


Australian Pelican
Very large cousin of cormorants. Scoops up fish in its distensible bill pouch. Hangs around wharves or pool perch on bollards or posts. 170 cm



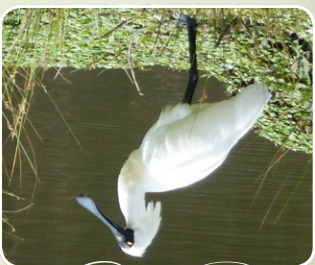
Silver Gull
Bold seabird that congregates on beaches and around shorelines. Young birds have mottled brown wings and black bill and feet. 42 cm



Australian White Ibis
An inland bird that has learnt to scavenge in cities. Natural food is invertebrates, for which it probes in soil and mud. Nests in colonies. 72 cm



White-eyed Duck
Medium-sized dark brown duck with pale bill tip. Female has a dark eye. Dives deep underwater to eat aquatic plants and animals. 52 cm



Royal Spoonbill
Tall bird with breeding plumes on head and a flattened black bill. Wades through freshwater, sweeping bill from side to side for prey. 78 cm




Little Black Cormorant
Small, entirely black, glossy shag with a thin hooked bill. Prefers freshwater. Flocks fly in V-formation. 62 cm



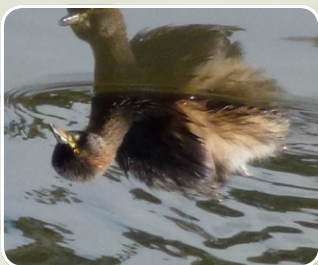
Little Pied Cormorant
Small shag with short yellow bill. Sometimes flocks with Little Black Cormorants. Dives for aquatic animals then spreads wings out to dry. 58 cm



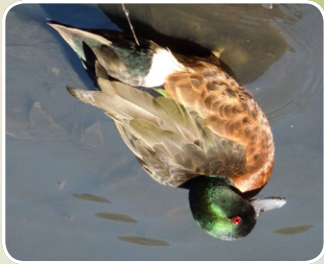
White-faced Heron
Long-legged grey bird. Stationary predator that suddenly stabs at prey. Forages on mudflats, mangroves and flooded grassland. 65 cm




Australian Wood Duck
Gazes on grass and has a short deep bill like a goose. Female has paler head and white stripes over and under eye. Nests in tree hollow. 47 cm




Australasian Grebe
Duck-like bird with small bill that lives on ponds and lakes. Periodically dives to catch fish and aquatic insects. Builds a floating nest. 26 cm



Chestnut Teal
Male colourful but female dull like Grey Teal but has a pale brown throat. Usually in pairs. Tolerates salt water. Often feeds in estuaries. 23 cm



Grey Teal
Small mottled grey-brown duck with a white throat. Male and female are similar. Usually feeds in flocks on freshwater ponds. 44 cm



Pacific Black Duck
Large duck with iridescent feathers in wing. Upends animals close to the surface. Hybridises with mallards. 55 cm



Dusky Moorhen
Smaller and duller than swamphen, has a finer red bill. Swims close to the edge of wetlands, feeding on water plants. Shrieking call. 36 cm



Purple Swamphen
Large waterbird with long toes. Flicks tail as it walks, displaying white feathers. Feeds in reeds and grass close to wetlands. 46 cm

Birds of OATLEY PARK

Wetland and River Birds

Birds of OATLEY PARK

Common Birds



Rainbow Lorikeet



Eastern Rosella



Crimson Rosella



Australian King Parrot



Sulphur-crested Cockatoo



Galah



Silvereye



Laughing Kookaburra



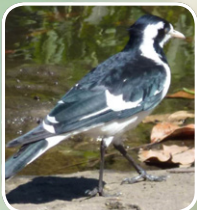
Pied Currawong



Australian Magpie



Australian Raven



Magpie-lark (Peewee)



Grey Butcherbird



Noisy Miner



Masked Lapwing

Cover : Tawny Frogmouth, Sacred Kingfisher

Oatley Bushland Park occupies a promontory at the junction of Georges River and Lime Kiln Bay in southern Sydney. Its 45 hectares consists mainly of sandstone woodland with shrubby understorey, broken only by a grassy playing field and a picnic area. The estuary of Lime Kiln Bay is lined with mangroves and the bay itself has stands of mangroves, a large *Phragmites* swamp and mud flats at low tide. Adjoining the Park are man-made wetlands in Lime Kiln Bay and bushland slopes of Oatley Heights Park. 107 bird species have been recorded from the area in recent years. Some are attracted by flowering gums, others by the estuarine flats, the ponds and reed beds of the wetlands. Cockatoos, king parrots and rosellas nest in hollows of large trees. Raptors are often seen overhead and ospreys are known to nest nearby. As a whole, the area is the most significant bushland in the St George district, with bush corridors linking nearby reserves. It is an important sanctuary for both resident and migratory birds.

Additional species recorded but seldom seen

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australasian Darter | <input type="checkbox"/> Bar-tailed Godwit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pied Cormorant | <input type="checkbox"/> Great White Egret |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Cormorant | <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate Egret |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crested Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Curlew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caspian Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Square-tailed Kite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Yellow Robin | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Goshawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Variegated Fairy-wren | <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh Harrier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Thornbill | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Hobby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powerful Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Baza |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owlet Nightjar | <input type="checkbox"/> Collared Sparrowhawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rufous Fantail | <input type="checkbox"/> Pied Oystercatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaden Flycatcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-faced Monarch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White-headed Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Satin Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Top-knot Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Striated Pardalote |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Brush-turkey | <input type="checkbox"/> White-naped Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little Corella | <input type="checkbox"/> Mistletoebird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Azure Kingfisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Tawny Grassbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spangled Drongo | <input type="checkbox"/> Noisy Friarbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coot | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baillon's Crake | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buff-banded Rail | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lewin's Rail | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latham's Snipe | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | |

- Non-native**
- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mallard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-whiskered Bulbul |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Turtle Dove |

Produced by:



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Cover : Tawny Frogmouth, Sacred Kingfisher

A photographic guide

Birds of OATLEY PARK



Olive-backed Oriole
Solitary or in pairs, in trees with thick foliage. Both sexes have orange bill and red eyes. Eats fruit. Call is 'or-ee-ol'; also mimics other birds.
27 cm

Australasian Figbird

Gregarious cousin of oriole with dark bill and eyes. Female streaked greyish-brown. Eats figs and other fruit in trees with dense canopy.
28 cm



Rose Robin
Winter visitor. Female lacks rosy breast, has brown back. Moves rapidly through canopy in search of insects. Sweet high-pitched trill.
12 cm

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

Winter visitor in family groups. Female has paler bill and grey eye-ring. Flies slowly with 'kee-ow' cries. Eats banksia seeds.
60 cm



Eastern Koel
Raucous summer visitor from Indonesia. Female has spotted back, barred belly. Red Wattlebirds foster the young of this cuckoo.
42 cm

Migratory Species



Dollarbird
Summer visitor that nests in tree hollows. Catches insects in acrobatic flight, displaying white 'dollar' in blue-green wings. Cackles.
28 cm

Scarlet Honeyeater

Winter visitor. Female dull brown, sometimes overlooked. Feeds on paperbark, bottlebrush and eucalypt blossoms. Tinkling call.
10 cm



Yellow-faced Honeyeater
In summer a common woodland bird. In April it migrates north in small flocks. Feeds on insects and blossom. Loud 'chick-up' call.
16 cm

Peregrine Falcon

Dark sleek fast bird with barred underparts. Occasionally seen flying over Park hunting for small birds which it takes in the air. Call a rapid "kek-kek-kek".
43 cm



Channel-billed Cuckoo
Summer visitor from New Guinea. In flight, huge bill, long tail and loud call are conspicuous. Currawongs often raise its young.
62 cm

Birds of OATLEY PARK



Musk Lorikeet
Small green parrot with a tapered tail. High-pitched screech as it zips from tree to tree. Visits Sydney when eucalypts are flowering.
22 cm

Eastern Osprey

A specialist fish-eater. Vulnerable in NSW. Perches on trees and posts along the river. Flies with bent narrow wings. Large stick nest.
60 cm



White-bellied Sea-eagle
Second largest raptor in Australia. Eats fish, birds, reptiles and bats. Cruises over Georges River with upswept wings. Juvenile mottled brown.
80 cm

Striated Thornbill

Small insect-eater that feeds in twittering flocks in the tops of eucalypts. Doesn't move far from home; may live up to 14 years.
10 cm



Striated Heron
Dark, black-headed heron with short yellow legs. A wary bird. Crouches as it stalks prey such as crabs on mudflats and in mangroves.
49 cm

Birds of OATLEY PARK

Crested Pigeon

Plump pigeon with iridescent patch on wing and a thin crest. Feeds on ground and flies with whirring wings. Often perches on powerlines.
34 cm



Red Wattlebird
Large honeyeater that defends territory with loud guttural calls. Fleshy red wattle on side of face. Feeds on blossom and insects.
35 cm

Little Wattlebird

Smaller than Red Wattlebird, with rufous patch in wing. These honeyeaters visit Oatley when the banksias are flowering.
28 cm



Eastern Spinebill
Small honeyeater that flits in and out of flowering shrubs; hovers at flowers; rapid high-pitched piping call.
16 cm

Grey Fantail

Busy little bird with long fanned tail that flutters around foliage and chases flying insects. Its song resembles a squeaky violin.
15 cm



Bushland Residents

Golden Whistler

More common in winter. Female olive-brown with lemon undertail. Snatches insects from leaves of trees and shrubs. Call a long 'seep'.
17 cm



Superb Fairy-wren
Hops over ground on spindly legs with tail held high. Family groups of blue and black males, a brown female and young brown males.
14 cm

Red-browed Finch

Young birds have dark bills. Feeds in flocks on the ground or in shrubs. Eats seeds. Builds domed nest of grass in a dense bush.
11 cm



Spotted Pardalote
More often heard than seen; piping call of 'sweet... baybee'. Eats plant-sucking bugs in tree-tops but nests in tunnels in earth banks.
9 cm

White-browed Scrubwren

Small insect-eater that lives in dense undergrowth. Female is duller than the male. Hard to see but scolds noisily from cover.
12 cm



Birds of OATLEY PARK

Southern Boobook

Small dark owl that hunts insects and small mammals. Night-time call of 'book book' or 'more pork'. Mobbed on its daytime roost by other birds.
32 cm



Welcome Swallow
Flocks flying over open areas such as oval and picnic ground. High pitch tweetering call. Mud nests under eaves of buildings.
15 cm

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike

Often perches on powerlines. Rolling call. Snatches caterpillars from leaves. Undulating flight; shuffles wings when it lands.
33 cm



Willie Wagtail
Confident small bird that harasses predatory birds and cats. Sings from vantage point but feeds on ground, sashaying and wagging tail.
20 cm

Brown Thornbill

Usually seen in pairs hopping busily through shrubs, pecking insects from foliage; utters musical trills and warbles.
10 cm

