'S      34° 40'S      34° 30'S      34° 20'S      34° 10'S



**A.** Lake Illawarra - Sooty Oystercatcher



**B.** Mount Keira Ring Track - Green Catbird



**C.** Puckey's Estate - Southern Emu-wren



**D.** Primbee Dunes - Scarlet Honeyeater



**E.** Lake Illawarra - Red-necked Stint



**F.** Blackbutt Forest - Golden Whistler



**G.** Croome Complex - Rose Robin



**H.** Macquarie Pass - Australian King-Paro



**I.** Bass Point - Rainbow Lorikeet



**J.** Killalea State Park - Swamp Harrier



**L.** Barren Grounds - Ground Parrot



**K.** Minnamurra Rf - Sacred Kingfisher



**M.** Bomaderry Creek - Rockwarbler



**N.** Shoalhaven Heads - Common Greenshank



**E.** Lake Illawarra & Windang Estuary - Eastern Osprey



**K.** Minnamurra Rf - Yellow-throated Scrubwren



**H.** Macquarie Pass - Grey Gosawk



**D.** Primbee Sandunes - Cimson Rosella



**D.** Koorungulla Swamp Primbee - Australasian Grebe



**M.** Bomaderry Creek - Yellow-tufted Honeyeater



**D.** Primbee Dunes - Spotted Pardalote



**L.** Barren Grounds - Eastern Bristlebird



**J.** Killalea State Park - Eastern Spinebill



**G.** Croome Complex - Mistreobird