

DIVERSE HABITATS

South Gippsland's mix of temperate rainforest, open farmland and rugged coastline makes for rich and diverse birdlife. Some species are very common, while others can only be spotted in particular locations. This brochure is organised by habitat to help you spot the birds most likely to be found in each area:

- **Open Bush/Farmland**
- **Grassland/Wetland**
- **Coastal**
- **Forest**



BIRDWATCHING TIPS

- Bring sun protection, warm clothing and a waterproof layer as South Gippsland weather can change quickly.
- Move slowly and keep noise to a minimum.
- Early morning and late afternoon are often best for birdwatching.
- Listen as well as look; many birds are easier to hear than see.
- Binoculars can help you spot birds from a distance.
- Explore different habitats to see a wider variety of birds.
- Stay on tracks and respect wildlife habitats.
- Have a great time out there!

LOCATIONS

GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL TRAIL

The Great Southern Rail Trail passes through a variety of habitats, making it a rewarding place to spot birds while walking or cycling.



Koonwarra Biodiversity Walk

Spanning two kilometres of the Trail, the Koonwarra Biodiversity Walk features interpretive signage highlighting local wildlife and fossil beds. Take a minute to read the information and scan the QR codes to listen to local bird and frog calls.

WILSONS PROMONTORY NATIONAL PARK

'The Prom', as it's affectionately known by locals, is one of Gippsland's most significant birdwatching areas. Its rocky coastline, dense bush and grassy plains support a wide range of birdlife. Emus can sometimes be seen walking across large open spaces.



VENUS BAY

An elevated lookout allows you to view the open plains of the Point Smythe Coastal Reserve across to the waters of Anderson Inlet.



Van Cleef Reserve

Stop by to look for forest birds in the thick banksia scrub. Learn about wildlife and listen to bird calls by interacting with signage designed by a local artist in collaboration with the community.

BIRD HIDES

These structures allow you to remain concealed while watching birds in their natural habitat.

MEENIYAN

Wetland birdwatching beside the Great Southern Rail Trail, between Meeniyan and Stony Creek.



TOORA

A wheelchair-accessible hide overlooking an internationally significant wetland. Migratory shorebirds can be seen between August and April.



BALD HILLS WETLAND RESERVE

Take a walk through Paperbark scrub and open bushland to view birdlife in a large shallow wetland. Watch out for snakes in summer!



MORE BIRDWATCHING

- Agnes Falls Scenic Reserve, Toora
- Baths Road Reserve, Mirboo North
- Cape Liptrap Coastal Park
- Foster Flora Reserve
- Korumburra Botanic Park
- Lyrebird Forest Walk, Mirboo North
- Leongatha Wetlands
- Port Franklin Boardwalk
- Sandy Point and Shallow Inlet



South Gippsland is a region where the country meets the coast. Our breathtaking scenery makes for a picturesque getaway - and our unique landscape also plays home to an abundance of beautiful birdlife.

When observing our birds, please remember that you are in their natural habitat, so act like you would as a guest in someone else's home.

Keep a safe distance from birds, avoid making loud noises that would cause disturbances, take your rubbish away with you and keep flash photography to a minimum.

On your great birdwatching adventure, remember to pack water, snacks, binoculars and/or a camera with a zoom lens, and a pen to check off each of the birds shown in this brochure as you find them.

Can you spot them all?



SOUTH GIPPSLAND



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South Gippsland
Shire Council

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND indigenous birds



A GUIDE TO INDIGENOUS BIRDS IN SOUTH GIPPSLAND



Forest Birds

BARKING OWL <i>Ninox connivens</i>	BASSIAN THRUSH <i>Zosterornis lunata</i>	BEAUTIFUL FIRETAIL <i>Stagonopleura bella</i>	PILOT BIRD <i>Pycnonotus floccosus</i>	POWERFUL OWL <i>Ninox strenua</i>	RAINBOW LORIKEET <i>Trichoglossus moluccanus</i>
BLACK-FACED MONARCH <i>Monarcha melanopassa</i>	BROWN GERYGONE <i>Gerygone mouk</i>	CHESTNUT-RUMPED HEATHWREN <i>Hylacola pyrrhopygia</i>	RUFIOUS FANTAIL <i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	RUFIOUS WHISTLER <i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	SACRED KINGFISHER <i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>
CRESCENT HONEYEATER <i>Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus</i>	CRESTED SHRIKETIT <i>Falcunculus frontatus</i>	CRIMSON ROSELLA <i>Platycercus elegans</i>	SATIN BOWERBIRD <i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i>	SATIN FLYCATCHER <i>Myiagra cyaneolena</i>	SCARLET ROBIN <i>Petroica boodang</i>
EASTERN SPINEBILL <i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>	EASTERN WHIPBIRD <i>Psophodes olivaceus</i>	FAN-TAILED CUCKOO <i>Cacomantis fideliformis</i>	SPOTTED PARDALOTE <i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	SOUTHERN BOOBOO <i>Ninox boobook</i>	SUPERE LYREBIRD <i>Menura novaehollandiae</i>
GANG-GANG COCKATOO <i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	GOLDEN WHISTLER <i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	GREY SHRIKE-THRUSH <i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	TAWNY FROGMOUTH <i>Podargus strigoides</i>	VARIED SITTELLA <i>Daphoenositta chrysopetra</i>	WELCOME SWALLOW <i>Hirundo neoyena</i>
KING PARROT <i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	LAUGHING KOOKABURRA <i>Dacelo novaeguinae</i>	LEWIN'S HONEYEATER <i>Meliphaga lewini</i>	WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER <i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>	WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH <i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO <i>Zanda lunata</i>

Coastal Birds

AUSTRALIAN GANNET <i>Morus serrator</i>	AUSTRALIAN PELICAN <i>Pelecanus concinna</i>	BAR-TAILED GODWIT <i>Limosa lapponica</i>
BLACK SWAN <i>Cygnus atratus</i>	CHESTNUT TEAL <i>Anas castanea</i>	COMMON GREENSHANK <i>Tringa nebularia</i>
CRESTED TERN <i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	EASTERN CURLEW <i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	HOODED PLOVER <i>Thinornis cucullatus</i>
LITTLE PIED CORMORANT <i>Microcarbo melanoleucos</i>	PACIFIC GULL <i>Larus pacificus</i>	PIED OYSTERCATCHER <i>Haematopus longirostris</i>
SHORT-TAILED SHEARWATER <i>Ardenna tenuirostris</i>	SILVER GULL <i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	SOOTY OYSTERCATCHER <i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>
WANDERING ALBATROSS <i>Diomedea exulans</i>	WHITE-BELLIED SEA EAGLE <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	WHITE-FRONTED CHAT <i>Epthianura albirufa</i>

Grassland/Wetland Birds

AUSTRALIAN DARTER <i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	AUSTRALIAN GREBE <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>	AUSTRALIAN SHELDUCK <i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>
AUSTRALIAN WHITE IBIS <i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	AUSTRALIAN WOOD DUCK <i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	BALLON'S CRAKE <i>Porzana pusilla</i>
BLACK-WINGED STILT <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	BLUE-BILLED DUCK <i>Oxyura australis</i>	BUFF-BANDED RAIL <i>Gallirallus philipensis</i>
CAPE BAREN GOOSE <i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>	EURASIAN COOT <i>Fulica atra</i>	FAIRY MARTIN <i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>
LATHAM'S SNIBE <i>Gallinago hardwicki</i>	LITTLE EGRET <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	PEREGRINE FALCON <i>Falco peregrinus</i>
ROYAL SPOONBILL <i>Platalea regia</i>	STRAIN-NECKED IBIS <i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	WHITE-FACED HERON <i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>

Open Bush/Farmland Birds

AUSTRALIAN PIPIT <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	AUSTRALIAN MAGPIE <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	AUSTRALIAN RAVEN <i>Corvus coronoides</i>	NOISY MINER <i>Manorina melanoccephala</i>	PALLID CUCKOO <i>Cacomantis pallidus</i>	PIED CURRAWONG <i>Strepera graculina</i>
BLACK-FACED CUCKOOSHRIKE <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	BROWN FALCON <i>Falco berigora</i>	BROWN GOSHAWK <i>Tachyspiza fasciata</i>	RED-BROWED FINCH <i>Neochmia temporalis</i>	RED WATTLEBIRD <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	SILVEREYE <i>Zosterops lateralis</i>
BROWN THORNBILL <i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	CATTLE EGRET <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	COMMON BRONZEWING <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>	SULPHUR CRESTED COCKATOO <i>Cacatua galerita</i>	SUPERB FAIRYWREN <i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE <i>Aquila audax</i>
EASTERN YELLOW ROBIN <i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	EMU <i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	GALAH <i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	WHITE-BROWED SCRUBWREN <i>Sericornis frontalis</i>	WHITE-THROATED TRECREEPER <i>Cormobates leucophaea</i>	WILLIE WAGTAIL <i>Rhipidura leucopygia</i>
GREY BUTCHERBIRD <i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	HORSFIELD'S BRONZE CUCKOO <i>Chrysococcyx basalis</i>	MASKED LAPWING <i>Vanellus miles novaehollandiae</i>	NEW HOLLAND HONEYEATER <i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>		
MISTLETOEBIRD <i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	NANKEN KESTREL <i>Falco centurus</i>				

How to use this brochure

Check the circle on any birds you have spotted. Try to find them all!

There are 102 birds shown in this brochure, but this is not an exhaustive list of all the birds that can be found in South Gippsland. If you're lucky, you might be able to find some others!