

BIRD
SPECIES OF
ANGLESEA

1. SULPHUR CRESTED COCKATOO – *Cacatua galerita*

Large, conspicuous, familiar, pure white cockatoo. Body almost entirely white, with indistinct yellow mark behind eye and long, sulphur-yellow crest, slightly upcurved when folded. Beak comparatively compact and black. In flight, shows yellow wash on underwing and at base of tail. Flight distinctive on stiff, rather rounded wings, usually to a flap-flap-glide format. Voice: raucous screeches and squawks.

2. GALAH – *Cacatua roseicapilla*

Large, familiar and distinctive cockatoo. Back and tail pale grey, with darker wingtips; neck and underparts striking rose pink, with paler crown and slight crest. Immature has grey breast. Often gregarious and noisy, usually feeds terrestrially. Flocks striking in flight as colour changes from pink to grey as the birds wheel and turn. Voice: distinctive, high-pitched chee-chee screeches.

3. CRIMSON ROSELLA – *Platycercus elegans*

Large broad-tailed parrot, conspicuous and familiar in the east and south-east. Adult, predominantly deep crimson, heavily mottled on back, with blue throat/cheek patch, blue shoulder to the wing and blue-green tail. Southeast Australian immature strikingly different, with golden olive body, crimson forehead, breast and undertail; elsewhere, immature similar to adult but duller. Often seen in groups. Flight fast and swooping, often with deep 'slow motion' wing beats. Voice: bell-like 'klee-klee-klee', metallic repeated 'klee' in flight.

4. AUSTRALIAN KING PARROT – *Alisterus scapularis*

Large, distinctive, broad-tailed parrot with striking sexual dimorphism. Male diagnostically has plain scarlet head and body. Wings dark green with paler band; rump dark blue; distinctive long, broad tail bluish black. Beak compact, red above, black below. Female predominantly green, with scarlet belly and undertail coverts. Wary. Flight strong but erratic, long 'heavy' tail prominent. Voice: metallic 'chack-chack' or 'carrack-carrack'.

5. TAWNY FROGMOUTH – *Podargus strigoides*

Large, strangely big-headed, well camouflaged, rather nightjar-like bird. Head large, with a tuft of bristles on forehead. Beak large, opening to an enormous gape. Eyes large and yellow, but often closed in daylight. Plumage usually grey, sometimes rufous on shoulders, finely mottled and streaked with white, buff and black providing excellent camouflage against a branch. Tail long, rounded. Active at dusk and after. Voice: strange, persistent 'oom-oom-oom' often extended.

6. RED WATTLEBIRD – *Anthochaera carunculata*

Large, slim honeyeater. Head, nape and back dark grey-brown, streaked white. Wings and rump grey-brown, and scaly. Cheeks silvery white, with drooping red fleshy wattle at rear becoming larger with age. Throat and breast brown, streaked white; belly yellow, undertail white barred brown. Tail long and graduated, brown, with white tips to feathers visible from below. Long tail and short, rounded white-tipped wings distinctive in flight. Voice: one or more ‘cough’s in succession, ‘yak’ or ‘yakyak’, also ringing ‘tew-tew-tew-tew’, ‘chock’ of alarm.

7. SUPERB FAIRY-WREN – *Malurus splendens*

Tiny; the familiar blue-wren of the southwest. Breeding male has pale blue crown, ear-coverts and mantle, bordered by black eye stripe, nape and rump. Throat and breast iridescent dark blue-black. Beak black. Wings brown, belly white, tail dark blue. Female and non-breeding male uniformly brown above, with faint blue-green cast to brown tail. Underparts are pale fawn. Beak reddish brown (note fathers from beak to eye-ring reddish brown). Voice: loud accelerating trill; ‘tsee’ of alarm; sharp ‘prip-pripp’ contact call.

8. WILLIE WAGTAIL – *Rhipidure leucophrys*

Medium-small, fantail flycatcher. Distinctive and well-known: adult black above, white below apart from black throat. Bold white stripe over eye; less distinct white moustachial streaks. Tail black, long, frequently cocked, fanned and flicked. Immature, duller and browner, with pale feather fringes giving mottled appearance. Catches insects in favoured perches in flight or on the ground. Aggressive in defence of its feeding area. Usually in ones or twos, or in family parties. Voice: scolding ‘ricka-ticka-ticka-tic’; varied brief but melodious phrases often described as ‘sweet-pretty-creature’

9. LAUGHING KOOKABURRA - *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Large – the most massive of Australian kingfishers, and the best known. Crown white, smudged and streaked brown, with distinctive dark patch through eye. Back and wings brown, with bluish feather edges on shoulders. Rump and tail chestnut, barred black. Tail often cocked. Collar and entire underparts white, sometimes faintly barred grey on flanks. Beak long and strong; black above, yellowish below. Flight heavy and direct, showing white patch at base of primaries. Voice: famous raucous accelerating laugh, increasing in volume and then fading.

10. WHITE-FACED HERON – *Egretta novaehollandiae*

Large and familiar heron. Adult distinctively pale grey, with a white face and chin. Breeding adult has fine black and white plumes across the mantle. Underparts buffish. Legs characteristically greenish yellow. Immature drabber and buffer, with white only on chin, and greenish legs. Voice: harsh metallic croaks.

11. AUSTRALIAN MAGPIE – *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Large and familiar, with variable pied plumage. All races have black throat and breast, with white undertail coverts and white underside to black-outlined, black-tipped tail, conspicuous in flight, as are distinctive black underwings with prominent white leading edge to forewings. Wings black with bold white bar. Crown black, nape white in all races, but amount of white on back varies from all-white to black with white only on upper side of tail, with various intermediates. Eye red. Beak long, dagger-shaped and pointed, grey with black tip. Voice: familiar and renowned rich fluting, yodel, sub-song with mimicry. Harsh shriek of alarm, descending 'peeew' call.

12. SPOTTED TURTLE DOVE – *Streptopelia chinensis*

Medium-large pigeon. Head, neck and underparts greyish fawn, flushed pink on breast in adults; back and wings yellow-brown with darker mottlings. Distinctive black and white chequered neck patches conspicuous in adults, absent in immatures. Tail long, slightly pointed, blackish broadly tipped white. Voice: mellow 'coos', linked in various ways; eg. 'coo-coo, croo-coor'.

13. LITTLE RAVEN – *Corvus mellori*

Large, comparatively lightly built raven with characteristic call. All-black with an oily sheen. Eye white. Lacks distinctive bushy throat of Australian Raven when calling, each call being accompanied by a characteristic rapid flick of the wings. Gregarious at all times, often breeding in loose colonies, and forming nomadic flocks outside breeding season. Flies high fast and straight. Often seen feeding in trees unlike other ravens. Voice: Distinctive quick fire, harsh 'car, car, car, car' of even tone and tempo, each note clear-cut.

10. WELCOME SWALLOW – *Hirundo neoxena*

Small, the familiar hirundine. Adult and immature dark glossy blue-black over much of upperparts, with white spots around margin of deeply forked tail conspicuous in flight. Underparts white, with face, throat and upper breast rich chestnut. Tail streamers very long in male, shorter in female and immature, which are also generally duller. Fast, swooping flight. Voice: call a sharp 'chep'; shrill 'seet' in alarm (often indicates oncoming bird of prey), strong twittering song.

15. SILVER GULL – *Larus novaehollandiae*

Large seabird, the most familiar of Australian gulls. Adult has white head, neck and body; pale grey wings with black primaries showing white tips at rest. Beak, eye-ring and legs scarlet. Immature duller, with brown flecks on wings forming a conspicuous bar in flight; tail with broken brown subterminal bar. Beak brownish, legs blackish. Gregarious. Voice: short 'ckarr' end 'kee-ow', harsh 'karr-karr-karr'.

OTHER BIRD TYPES OF THE AREA:

- Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoo
- New Holland Honey Eater
- Gang Gang Cockatoo
- Blue Winged Parrot
- Masked Plover
- Magpie Lark
- Yellow Rumped Thornbill
- Grey Breasted White Eye
- Pied Currawong
- White Browed Scrub Wren
- Straw Necked Ibis
- Black Fronted Dotterol
- Crested Tern
- Caspian Tern
- Little or Fairy Penguin
- Little Pied Cormorant
- Pelican
- Great Egret
- Pacific Gull