



Coastal heathlands

Walks: Cape Queen Elizabeth Track; Peninsula Circuit Track

This habitat is characterised by a high diversity of plant types that often form dense prickly thickets. Many flowering plants provide an important food source for birds and the dense vegetation provides protection for many bird species.



Dry eucalypt woodlands and forests

Walks: Cape Queen Elizabeth Track; Peter Murrell Reserves; Coningham Nature Recreation Area; Dru Point Bicentennial Park; North West Bay River Track

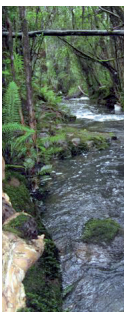
These highly variable habitats are common throughout Kingborough with species composition depending on the underlying rock type, topography and aspect, rainfall, and the degree of land disturbance. In general, several species of tall trees dominate over smaller trees and shrubs and grasses and other small plants. Many Tasmanian birds use these habitats for all or part of their annual life cycle as they provide food, shelter, and nesting opportunities.



Wet eucalypt forest

Walks: Kaoota Tramway; Snug Falls Track

Occurring in wetter areas, very tall trees occur within a dense layer of middle level plants and ground cover displaying a considerable diversity of plants depending on local conditions. All levels of the forest are utilised by birds, with different species occurring in the different layers of the forest.



Rainforest

Walks: Mavista Nature Trail; Snug Falls Track

Tall trees occur over mid-level trees and tall shrubs and lower plants, and occur in fire-protected areas. The middle and ground level flora ranges from very dense to relatively open depending on local conditions. Several bird species are described as rainforest specialists due to their ability to exploit the specific food and environmental conditions.



Tasmanian endemic birds, from left: Tasmanian Native-hen, Green Rosella, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Yellow Wattlebird, Strong-billed Honeyeater, Dusky Robin

Endemic bird species

Tasmania has twelve bird species that occur nowhere else on Earth. The relatively high number of endemic species in Tasmania is due to the island's isolation and differences in climate from mainland Australia for considerable periods in the last 100,000 years. The geographic isolation and climatic differences resulted in genetic differentiation from similar mainland species (for example, the Tasmanian Scrubwren from the White-browed Scrubwren).

Several of the endemic species are widespread in Kingborough and occur in suitable habitat, for example the Yellow-throated Honeyeater and Green Rosella can be seen in most habitats including suburban gardens and parklands. Several endemic species are uncommon, and the Forty-spotted Pardalote is listed as Endangered under Tasmanian legislation. Habitat loss and fragmentation, land management changes, invasive species, and climate change are all threats to Tasmania's endemic birds.

Tasmania's endemic birds:

Black Currawong	Strong-billed Honeyeater
Black-headed Honeyeater	Tasmanian Native-hen
Dusky Robin	Tasmanian Scrubwren
Forty-spotted Pardalote	Tasmanian Thornbill
Green Rosella	Yellow-throated Honeyeater
Scrubtit	Yellow Wattlebird

Production of this brochure was supported by a Kingborough Community Grant. For more information about Kingborough Council and other walks in the area, visit www.kingborough.tas.gov.au. The brochure has been prepared by Kingborough Council and BirdLife Tasmania. For more information about BirdLife Tasmania or about Tasmania's birds, visit www.birdlife.org.au/locations/birdlife-tasmania or email tasmania@birdlife.org.au.

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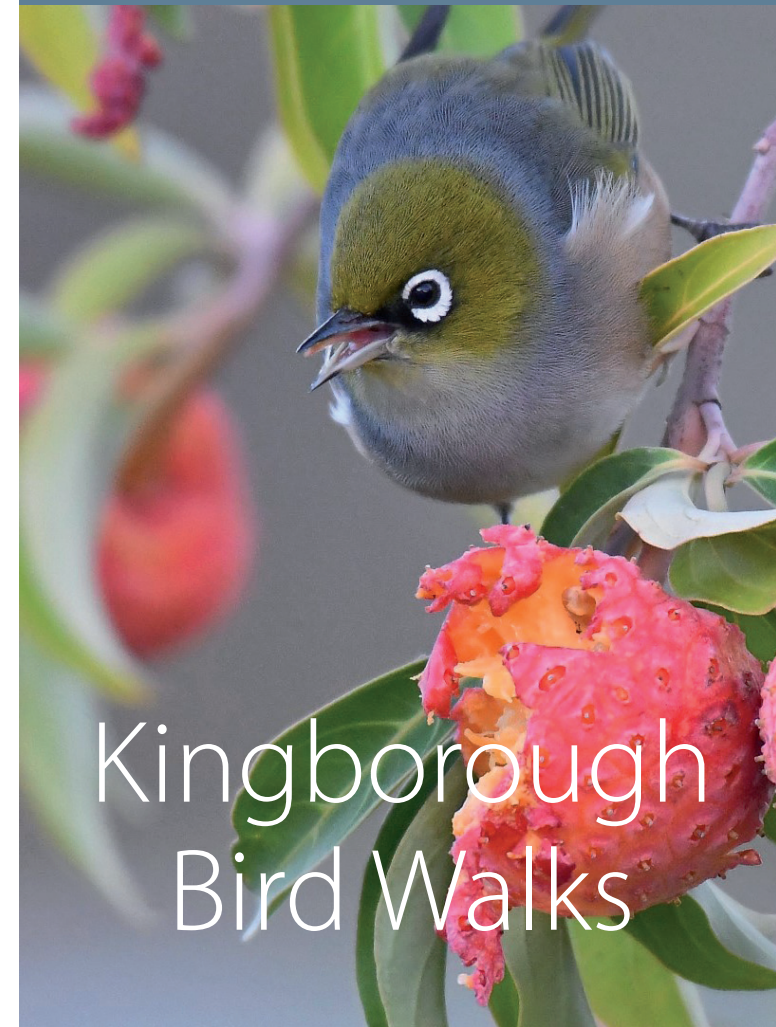
All bird photographs: Mick Brown

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Map: Peter Boyer, SouthWind

Design: Liz Haywood

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Kingborough Bird Walks



... exploring the birdlife of our forests and coasts

Kingborough bird walks

Over 120 land bird species can be found in the Kingborough area including the twelve Tasmanian endemic species. The wide range of habitats in the area allows diverse birdwatching experiences for locals and visitors, and for the enthusiast there are several hard-to-find bird species in Kingborough. Ten birdwatching walks are described in the brochure and there are many other opportunities to observe birds in the area.

The **Dru Point Bicentennial Park** at Margate is an excellent location for shorebirds and honeyeaters, while the **Peter Murrell Reserves** near Kingston contain many of Tasmania's bush birds and most of Tasmania's endemic bird species. All twelve Tasmanian endemic bird species can be found on **Bruny Island** and the three suggested walks on Bruny Island cover a wide range of habitats including wet and dryer forests, freshwater lagoons, coastal heathlands, and ocean and sheltered beaches.

All areas shown in this brochure are easily accessible by 2WD vehicles and relatively easy walking. Please note that all walks are undertaken at your own risk and that the risks and warnings associated with high fire danger and severe weather conditions need to be carefully considered before undertaking a walk. All advisory signage must be followed.

Bird habitats

The Kingborough Municipality includes a wide range of terrains, from oceanic coastline to the mountainous lands on kunanyi/ Mt Wellington and includes the habitats of coastal heathlands, temperate rainforests and eucalypt woodlands. The walks described in this brochure traverse a range of habitats allowing the visitor to see a wide range of bird species.



Freshwater wetlands and estuaries

Walks: Cape Queen Elizabeth Track;
Alum Cliffs and Browns River Walks

The vegetation in wetlands includes marginal herblands and heathlands, tussock sedgeland, sedges, and reed swamps. The muddy edges of lakes and swamps support insects and other invertebrates. These wetlands offer many foraging and sheltering opportunities for a variety of birdlife.

Birdwatching etiquette

Kingborough Council and BirdLife Tasmania encourage ethical birding and ethical photography that respect the habitats, behaviour and wellbeing of the birds and all wildlife. It is important to stay on the tracks and observe birds from a distance. If birds are reacting to your presence, you may be disturbing them and taking them away from eggs, young, or reducing the time for foraging or breeding. Move away and observe or photograph from a distance. More information can be found at <https://birdlife.org.au/documents/POL-Ethical-Birding-Guidelines.pdf>

BirdLife Tasmania encourages people to record their bird observations in the national bird database (Birddata) to assist in bird conservation and the management of Australia's native birds. Please visit <https://birddata.birdlife.org.au> for more information. BirdLife Australia supports a Birds in Backyards program that focuses on the birds that live where people live. This program is a great way to learn about your local birds and more information can be found at birdlife.org.au.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle



Kingborough bird checklist

Shore/Wetland species

Endemic bird species are marked **E**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australasian Gannet | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelp Gull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Pelican | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Black Cormorant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Pied Oystercatcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Pied Cormorant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Wood Duck | <input type="checkbox"/> Masked Lapwing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Swan | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Black Duck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-faced Cormorant | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Gull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-fronted Plover | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-capped Plover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut Teal | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Gull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crested Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Sooty Oystercatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Coot | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmanian Native-hen (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feral / Hybrid Duck | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Swallow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Cormorant | <input type="checkbox"/> White-bellied Sea-Eagle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Egret | <input type="checkbox"/> White-faced Heron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hoary-headed Grebe | <input type="checkbox"/> White-fronted Chat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Plover | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Flame Robin and chick

Heathlands, Woodlands and Forest species

Wet Forest specialists marked *. Many birds utilise several habitats.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Magpie | <input type="checkbox"/> Laughing Kookaburra |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bassian Thrush * | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Wattlebird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautiful Firetail | <input type="checkbox"/> Musk Lorikeet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Currawong * (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> New Holland Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-headed Honeyeater (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> Noisy Miner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Goshawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Olive Whistler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Falcon | <input type="checkbox"/> Pallid Cuckoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thornbill | <input type="checkbox"/> Pink Robin * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brush Bronzewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow Lorikeet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Bronzewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Satin Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dusky Robin (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Robin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dusky Woodswallow | <input type="checkbox"/> Scrubtit * (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Rosella | <input type="checkbox"/> Shining Bronze-cuckoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Spinebill | <input type="checkbox"/> Silveryeye |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fan-tailed Cuckoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Striated Pardalote |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flame Robin | <input type="checkbox"/> Strong-billed Honeyeater * (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Raven | <input type="checkbox"/> Sulphur-crested Cockatoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forty-spotted Pardalote (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> Superb Fairy-wren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Galah | <input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Harrier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Whistler | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmanian Scrubwren (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Rosella (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmanian Thornbill (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Butcherbird | <input type="checkbox"/> Tawny Frogmouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Currawong | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedge-tailed Eagle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Fantail | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Wattlebird (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey (White) Goshawk * | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Shrike-thrush | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

1

Alum Cliffs and Browns River

KINGSTON BEACH



Habitats: Dry eucalypt forest, estuarine environments, beach

Access: Carparks at the end of Tyndall Rd or the northern end of the Esplanade, Kingston Beach. A 500 m path borders Browns River and the Alum Cliffs Track extends for 4 km north along the coastline

Birds — estuary: White-faced Heron, Tasmanian Native-hen (E), Pacific Black Duck, Chestnut Teal, Little Pied Cormorant

Birds — bushland: Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Superb Fairy-wren, Brown Thornbill, Grey Fantail

Unusual sightings: Australian Pelican, Great Egret, White-bellied Sea-Eagle



2

North West Bay River Track

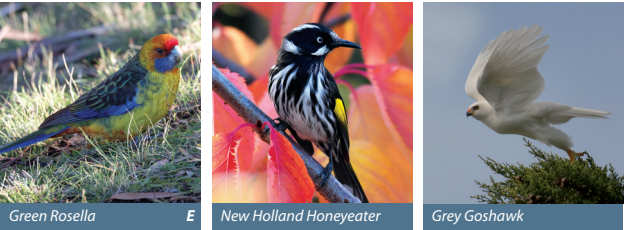
SANDFLY

Habitats: Heathland; eucalypt forest; riverine environment

Access: The 1 km track starts from the Sandfly Oval (with carparking)

Birds: Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Green Rosella (E), New Holland Honeyeater Superb Fairy-wren, Brown Thornbill, Grey Shrike-thrush, Grey Currawong

Unusual sightings: Black-headed Honeyeater (E), Dusky Robin (E), Grey Goshawk



5

Dru Point Bicentennial Park

MARGATE



Habitats: Calm water coastline; parkland; open woodland

Access: The 1 km trail starts near the boat ramp at the northern end of the Esplanade, Margate

Birds: Australian Pied Oystercatcher, Great Egret, Australian Pelican, Pacific Gull, Tasmanian Native-hen (E), Yellow Wattlebird (E), Black-headed Honeyeater (E), Scarlet Robin, Common Bronzewing, Dusky Woodswallow (Summer)

Unusual sightings: Tawny Frogmouth, Pallid Cuckoo (Summer)



6

Snug Falls Track

VIA SNUG TOWNSHIP

Habitats: Dry eucalypt forest and wet forest with rainforest understorey

Access: From Snug township follow Snug Tiers Rd for 1 km then turn onto Snug Falls Rd. After 2 km, limited parking is located at the start of the walk (2 km return)

Birds: Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Green Rosella (E), Strong-billed Honeyeater (E), Black Currawong (E), Tasmanian Scrubwren (E), Brown Thornbill, Tasmanian Thornbill (E)

Unusual sightings: Scrubtit (E), Pink Robin, Beautiful Firetail, Olive Whistler, Swift Parrot (Summer)



7

Coningham Nature Recreation Area

CONINGHAM

Habitats: Dry eucalypt forest with wetter gullies

Access: Several access points in Coningham village including tracks up to 4 km long starting from Hopwood Street and which traverse a range of habitats

Birds: Superb Fairy-wren, Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Black-headed Honeyeater (E), Yellow Wattlebird (E), Dusky Robin (E), Green Rosella (E), Brown Thornbill, Fan-tailed Cuckoo (Summer)

Unusual sightings: Beautiful Firetail, Satin Flycatcher (Summer)



8

Cape Queen Elizabeth Track

BRUNY ISLAND

Habitats: Dry eucalypt forest; lagoons; ocean beach

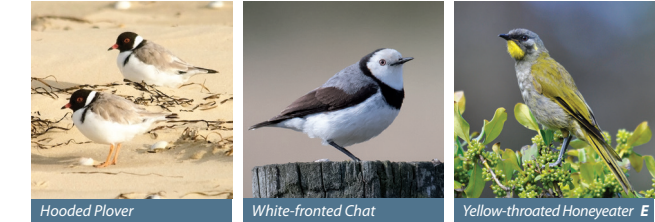
Access: The carpark for the Track is adjacent to the Bruny Island Main Rd (B66) about 3 km south of Great Bay settlement and 0.5 km north of the Bruny Island airfield. The distance from Main Rd to Neck Beach is approx 2½ km

Birds — bushland: Yellow Wattlebird (E), Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), New Holland Honeyeater, Superb Fairy-wren

Birds — lagoon: White-fronted Chat, Red-capped Plover

Birds — beach: Hooded Plover, Australian Pied Oystercatcher

Unusual sightings: Forty-spotted Pardalote (E), Blue-winged Parrot (Summer)



3

Peter Murrell Reserves

COFFEE CREEK FIRE TRAIL, KINGSTON

Habitats: Variety of dry woodland habitats, two small ponds

Access: A short gravel road from Huntingfield Avenue, Kingston leads to the car park and the 2 km long trail

Birds: Black-headed Honeyeater (E), Yellow Wattlebird (E), Scarlet Robin, Green Rosella (E), New Holland Honeyeater, Dusky Woodswallow (Summer), Spotted Pardalote

Unusual sightings: Swamp Harrier (Summer), Forty-spotted Pardalote (E), Tasmanian Scrubwren (E), Purple Swampphen



4

Kaoota Tramway

KAOTA (WESTERN END) VIA KAOTA

Habitat: Wet eucalypt forest with rainforest understorey in the first 2 km of this well-graded track

Access: From Sandfly, travel 6 km south on Pelverata Rd (C621) to the western end of the Kaoota Tramway Track

Birds: Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Strong-billed Honeyeater (E), Tasmanian Scrubwren (E), Tasmanian Thornbill (E), Grey Currawong, Grey Shrike Thrush, Pink Robin

Unusual sightings: Scrubtit (E), Black Currawong (E), Bassian Thrush



9

Mavista Nature Trail

BRUNY ISLAND

Habitats: Rainforest

Access: From Adventure Bay Rd (C630) in Adventure Bay township, follow Lockleys Road for about 2 km to Resolution Road. The carpark for the 1 km Trail is immediately on the right

Birds: Tasmanian Thornbill (E), Brown Thornbill, Tasmanian Scrubwren (E), Black Currawong (E), Pink Robin, Grey Fantail

Unusual sightings: Scrubtit (E), Bassian Thrush, Olive Whistler



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Peninsula Circuit Track

LABILLARDIERE PENINSULA, BRUNY ISLAND



Habitats: Coastal heathlands and eucalypt woodlands; beach and rocky shores

Access: From Lunawanna township follow Lighthouse Road (C629 west) for about 17 km to Old Jetty Road (2 km north of the Cape Bruny Lighthouse carpark). The walk starts from the car park at the end of Old Jetty Road. The full circuit is 17½ km long and there are shorter alternative tracks

Birds: Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E), Tawny-crowned Honeyeater, Dusky Robin (E), Brown Thornbill, Golden Whistler, Grey Shrike-thrush, New Holland Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill

Unusual sightings: Swift Parrot (Summer), Southern Emu-wren, Olive Whistler

