

Highlands and Coastal South East Bird Tour

AWT TRAVEL AUSTRALIA

16 / 30 Gadigal Avenue, Zetland, NSW 2017, Australia
Licence 2TA5877 **Phone** +61 2 9697 3394
Email enquiries@awttravelsaustralia.com.au

Upcoming Tours

7th November to 15th November 2009

Join this fully-accommodated nine-day tour from Sydney to one of the best areas for birdwatching in Victoria. From Sydney we travel to Jindabyne where we will be looking for birds of the high country. Our accommodation has been chosen for the large grounds which attracts much birdlife. There is the chance of seeing Platypus in the crystal clear streams.

From Jindabyne we continue on south to Gipsy Point Lodge near Mallacoota just over the border in Victoria. The Lodge is set in extensive grounds overlooking the Genoa River. The gardens attract an abundance of birds and Bassian Thrush, Eastern Whipbirds and Wonga Pigeons are frequently seen.

The area around Mallacoota is very scenic and has many different habitats ranging from rainforest to coastal heathlands and beaches. November is the best time of year for birdwatching in the area as the summer migrants have returned and many species are nesting.

Large numbers of waders and seabirds can be seen on the sandbanks and beaches near the entrance to the Inlet. While walking in nearby Croajingolong National Park we will be on the lookout for Koalas

Travelling back up the coast through Eden and Bega, we have two nights at Narooma where we hope to join a cruise to Montague Island. The island is one of the most important reserves for nesting seabirds off the NSW coast. Little Penguins, Wedge-tailed, Short-tailed and Sooty Shearwaters and Sooty Oystercatchers all nest on the island. There is also a colony of Fur Seals. Dolphins and whales are often seen on trip to the island.

7 NOV SYDNEY - JINDABYNE

An early departure from Sydney this morning. We will have a full day travelling via the South Western Freeway to Goulburn, Canberra, Cooma to Jindabyne, our accommodation for the next two nights. We will be staying at the Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre, where we will have Lodge accommodation. Accommodation: Jindabyne

8 NOV JINDABYNE

Birdwatching in the surrounding area. We will be looking for species of the nearby mountains. Around Jindabyne we hope to see species of the mountains such as Grey Currawong, Little Raven, Flame and Scarlet Robins, Olive Whistlers and Diamond Firetail. Australian Shelduck can be seen at the lake. Gang Gangs and Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoos are often seen around the town. Accommodation: Jindabyne

9 NOV

JINDABYNE - GIPSY POINT

We will travel to the coast via Bombala and across the Victorian Border to Gipsy Point Lodge, our stay for the next four nights.

Surrounded by the Croajingolong National Park, we will be staying in 3-4 star cottages and lodges. Note that there are only 4 single rooms available.

Accommodation: Gipsy Point

10, 11 & 12 NOV GIPSY POINT

Three relaxing days birdwatching around Gipsy Point, Mallacoota and in Croajingolong National Park. At Mallacoota we will look for Hooded and Red-capped Plovers which nest on the beaches. Black Swans and Hoary-headed Grebe feed along the river.

The heaths of Croajingolong National Park are home to Ground Parrots, Southern Emu-wren, Striated Fieldwren, Tawny-crowned Honeyeater and Beautiful Firetail.

In the rainforest, lyrebirds are fairly common. Summer migrants include Rufous Fantail, Black-faced Monarch and Leaden Flycatchers. Several pairs of White-breasted Sea-eagles nest in the area and are frequently seen. King Parrots and Bowerbirds come to be fed at the Lodge. Azure Kingfishers live along the river behind the Lodge. Lodge Accommodation: Gipsy Point

13 NOV GIPSY POINT - NAROOMA

We leave Gipsy Point and travel north back into NSW along the Princes Highway through Eden and Bega to Narooma, our stop for the next two nights. We will stop for birding opportunities along the way. At Eden we will check to see if there are any Black-faced Cormorants at the wharves.

For the next two nights we will be staying at a motor Inn 300metres from town.

Motel Rooms (Narooma)

14 NOV NAROOMA

This morning we will aim to do a cruise to Montague Island*. This four hour cruise will land us on the island for more birding. This evening we will have the opportunity to try the local cuisine. (Dinner at own expense.)

*Cruise departure subject to weather and optional extra.

Motel Rooms (Narooma)

15 NOV NAROOMA - SYDNEY

We leave Narooma and travel north along the Princes Highway to Batemans Bay, Ulladulla, Eden, Nowra, Kiama and Wollongong before arriving in Sydney. We aim to arrive in Sydney at approximately 5.30 - 6.00pm.