

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA TOUR REPORT 2023

5 / 9 - 27 September 2023

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Western Australia, the largest Australian state, is a diverse region with a wide range of habitats and a rich fauna that has a high degree of endemism. This tour gave us an unrivalled opportunity to cover a large part of the state and a varied range of habitats, as well as the offshore territory of Christmas Island. During our 23-day adventure we explored the temperate Karri and Wandoo woodlands and mallee of the southwest, the coastal heathlands of the south-west coast, dry scrub and extensive woodlands of the interior, coastal plains and mangroves around Broome, and the red-earth savanna habitats and tropical woodland of the Kimberley-Kununurra region. The first part of the main Western Australia tour concentrated on finding the endemics and specialties of the southwest with such excellent species as Freckled and Musk Ducks, Tawny Frogmouth, the cute Australian Owlet-nightjar, Carnaby's and Baudin's Black Cockatoos, Western Corella (with two different forms), Red-capped Parrot, Western Rosella, Regent and Elegant Parrots, Purple Crowned Lorikeet, Hooded Dotterel, the elusive Noisy Scrubbird, Blue-breasted and Red-winged Fairywrens, Southern Emu-wren, Western Bristlebird, Black-throated Whipbird (both forms), Western Shrikethrit, Rufous Treecreeper, White-breasted, Scarlet and Western Yellow Robins, Red-eared Firetail, Shy Heathwren, Western Fieldwren, Spotted Scrubwren, Western Whistler, Western Wattlebird, White-cheeked and Gilbert's Honeyeaters and Western Spinebill. Further northeast, in the dry interior around Hyden and Kookynie we connected with the much wanted Western and Copper-backed Quail-thrushes, Mulga Parrot, admired a pair of displaying Western Bowerbirds at their bower, enjoyed great views of Redthroat and encountered a selection of dry country honeyeaters. In the north, around Broome, the highlights included the amazing wader spectacle at Roebuck Bay and a handful of the range restricted mangrove specialists, including Mangrove Golden and White-breasted Whistlers, Mangrove and Dusky Gerygones, Broad-billed Flycatcher and Mangrove Fantail. In the Kimberley area highlights included Spinifex, Partridge and White-quilled Rock Pigeons, Brolga, Red-collared Lorikeet, Blue-winged Kookaburra, Great Bowerbird, Sandstone Shrikethrush, Kimberley Honeyeater, Paperbark Flycatcher, Common Cicadabird, Green-backed Gerygone, a selection of northern honeyeaters and the amazing Purple-crowned and the equally striking Red-backed Fairywrens. In the Kununurra area the most memorable avian spectacle was an early morning session at a drinking pool visited by seven species of finches including the rare Gouldian Finch. A real finch fiesta! Another tour highlight was a very enjoyable boat cruise along Lake Argyle, where we saw, amongst many other birds, good numbers of the splendid Yellow Chat. Other species worth a mention included four Australian Bustards, the rarely seen Black-backed Bittern, several confiding Baillon's and White-browed Crakes, Black Falcon, Barking Owl at its daytime roost, confiding Buff-sided Robins, Green Oriole and Yellow-rumped Mannikin. The lovely, very relaxed Christmas Island pre tour extension produced amazing views of such marvelous birds as Red-tailed and the exquisite "golden" form of White-tailed Tropicbirds and a vagrant Red-billed Tropicbird, Christmas Island Frigatebird, the antediluvial-looking Abbott's

Booby and great views of the island's endemic landbirds including a boobook, a pigeon, a swiftlet, a white-eye and a goshawk. Mammals are not a great feature of this tour, but we had delightful encounter with several Honey Possums, and there was a brief leader only sighting of the rare Numbat at Dryandra, where we also encountered two Short-beaked Echidnas. Western Grey Kangaroos were noted on several days, Agile Wallaby showed on three days and Short-eared Rock Wallabies were seen at Lake Argyle. Additional mammal sightings included Common Brush-tailed Possum, Dingo, New Zealand Fur Seal, Southern Right Whale, Common Bottlenose Dolphin and Black-eared Flying Fox.

The group gathered for the pre tour extension to the renowned Christmas Island at Perth airport. After a smooth flight we arrived at the 135 km<sup>2</sup> large island, which is situated just 350 km south of the Indonesian island of Java. On arrival only one rental car was waiting for us, but eventually a second vehicle appeared. The condition of these vehicles was not what you would expect from a rental car, but in the end, they did their job and took us around the island without any major issues. After a smooth check-in at our pleasant guesthouse and meeting Rachel, who had arrived on the island a few days earlier, we had time for some initial exploration of the surroundings. The next two and half days were spent exploring this tropical paradise island, rightly famous for its breeding seabirds. During our stay we observed good numbers of Brown and Red-footed Boobies flying around the coast and at their breeding grounds, where we had amazing views of perched birds. The third booby species, Abbott's Booby, which only breeds on Christmas Island with an estimated population of 2500 pairs, was less often seen on the coast, but we had great sightings of birds flying over the island's dense forests further inland, and of birds sitting on their nests in tall Syzgium trees. Of the island's three frigatebirds the Great Frigatebird was the commonest, but the endemic Christmas Island Frigatebird was also noted in good numbers daily. The Lesser Frigatebird was also seen regularly, usually out at sea, but in much smaller numbers. Perhaps the most amazing group of seabirds breeding on the island are tropicbirds, of which the Christmas Island breeding golden form fulvus of the White-tailed Tropicbird (Golden Bosunbird) is perhaps the most spectacular. In addition to this distinct Christmas Island morph, we also noted small numbers of the white birds of the nominate subspecies. Also, the Red-tailed Tropicbird was commonly encountered, and they were even breeding next to the verandah of our guesthouse. The third tropicbird seen was a Red-billed Tropicbird of the form indicus, a vagrant from the Indian Ocean and waters off the Middle East, and apparently only the fourth record for Australia! There is not much in the way of land birds on Christmas Island, and we easily found the more common ones including endemic Christmas Imperial Pigeon, Christmas White-eye, the endemic erythropleura race of Island Thrush and Christmas Swiftlet. The Boobook gave in on our second attempt just 100 meters from our guesthouse and, thanks to the goshawk research team, the Christmas Island Goshawk eventually provided us with amazing views. Add to this Common Emerald Dove, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, White-breasted Waterhen, Common Sandpiper, Brown Noddy, Intermediate Egret, Eastern Cattle Egret, White-faced Heron, Pacific Reef Heron, Nankeen Kestrel and you have the complete list of the bird species we saw on the island during our stay. In addition to birds the island is famous for its many crabs, of which we saw the unmistakable Red, the huge Robber (or Coconut) and Blue.

Back in Perth we said goodbye to our dynamic Aussie duo, Alec and Paul (who were to join us again in Broome) and welcomed Simon to our group. Our first official birding in mainland Australia was at Lake Herdsman in Perth, where couple of hours intensive birding yielded an excellent selection of species including Pink-eared Duck, the only Australian Shoveler of the trip, Hardhead, Blue-billed Duck, Musk Duck and, after a search, the distinctive Freckled Duck plus several

commoner wetland species. We also discovered a Tawny Frogmouth sitting on its nest, two Buff-banded Rails feeding on a lawn, Rainbow Lorikeets (an Eastern Australian species introduced in Perth) and had our first taste of Australia's peculiar passerines including New Holland, Brown and Singing Honeyeaters, Red Wattlebird and Magpie Lark. A short stop at Ellis Brook Valley Reserve was good for Square-tailed Kite, the only one of the trip, Little Eagle, our first Splendid Fairywrens, White-cheeked Honeyeaters, Striated Pardalotes, Spotted Scrubwrens and magnificent Red-tailed Black Cockatoos. After lunch we hurried to Dryandra, where couple of hours of late afternoon forest birding yielded Black-eared Cuckoo, Carnaby's Black Cockatoos, Red-capped Parrot, many Purple-crowned Lorikeets, Rufous Treecreepers, Blue-breasted Fairywren, Yellow-plumed Honeyeater, Inland Thornbill, White-winged Triller, Western Whistler, Grey Shrikethrush, Jacky Winter with its distinct Wood Lark type song, and the amazing Scarlet Robin. I spotted a Numbat running away from us, but unfortunately no one else managed to get on to this rare marsupial, which is only known from couple of forest patches in the region.

Next morning, we were back in Dryandra well before dawn to try and locate the nocturnal Bush Stone-curlew, which wasn't too difficult. Later we birded various parts of the forests at Dryandra, where new birds included Gilbert's Honeyeater, Spotted Pardalote, many Weebills, Western and Yellow-rumped Thornbills, Grey Currawong, Black-faced Cuckooshrike, Varied Sittella, Rufous Whistler, Western Yellow Robin and many of the species we had already seen the day before. A detour via some agricultural areas brought us a pair of Banded Lapwing with a chick, before lunch in Narrogin. On the way to our next destination, Stirling Range Retreat, we stopped at a lake, where I had seen a pair of Hooded Dotterels a couple of weeks earlier, but the birds had unfortunately left the area. Some consolation was offered by Tawny-crowned and White-eared Honeyeaters seen by the lake and three roadside Emus.

The new day saw us on the heath covered lower slopes of Mt Trio, where our main target, the secretive Black-throated Whipbird (subspecies oberon) was surprisingly easy to find, and we had great prolonged views of a pair. A supporting cast of good birds during our morning session included Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo, a vocal and confiding Painted Buttonquail, Southern Emu-wren, several Western Spinebills, White-eared Honeyeaters, our first Wedge-tailed Eagles and two Peregrine Falcons. A visit to a lake for Hooded Dotterel drew a blank again, but a walk in the scrub nearby resulted in brilliant views of a small flock of White-fronted Chats (a scarce bird on this itinerary) and two endearing Red-capped Robins. Back at our accommodation we saw a cute Australian Owlet-nightjar, the only Brown-headed Honeyeater of the trip, Restless Flycatchers and, best of all, a very confiding pair of the sought after Western Shriketits.

On our last morning at Stirling Range, we paid a quick visit to the lake area for yet another try for the Hooded Dotterel, but couldn't find anything. Back at the Retreat we birded the campground again securing great views of Regent Parrot, a species that had eluded us earlier. Then a short visit to the Porongurup National Park, where we finally managed to connect with Baudin's Black Cockatoo and White-breasted Robin, both much needed SW Australian endemics. After lunch we visited the Rocky Gully area, where yet another endemic, Western Corella of the subspecies pastinator, showed well after a search. The day was rounded off at Emu Point in Albany, where Pied Oystercatchers, our first Pacific and Silver Gulls, Caspian and Greater Crested Terns and Little Pied, Little Black and Great Cormorants entertained us.

It was an early start the next morning as we had a date with the cute Honey Possums at Cheynes Beach about 70 kms from our base in Albany. These tiny, mouselike marsupials are visible in flowering Banksias for a short period of time around sunrise before they disappear for the rest of

the day. Our timing was perfect, and we enjoyed great views of several individuals climbing on the tall Banksias and licking nectar from the flowers. After the mammal watching session, we concentrated on the special birds of this vast area of coastal heath. First was the Noisy Scrubbird, which only survives in a tiny area (45 km<sup>2</sup>) here with an estimated population of 700 individuals. The species is relatively easy to hear, but seeing the ultra-skulker is another matter. In the end we all managed to see the bird crossing the trails a couple of times and some of us even managed to glimpse a singing bird in the bushes. Another local specialty, Western Bristlebird, revealed itself eventually and allowed excellent views in the end. Other birds seen during the morning included some important SW Australian endemics with Red-eared Firetail, a nice pair of Brush Bronzings and several Western Wattlebirds. It was also good to see a confiding Elegant Parrot, Brown Quail, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, a distant Australasian Gannet and our first Ospreys. We also noticed a pod of Southern Right Whales in the bay. The forecasted storm, with heavy rain, arrived at noon and we retreated to Albany, where, after a good lunch, we spent the afternoon birding the Seppings Lake. Best birds here included showy Western Rosella, two confiding White-breasted Robins, Musk and Blue-billed Ducks, Hoary-headed Grebe, Red-winged Fairywren and Little Grassbird, a bird we had only glimpsed earlier.

Next morning was dedicated to finding the Rock Parrot, a species that has disappeared from its former stake-out at Lancelin, where several of our earlier tours have found it easily. Looking at eBird the nearest promising looking area with recent observations for this coastal species was at Bremer Bay, about 180 kms from Albany, where we spent the morning checking several sites, but just couldn't find one! Some consolation was offered by Hooded Dotterel for Simon, Sooty Oystercatcher, our first Chestnut Teals, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, White-bellied Sea Eagle and Spotted Harrier. In the afternoon, after another delicious lunch in Albany, part of the group headed for the Cave Point Lighthouse, where seawatching produced decent views of small numbers of Black-browed, Shy and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses and Great-winged Petrels. Walking back to the car we admired a big flock of noisy Carnaby's Black Cockatoos.

We had now cleaned up all the strict SW Australian endemic species and it was time to head for pastures new. On the way north we had a brief stop at sunrise along the Cheynes beach road, where we had good scope views of the coastal subspecies (*nigrogularis*) of the Black-throated Whipbird, a bird some of us had missed earlier at Cheynes Beach. Next in the agenda was a stop at Corackerup National Park, where showy Southern Scrub Robins, White-browed Babbler, and a small family party of Shy Heathwrens (a write-in) were added to our bird list. The rest of the day was spent driving to Hyden, where we had time to visit the Wave Rock, a scenic rock formation and popular tourist destination.

After a very early start and a 180 kms drive along gravel roads we reached our next birding destination, Mcdermick Rock, in good time. The main target here was the Copperback Quail-thrush, which we eventually had great views of as the bird walked around us calling and eventually sat up in the scrub singing. Other new birds included the cute Redthroat, Pallid Cuckoo and White-fronted and Purple-gaped Honeyeaters plus a very brief Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater. We then began the long drive to Kookynie, where we arrived just before sunset. Here we stayed at the wonderfully frozen in time Grand Hotel, built in 1905 and seemingly little changed since then.

Next day began in the area around Niagara Dam Nature Reserve near Kookynie, where the first target was the much-needed Western Quail-thrush, which we managed to locate, after a somewhat stressful search, and enjoyed great views. The same area also held Chestnut-rumped Thornbill, another new bird for us. Next was a visit to the dam itself, where we shared a very quick

field breakfast with hordes of pesky flies. The birding here was very productive, and we saw several new species including Black-tailed Nativehen, Black-fronted Dotterel, a pair of Mulga Parrots, a pair of displaying Western Bowerbirds at their bower and Australian Zebra Finch. Later, on the way to our accommodation in Southern Cross, we stopped at a lake, where a short walk produced Crested Bellbird and Grey-fronted Honeyeater, both new birds for us, and a trio of very co-operative Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters.

A new morning saw us at a sewage farm, where new birds included White-backed Swallow, Rufous Songlark and White-winged Fairywren. Later we had lunch and good numbers of Western Corellas of the subspecies *derbyi* at Northam before visiting the Red Gully area for Western Fieldwren, which we saw well after a search. For the night we drove to Lancelin on the coast, where some late afternoon birding brought us 500 Bridled Terns, some Brown Noddies and our first Australian Hobby.

The next day was mainly devoted to travel. First, a drive Perth from where we flew 1700 kms north to the tropical center of Broome, where Alec and Paul were already waiting for us. After organizing two rental vehicles, having late lunch and checking into our hotel, we did some late afternoon birding in the Broome waterfront mangroves. The different habitat brought us many new birds including Bar-shouldered Dove, Masked Lapwing, Black-necked Stork, Royal Spoonbill, Little Egret, Black and Brahminy Kites, Red-collared Lorikeet, Red-headed Myzomela, Little Friarbird, Dusky Gerygone, White-breasted Woodswallow, a female Mangrove Golden Whistler, Mangrove Fantail, an excellent Broad-billed Flycatcher, Torresian Crow (the common crow here in the north) and Canary White-eye. Lesser Frigatebird and Brown Booby were new for the mainland part of the tour.

We were back in the Broome waterfront mangroves early next morning and managed to quickly locate the Mangrove Gerygone which we missed the previous day and connected with a gorgeous and confiding pair of Mangrove Golden Whistlers. The rest of the day was spent in the Broome Bird Observatory area, where the absolute highlight was the famous shorebird spectacle at the edge of the vast Roebuck Bay. Here the high tide pushes large numbers of wintering waders close to the shore offering a great visual and aural experience to visiting birders. The wader mass was formed by Great and Red Knots, Curlew Sandpipers, Greater and Siberian Sand Plovers, Grey Plovers, Red-necked Stints, Terek Sandpipers, Bar-tailed and Black-tailed Godwits, Ruddy Turnstones, Grey-tailed Tattlers, Common Greenshanks, Pied Oystercatchers, Red-capped Plovers, Eurasian Whimbrels, Far Eastern Curlews and Pied Stilts. Careful scanning also revealed five or so Broad-billed Sandpipers and three Asiatic Dowitchers, both rather scarce and sought after species here. A good selection of terns was also found as Australian, Caspian, Lesser Crested, Little and Whiskered Terns were all present, and our first Mistletoebird, a singing male, was observed around the car park. An early afternoon lunch break at the bird observatory's Shade House gave us brilliant views of Greater Bowerbirds and White-gaped Honeyeaters with many Double-barred and few Zebra Finches visiting bird baths just outside the building. A short stroll around the woodland surrounding the observatory gave us brilliant views of Peaceful Dove, Brush Cuckoo, Rufous-throated Honeyeater, Rainbow Bee-eater and a family party of four inquisitive Grey-crowned Babblers. A late afternoon visit to Crab Creek mangroves revealed, after an extensive search, the much needed White-breasted Whistler.

Our last morning in Broome was spent at the WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant), where we saw good numbers of commoner ducks and waders, including Marsh Sandpiper, a new bird for the list. Then we drove to Derby, where we visited the jetty and today's second Water Treatment Plant, a good place for some light birding and field lunch. From Derby it was five hours drive to our next

destination, Mt Elisabeth Station, where we arrived around sunset. New birds encountered during the day included Brolga, Wood Sandpiper, Australian Pratincole, White-necked Heron, Blue-winged Kookaburra, several hundred Little Corellas, many Red-winged Parrots, some Northern Rosellas, Black-faced Woodswallow, Paperbark Flycatcher and good numbers of Fairy Martins.

Our pleasant pre-breakfast birding session in the vicinity of Mt Elisabeth station was very productive and included our first Bar-breasted, Banded, Blue-faced, White-throated and Yellow-tinted Honeyeaters, Little and Silver-crowned Friarbirds, Olive-backed Oriole, a very showy pair of Red-collared Lorikeets, our first sighting of Pheasant Coucal and a singing Common Cicadabird, which seems to be a bit of a rarity in this part of Australia. We also had a chance to have a look at a Greater Bowerbird's bower, an impressive structure decorated with a well-organized collection of white pebbles, silvery screws and bolts, pieces of green and bright glass, empty shells of land snails and green berries. Later we had a short stop at the Gibb River crossing, where the hot weather (+36° C), made birding hard work, but we still managed new birds including Sulphur-crested Cockatoo and Black-chinned Honeyeater, and had good views of a Blue-winged Kookaburra. We reached our accommodation, the very pleasant Drysdale River Station, around noon, and had lunch and a rest before late afternoon birding along the beautiful Drysdale River. The key bird here was the much-needed Purple-crowned Fairywren, which we saw extremely well, and it was also good to get good views of the White-throated Gerygone, a species we had only heard earlier on the tour. Talking to a local birder at the station during dinner, we received some bad news regarding the status of the Black Grasswren, our main target the following day, at the Mitchell plateau. Apparently, the local tribe had burned down large stands of the 30-year-old Spinifex in the area we were heading for, and consequently the grasswren had become very scarce and difficult to find. Not much we could do about it now, other than try our best to locate one the next day.

After a short night's sleep, we were rolling again at 01.00 am and reached our destination at Mitchell Plateau before sunrise. After a quick breakfast we spent the entire morning searching the sites where the latest observations of the grasswren had been made 12 and 20 days earlier but failed to find it. We did however find other good birds with the range restricted Kimberley Honeyeater, Green-backed Gerygone, Sandstone Shrikethrush and White-quilled Rock Pigeon. The temperature was getting very high now, and we retreated in the shade to consider our options. After refreshments we were back in the field re-checking the most promising looking grassbird habitats again, but still no luck. Defeated and exhausted we retreated to our vehicles and, after finding Red-backed Fairywren and a flock of gorgeous Partridge Pigeons at the campsite, started to drive back to Drysdale around 14.30. On the way one of our vehicles had a puncture and it wasn't until around 18.00 when we reached our accommodation. A long, and mentally tough day in the field!

After a brief morning's birding around Drysdale River Station, we drove to Kununurra, where we arrived late in the afternoon. On the way we had several roadside stops for birding and lunch, which yielded a flock of gorgeous Spinifex Pigeons and couple of Black-tailed Treecreepers, both new birds for us. Once in Kununurra we checked the Lily Creek Lagoon where new birds included flocks of Chestnut-breasted Munias and Crimson Finches allowing great views, many Comb-crested Jacanas, rather distant White-browed and Baillon's Crakes and a Green Oriole for Paul.

Approaching our birding destination early the next morning we had to drive through a large area of bush fire, which caused some concern, but in the end, everything went well, and we reached our destination, Lake Argyle, safely and in good time. Our very enjoyable boat trip exploring the

shoreline of several islands, having a long stop, and tasty breakfast, in a secluded bay and a walk around a low-lying island gave us a mouth-watering list of goodies. The main species of interest was the very attractive Yellow Chat, which we saw extremely well and in good numbers. Other highlights included thousands of Magpie Geese, many Rajdah Shelducks and Green Pygmy Geese, several showy Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoos, three Black-tailed Nativehens, confiding Baillon's and White-browed Crakes, Azure Kingfisher and our first and only records of Long-toed Stint, Red-kneed Dotterel and Oriental Plover of the tour. Other new acquaintances included Horsfield's Bush Lark, Brown Songlark and Tawny Grassbird. After a break during the hotter hours of the day, we headed to Weaber Plains north of Kununurra and soon located small flocks of Yellow-rumped Mannikins and Star Finches, both new birds for us, by a canal. Later in the afternoon an area of arable fields produced four individuals of the declining Australian Bustard, a very welcome birthday lifer for Simon. At dusk we still had the energy to visit the Celebrity Tree Park, where Oriental Dollarbird and Buff-sided Robin were new birds.

An early start got us to the Wyndham area by dawn, where we had a pre-arranged meeting with Rodney Bushell, who took us to his superb drinking pool for a real finch fiesta. This small natural pool, with a row of comfortable chairs in the open less than 20 meters away, has been running for several years now and has become very popular among bird photographers (pre-booking required!). And what a magical morning we had watching good numbers (hundreds in total) of Crimson, Star, Double-barred, Australian Zebra, Masked, Long-tailed and, best of all, hundred or so Gouldian Finches coming in for a bath or quick sip. In addition, we had brilliant views of Rufous-throated, Bar-breasted, Banded and White-gaped Honeyeaters and Grey-crowned Babblers visiting the pool. In mid-morning we paid visit to the mangroves at Wyndham jetty, where we managed great views of Lemon-bellied Flyrobin, a new bird for us, and met some old acquaintances including Mangrove Gerygone, Mangrove Fantail and Red-headed Myzomela. Unfortunately, the Barry Creek Farm tourist park, where we were planning to have our lunch, was closed, but luckily the Barking Owl I had located here few weeks earlier, was still roosting in the same tree and provided good views. Back in Wyndham we enjoyed lunch in a bakery and a flock of four Cockatiels, new bird for us, along the main road. Next, we visited Marglu billabong for some very hot (+38° c) mid-afternoon birding. The absolute highlight of our visit was the scarce Black Falcon, which we saw well, and we also enjoyed very good views of a perched Spotted Harrier, saw several Black-necked Storks, Pied Heron and a number of commoner wetland species. In the late afternoon we drove back to Kununurra and Lily Creek Lagoon, where Simon and Steve both managed to glimpse the rarely seen Black-backed Bittern in flight.

On the last morning of the tour, we resumed our search for Black-backed Bittern, which many of us still needed, and this time, thanks to Steve's perseverance, we had good scope views of a single bird creeping about in the reeds. It was also good to get great views of singing Green Oriole, and there was also a flying Pacific Baza for the leader only. Back at the hotel we had good breakfast after which it was time to say our goodbyes, and to thank everyone for their great company, which, together with all the excellent birds and exciting places, made this such a memorable trip. Special thanks to Simon for working as my navigator and eBirder during the tour and Paul for driving the second vehicle on Christmas Island and in the north.

## **BIRD OF THE TRIP**

1. White-tailed Tropicbird (Golden), Purple-crowned Fairywren & Gouldian Finch

2. Spinifex Pigeon
3. Western Bowerbird

## SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g., it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

The species names and taxonomy used in the bird list follows Gill, F., Donsker, D., & Rasmussen, P. (Eds). **2023. IOC World Bird List (v13.2)** (this was the current version when the checklist for the tour report was created).

Where the subspecies seen is/are known, these are often given in parentheses at the end of the species comment.

## BIRDS

**Emu** ◊ *Dromaius novaehollandiae* Endemic to Australia. Several good sightings.

**Magpie Goose** ◊ *Anseranas semipalmata* Endemic to Australia.

**Plumed Whistling Duck** ◊ *Dendrocygnaeaytoni* Endemic to Australia.

**Wandering Whistling Duck** ◊ *Dendrocygna arcuate*

**Black Swan** ◊ *Cygnus atratus* Endemic to Australia.

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* Introduced to Australia, but apparently the birds around Northam, where we saw them, are "tickable".

**Freckled Duck** ◊ *Stictonetta naevo* Endemic to Australia.

**Radjah Shelduck** ◊ *Radjah radjah*

**Australian Shelduck** ◊ *Tadorna tadornoides* Endemic to Australia.

**Pink-eared Duck** ◊ *Malacorhynchus membranaceus* Endemic to Australia.

**Maned Duck** ◊ *Chenonetta jubata* Endemic to Australia.

**Green Pygmy Goose** ◊ *Nettapus pulchellus*

**Australasian Shoveler** ◊ *Spatula rhynchotis*

**Pacific Black Duck** *Anas superciliosa*

**Grey Teal** ◊ *Anas gracilis*

**Chestnut Teal** ◊ *Anas castanea* Endemic to Australia.



**Hardhead** ◇ *Aythya australis*

**Blue-billed Duck** ◇ *Oxyura australis* Endemic to Australia.

**Musk Duck** ◇ *Biziura lobata* Endemic to Australia.

**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus* Introduced to Christmas Island, where far too common.

**Brown Quail** ◇ *Synoicus ypsilophorus*

**Spotted Nightjar** ◇ *Eurostopodus argus* Endemic breeding bird to Australia. Two very brief encounters.

**Tawny Frogmouth** ◇ *Podargus strigoides* Endemic to Australia.

**Australian Owlet-nightjar** ◇ *Aegotheles cristatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Christmas Swiftlet** ◇ *Collocalia natalis* Endemic to Christmas Island, where common.

**Australian Bustard** ◇ *Ardeotis australis*

**Pheasant Coucal** *Centropus phasianinus*

**Channel-billed Cuckoo** ◇ *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

**Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo** ◇ *Chrysococcyx basalis* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Black-eared Cuckoo** ◇ *Chrysococcyx osculans* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Shining Bronze Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

**Pallid Cuckoo** ◇ *Cacomantis pallidus* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo** ◇ *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

**Brush Cuckoo** *Cacomantis variolosus*

**Rock Dove (introduced)** *Columba livia*

**Spotted Dove (introduced)** *Spilopelia chinensis*

**Laughing Dove (introduced)** *Spilopelia senegalensis*

**Common Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica* Several encounters on Christmas Island.

**Common Bronzewing** ◇ *Phaps chalcoptera* Endemic to Australia.

**Brush Bronzewing** ◇ *Phaps elegans* Endemic to Australia.

**Crested Pigeon** ◇ *Ocyphaps lophotes* Endemic to Australia.

**Spinifex Pigeon** ◇ *Geophaps plumifera* Endemic to Australia.

**Partridge Pigeon** ◇ (Yellow-faced P P) *Geophaps [smithii] smithii* Endemic to north-west Australia.

**White-quilled Rock Pigeon** ◇ *Petrophassa albipennis* Endemic to north-west Australia.

**Diamond Dove** ◇ *Geopelia cuneata* Endemic to Australia.

**Peaceful Dove** *Geopelia placida*

**Bar-shouldered Dove** ◇ *Geopelia humeralis*

**Christmas Imperial Pigeon** ◇ *Ducula whartoni* Commonly encountered on Christmas Island, where endemic.

**Buff-banded Rail** *Hypotaenidia philippensis*

**Black-tailed Nativehen** ◇ *Tribonyx ventralis* Endemic to Australia.

**Dusky Moorhen** ◇ *Gallinula tenebrosa*

**Eurasian Coot (Australasian C)** *Fulica [atra] australis*

**Australasian Swamphen** ◇ *Porphyrio melanotus*

**Baillon's Crake** *Zapornia pusilla*

**White-browed Crake** *Poliolimnas cinereus*

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus* Four encounters on Christmas Island, where this species settled in early 1990's and is now thinly distributed along the coastal fringes.

**Brolga** ◇ *Antigone rubicunda*

**Australasian Grebe** *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

**Hoary-headed Grebe** ◇ *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus* Endemic to Australia.

**Great Crested Grebe (Australian C G)** *Podiceps [cristatus] australis*

**Painted Buttonquail** ◇ *Turnix varius* Endemic to Australia.

**Bush Stone-curlew** ◇ (B Thick-knee) *Burhinus grallarius*

**Pied Oystercatcher** ◇ (Australian P O) *Haematopus longirostris*

**Sooty Oystercatcher** ◇ *Haematopus fuliginosus* Endemic to Australia.

**Pied Stilt** ◇ *Himantopus leucocephalus*

**Banded Lapwing** ◇ *Vanellus tricolor* Endemic to Australia.

**Masked Lapwing** ◇ *Vanellus miles*

**Red-kneed Dotterel** ◇ *Erythrogonys cinctus* Endemic to Australia.

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*

**Grey Plover (Black-bellied P)** *Pluvialis squatarola*

**Red-capped Plover** ◊ *Charadrius ruficapillus* Endemic to Australia.

**Siberian Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus* The Lesser Sand Plover complex has now been split into two species, Siberian Sand Plover and Tibetan Sand Plover *Charadrius atrifrons*.

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*

**Oriental Plover** ◊ *Charadrius veredus*

**Hooded Dotterel** ◊ (H Plover) *Thinornis cucullatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-fronted Dotterel** ◊ *Elseyornis melanops*

**Comb-crested Jacana** ◊ *Irediparra gallinacea*

**Eurasian Whimbrel (Eurasian W)** *Numenius phaeopus*

**Far Eastern Curlew (Eastern C)** *Numenius madagascariensis*

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

**Black-tailed Godwit (Eastern B-t G)** *Limosa [limosa] melanuroides*

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

**Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris*

**Red Knot** *Calidris canutus*

**Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Calidris falcinellus*

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata*

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

**Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta*

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*

**Asian Dowitcher** ◊ *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

**Grey-tailed Tattler** *Tringa brevipes*

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

**Australian Pratincole** ◊ *Stiltia Isabella* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Brown Noddy *Anous stolidus***

**Silver Gull** ♦ *Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*

**Pacific Gull** ♦ *Larus pacificus* Endemic to Australia.

**Australian Tern (A Gull-billed T) *Gelochelidon macrotarsa***

**Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia***

**Greater Crested Tern (Crested T) *Thalasseus bergii***

**Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis***

**Little Tern *Sternula albifrons***

**Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus***

**Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida***

**Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus*** Great views of one bold individual on Christmas Island. This bird, apparently the fourth for Australia, belonged to ssp *lepturus* originating from the Indian Ocean and waters off of the Middle East

**Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*** Common on Christmas Island.

**White-tailed Tropicbird** ♦ *Phaethon lepturus lepturus* Daily encounters with this white morph on Christmas Island.

**White-tailed Tropicbird (Golden Bosunbird)** ♦ *Phaethon [lepturus] fulvus* This magnificent golden form was commonly encountered on Christmas Island.

**Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris***

**Shy Albatross** ♦ *Thalassarche cauta*

**Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross** ♦ *Thalassarche carteri*

**Great-winged Petrel *Pterodroma macroptera***

**Black-necked Stork** ♦ *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

**Christmas Frigatebird** ♦ *Fregata andrewsi* Endemic to Christmas Island.

**Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor***

**Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*** In addition to birds on Christmas Island, we encountered this species in the Broome area.

**Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator***

**Abbott's Booby** ♦ *Papasula abbotti* Endemic to Christmas Island.

**Red-footed Booby** ♦ *Sula sula* Commonly encountered on Christmas Island.

**Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*** In addition to breeding birds on Christmas Island, we encountered this species in small numbers in the Broome area.

**Australasian Darter** ♦ *Anhinga novaehollandiae*

**Little Pied Cormorant** *Microcarbo melanoleucos*

**Australian Pied Cormorant** ♦ (Pied C) *Phalacrocorax varius*

**Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

**Australian White Ibis (Australian I)** *Threskiornis molucca*

**Straw-necked Ibis** ♦ *Threskiornis spinicollis*

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*

**Royal Spoonbill** ♦ *Platalea regia*

**Yellow-billed Spoonbill** ♦ *Platalea flavipes* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-backed Bittern** ♦ (Australian Little B) *Ixobrychus dubius*

**Nankeen Night Heron (Rufous N H)** *Nycticorax caledonicus*

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

**White-necked Heron** ♦ (Pacific H) *Ardea pacifica*

**Great Egret (Eastern G E)** *Ardea [alba] modesta*

**Plumed Egret** ♦ *Ardea plumifera* The good old Intermediate Egret is now split into three species, of which the Plumed Egret was the form we encountered.

**Pied Heron** ♦ *Egretta picata*

**White-faced Heron** *Egretta novaehollandiae*

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

**Pacific Reef Heron (Eastern Reef Egret, P R Egret)** *Egretta sacra*

**Australian Pelican** ♦ *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

**Osprey (Eastern O)** *Pandion [haliaetus] cristatus*

**Black-shouldered Kite** ♦ (Australian K) *Elanus axillaris* Endemic to Australia.

**Square-tailed Kite** ♦ *Lophoictinia isura* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-breasted Buzzard** ♦ *Hamirostra melanosternon* Endemic to Australia.

**Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata***

**Little Eagle** ♦ *Hieraaetus morphnoides* Endemic to Australia.

**Wedge-tailed Eagle** ♦ *Aquila audax*

**Brown Goshawk** *Accipiter fasciatus*

**Brown Goshawk** ♦ *Accipiter [fasciatus] natalis* We had great views of the Christmas Island form of the Brown Goshawk, which has also been placed in Variable Goshawk. Probably the best solution for this isolated island form is species status, which is followed by some authors.

**Collared Sparrowhawk** ♦ *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

**Swamp Harrier** *Circus approximans*

**Spotted Harrier** ♦ *Circus assimilis*

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

**Whistling Kite** ♦ *Haliastur sphenurus*

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*

**White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

**Barking Owl** ♦ *Ninox connivens*

**Christmas Boobook** ♦ *Ninox natalis* Endemic to Christmas Island.

**Oriental Dollarbird (Dollarbird)** *Eurystomus orientalis*

**Laughing Kookaburra** ♦ *Dacelo novaeguineae* Endemic to Australia.

**Blue-winged Kookaburra** ♦ *Dacelo leachii*

**Sacred Kingfisher** *Todiramphus sanctus*

**Azure Kingfisher** ♦ *Ceyx azureus*

**Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*

**Nankeen Kestrel** ♦ (Australian K) *Falco cenchroides* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Australian Hobby** ♦ *Falco longipennis*

**Brown Falcon** ♦ *Falco berigora*

**Black Falcon** ♦ *Falco subniger* Endemic to Australia.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

**Cockatiel** ♦ *Nymphicus hollandicus* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-tailed Black Cockatoo** ♦ *Calyptorhynchus banksia* Endemic to Australia.

**Baudin's Black Cockatoo** ◊ (Long-billed B C) *Zanda baudinii* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Carnaby's Black Cockatoo** ◊ (Short-billed B C) *Zanda latirostris* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Galah** ◊ *Eolophus roseicapilla* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Corella** ◊ *Cacatua pastinator* Both forms, *pastinator* and *derbyi*, were noted. Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Little Corella** ◊ *Cacatua sanguinea*

**Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua galerita*

**Regent Parrot** ◊ *Polytelis anthopeplus* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-winged Parrot** ◊ *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

**Mulga Parrot** ◊ *Psephotellus varius* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-capped Parrot** ◊ *Purpureicephalus spurius* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Northern Rosella** ◊ *Platycercus venustus* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Rosella** ◊ *Platycercus icterotis* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Australian Ringneck** ◊ *Barnardius zonarius* Endemic to Australia. Ssp *semitorquatus* (Twenty-eight Parrot) in the far southwest, ssp *zonarius* (Port Lincoln Parrot) elsewhere.

**Elegant Parrot** ◊ *Neophema elegans* Endemic to Australia.

**Purple-crowned Lorikeet** ◊ *Parvipsitta porphyrocephala* Endemic to Australia.

**Rainbow Lorikeet** ◊ *Trichoglossus moluccanus*

**Red-collared Lorikeet** ◊ *Trichoglossus rubritorquis* Endemic to northern Australia.

**Noisy Scrubbird** ◊ *Atrichornis clamosus* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Western Bowerbird** ◊ *Chlamydera guttata* Endemic to Australia.

**Great Bowerbird** ◊ *Chlamydera nuchalis* Endemic to Australia.

**Rufous Treecreeper** ◊ *Climacteris rufus* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-tailed Treecreeper** ◊ *Climacteris melanurus* Endemic to Australia.

**Purple-backed Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus assimilis* Endemic to Australia.

**Blue-breasted Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus pulcherrimus* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-winged Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus elegans* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Splendid Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus splendens* Endemic to Australia.

**Purple-crowned Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus coronatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-backed Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus melanocephalus* Endemic to Australia.

**White-winged Fairywren** ◊ *Malurus leucopterus* Endemic to Australia.

**Southern Emu-wren** ◊ *Stipiturus malachurus* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Spinebill** ◊ *Acanthorhynchus superciliosus* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Yellow Chat** ◊ *Epthianura crocea* Endemic to Australia.

**White-fronted Chat** ◊ *Epthianura albifrons* Endemic to Australia.

**Rufous-throated Honeyeater** ◊ *Conopophila rufogularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Bar-breasted Honeyeater** ◊ *Ramsayornis fasciatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Tawny-crowned Honeyeater** ◊ *Gliciphila melanops* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-headed Myzomela** ◊ (R-h Honeyeater) *Myzomela erythrocephala*

**Little Friarbird** ◊ *Philemon citreogularis*

**Silver-crowned Friarbird** ◊ *Philemon argenticeps* Endemic to northern Australia.

**New Holland Honeyeater** ◊ *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* Endemic to Australia.

**White-cheeked Honeyeater** ◊ *Phylidonyris niger* Endemic to Australia.

**Brown Honeyeater** *Lichmera indistincta*

**Banded Honeyeater** ◊ *Cissomela pectoralis* Endemic to Australia.

**White-eared Honeyeater** ◊ *Nesoptilotis leucotis* Endemic to Australia.

**Blue-faced Honeyeater** ◊ *Entomyzon cyanotis* The form encountered is *albipennis*, which is endemic to northern Australia.

**Black-chinned Honeyeater** *Melithreptus gularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Brown-headed Honeyeater** ◊ *Melithreptus brevirostris* Endemic to Australia.

**White-throated Honeyeater** ◊ *Melithreptus albogularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Gilbert's Honeyeater** ◊ (Swan River H) *Melithreptus chloropsis* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**White-gaped Honeyeater** ◊ *Stomiopera unicolor* Endemic to Australia.

**White-fronted Honeyeater** ◊ *Purnella albifrons* Endemic to Australia.

**Purple-gaped Honeyeater** ◊ *Lichenostomus cratitius* Endemic to Australia.

**Kimberley Honeyeater** ◊ *Territornis fordiana* Endemic to north-west Australia.

**Singing Honeyeater** ◊ *Gavicalis virescens* Endemic to Australia.



**Yellow-tinted Honeyeater** ◇ *Ptilotula flavescens*

**Grey-fronted Honeyeater** ◇ *Ptilotula plumula* Endemic to Australia.

**Yellow-plumed Honeyeater** ◇ *Ptilotula ornata* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Wattlebird** ◇ *Anthochaera lunulate* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Red Wattlebird** ◇ *Anthochaera carunculata* Endemic to Australia.

**Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater** ◇ *Acanthagenys rufogularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Yellow-throated Miner** ◇ *Manorina flavigula* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Bristlebird** ◇ *Dasyornis longirostris* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Spotted Pardalote** ◇ *Pardalotus punctatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Striated Pardalote** ◇ *Pardalotus striatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Weebill** ◇ *Smicronis brevirostris* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Fieldwren** ◇ *Calamanthus montanellus* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Shy Heathwren** ◇ *Hylacola cauta* Endemic to Australia.

**Redthroat** ◇ *Pyrrholaemus brunneus* Endemic to Australia.

**Spotted Scrubwren** ◇ *Sericornis maculatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Mangrove Gerygone** ◇ *Gerygone levigaster*

**Western Gerygone** ◇ *Gerygone fusca* Endemic to Australia.

**Dusky Gerygone** ◇ *Gerygone tenebrosa* Endemic to north-west Australia.

**Green-backed Gerygone** *Gerygone chloronota*

**White-throated Gerygone** ◇ *Gerygone olivacea*

**Inland Thornbill** ◇ *Acanthiza apicalis* Endemic to Australia.

**Chestnut-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza uropygialis* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Thornbill** ◇ *Acanthiza inornata* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Yellow-rumped Thornbill** ◇ *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* Endemic to Australia.

**Grey-crowned Babbler** ◇ *Pomatostomus temporalis*

**White-browed Babbler** ◇ *Pomatostomus superciliosus* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-throated Whipbird** ◇ *Psophodes nigrogularis* Endemic to Australia. Both forms, the mallee breeding *oberoi* and the coastal *nigrogularis*, were seen.

**Copperback Quail-thrush** ◊ *Cinclosoma clarum* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Quail-thrush** ◊ *Cinclosoma marginatum* Endemic to western Australia.

**White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus leucorhynchus*

**Black-faced Woodswallow** ◊ *Artamus cinereus*

**Dusky Woodswallow** ◊ *Artamus cyanopterus* Endemic to Australia.

**Australian Magpie** ◊ *Gymnorhina tibicen*

**Grey Butcherbird** ◊ *Cracticus torquatus* Endemic to Australia.

**Pied Butcherbird** ◊ *Cracticus nigrogularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Grey Currawong** ◊ *Strepera versicolor* Endemic to Australia.

**Black-faced Cuckooshrike** ◊ *Coracina novaehollandiae*

**White-bellied Cuckooshrike** *Coracina papuensis*

**Common Cicadabird** *Edolisoma tenuirostre*

**White-winged Triller** ◊ *Lalage tricolor*

**Varied Sittella** ◊ *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* Endemic to Australia.

**Crested Bellbird** ◊ *Oreoica gutturalis* Endemic to Australia.

**Western Shriketit** ◊ *Falcunculus leucogaster* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Western Whistler** ◊ *Pachycephala fuliginosa* Endemic to Australia.

**Mangrove Golden Whistler** ◊ *Pachycephala melanura*

**Rufous Whistler** ◊ *Pachycephala rufiventris*

**White-breasted Whistler** ◊ *Pachycephala lanioides* Endemic to northern Australia.

**Grey Shrikethrush** ◊ *Colluricincla harmonica*

**Sandstone Shrikethrush** ◊ *Colluricincla woodwardi* Endemic to northern Australia.

**Olive-backed Oriole** ◊ *Oriolus sagittatus*

**Green Oriole** ◊ (Yellow O) *Oriolus flavocinctus*

**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus*

**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys*

**Grey Fantail** ◊ *Rhipidura albiscapa*

**Mangrove Fantail** ◊ (M Grey F) *Rhipidura phasiana*

**Magpie-lark** ◊ (Australian M-I) *Grallina cyanoleuca*

**Leaden Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiagra rubecula*

**Broad-billed Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiagra ruficollis*

**Paperbark Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiagra nana*

**Restless Flycatcher** ◊ *Myiagra inquieta* Endemic to Australia.

**Torresian Crow** ◊ *Corvus orru*

**Little Crow** ◊ *Corvus bennetti* Endemic to Australia.

**Australian Raven** ◊ *Corvus coronoides* Endemic to Australia.

**White-breasted Robin** ◊ *Quoyornis georgianus* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Western Yellow Robin** ◊ *Eopsaltria griseogularis* Endemic to Australia.

**Buff-sided Robin** ◊ *Poecilodryas cerviniventris* Endemic to Australia.

**Southern Scrub Robin** ◊ *Drymodes brunneopygia* Endemic to Australia.

**Lemon-bellied Flyrobin** ◊ *Microeca [flavigaster] flavigaster*

**Jacky Winter** ◊ *Microeca fascinans*

**Scarlet Robin** ◊ *Petroica boodang* Endemic to Australia.

**Red-capped Robin** ◊ *Petroica goodenovii* Endemic to Australia.

**Horsfield's Bush Lark (Australasian B)** *Mirafra javanica*

**White-backed Swallow** ◊ *Cheramoeca leucosterna* Endemic to Australia.

**Welcome Swallow** ◊ *Hirundo neoxena*

**Fairy Martin** ◊ *Petrochelidon ariel* Endemic breeding bird to Australia.

**Tree Martin** ◊ *Petrochelidon nigricans*

**Australian Reed Warbler** ◊ *Acrocephalus australis*

**Little Grassbird** ◊ *Poodytes gramineus*

**Brown Songlark** ◊ *Cincloramphus cruralis* Endemic to Australia.

**Rufous Songlark** ◊ *Cincloramphus mathewsi* Endemic to Australia.

**Tawny Grassbird** *Cincloramphus timoriensis*

**Golden-headed Cisticola (Bright-capped C)** *Cisticola exilis*

**Canary White-eye** *Zosterops luteus* Endemic to Australia.

**Silvereye** ♦ *Zosterops lateralis*

**Christmas White-eye** ♦ *Zosterops natalis* Endemic to Christmas Island, where common.

**Island Thrush** ♦ *Turdus [poliocephalus] erythropleurus* Endemic Christmas Island subspecies.

**Mistletoebird** ♦ *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus* Introduced to Christmas Island.

**Red-eared Firetail** ♦ *Stagonopleura oculata* Endemic to south-west Australia.

**Crimson Finch** ♦ *Neochmia phaeton*

**Star Finch** ♦ *Bathilda ruficauda* Endemic to Australia.

**Double-barred Finch** ♦ *Stizoptera bichenovii* Endemic to Australia.

**Australian Zebra Finch** ♦ *Taeniopygia castanotis* Originally endemic to Australia, but local populations originating from escaped cagebirds occur elsewhere.

**Masked Finch** ♦ *Poephila personata* Endemic to Australia.

**Long-tailed Finch** ♦ *Poephila acuticauda* Endemic to Australia.

**Yellow-rumped Mannikin** ♦ *Lonchura flaviprymna* Endemic to north-west Australia.

**Chestnut-breasted Mannikin** ♦ *Lonchura castaneothorax*

**Gouldian Finch** ♦ *Chloebia gouldiae* Endemic to northern Australia.

**Australian Pipit** *Anthus australis*

## MAMMALS

**Short-beaked Echidna** *Tachyglossus aculeatus*

**Numbat** *Myrmecobius fasciatus*

**Common Brush-tailed Possum** *Trichosurus vulpecula*

**Honey Possum** *Tarsipes rostratus*

**Agile Wallaby** *Macropus agilis*

**Western Grey Kangaroo** *Macropus fuliginosus*

**Short-eared Rock Wallaby** *Petrogale brachyotis*

**Grey Wolf (Dingo)** *Canis lupus* Non-leader. Two on the roadside in Kimberley.

**New Zealand Fur Seal** *Arctocephalus forsteri*

**Southern Right Whale** *Eubalaena australis* A pod of six at Cheynes Beach.

**Common Bottlenose Dolphin *Tursiops truncatus***

**Black-eared Flying Fox *Pteropus melanotus*** A few on Christmas Island.

**European Rabbit (introduced) *Oryctolagus cuniculus*** Commonly encountered.

**Black Rat *Rattus rattus*** A few encounters on Christmas Island.

## REPTILES

**Horner's Dragon *Lophognathus horneri***

**Freshwater Crocodile *Crocodylus johnstoni***

**Slater's Dragon *Ctenophorus slateri***

**South-west Shingleback Lizard *Tiliqua rugosa rugosa***

**Barking Gekko *Underwoodisaurus milii*** Noted on Christmas Island.

## CRUSTACEANS

**Robber Crab (Coconut Crab) *Birgus latro*** Small number of these giants on Christmas Island.  
World's biggest land crustacean.

**Christmas Island Red Crab *Gecarcoidea natalis*** Commonly encountered on Christmas Island.

**Blue Crab *Discoplax hirtipes*** Regularly encountered on Christmas Island.