

## 11. Mallacoota Water Treatment Ponds and Compost Facility

From Genoa Road, at the edge of the town, travel 2 km west on Watertrust Road and park near the main gate. A small gate on the left allows entry to walk through plantation trees to several ponds and a small wetland and hide. East Gippsland Water staff would appreciate advice when a group plans to enter the facility: contact 03 5158 0414. Beware of snakes.

Many species of Duck may be found here including Shoveller, Pink-eared and Musk, also Grebe and Coot and in nearby grassland Lapwing, Pipit, Jacky Winter, Finch and Dusky Woodswallow in season. The surrounding bush has a variety of Honeyeater, Whistler, Thornbill and Wren. Often Wedge-tailed Eagles will be watching over the scene from a high perch or soaring above.

### Other Brochures available:

Birding Guides are available for Bairnsdale, Bruthen & Nowa Nowa, Buchan, Lake Tyers, Lakes Entrance, Lindenow & Mitchell River National Park, Mallacoota, Marlo, Metung, Nicholson, Omeo and Paynesville.

Bird Check Lists are available for Buchan Caves, Cann River, Den of Nargun, Fairy Dell, Gippsland Lakes, Lake Tyers & Fishermans Landing, Macleod Morass, Nyerimilang, Omeo, Oneonta, and Raymond Island. Marlo and Mallacoota have 2 brochures each, (1. Waterbirds and 2. Bush birds).



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ABN 75 149 124 774

Updated May 2018

## BIRDING GUIDE Mallacoota



Glossy Black-Cockatoo. Leonie Daws



## Birdwatching around Mallacoota

Mallacoota, with its ocean beaches and extensive inlet waterways, has a history as a fishing village and is now a centre for the abalone industry and tourism. It is surrounded by Croajingolong National Park and is the main service centre for the UNESCO Croajingolong Biosphere Reserve. Local information and maps are available from the East Gippsland Shire Council Mallacoota Service Centre 70 Maurice Avenue.

### 1. Mallacoota Wharf, Coull's Inlet

The main wharf, located at the end of Allan and Buckland Drives, faces peaceful waters which are a haven for birds. Pelican, Egret, Silver Gull and Spoonbill find shelter here. There are many walking tracks around the town, each providing a variety of birds.

### 2. Camping Ground

A walk along the extensive foreshore camping ground, taking in Captain Stevenson's Point, provides magnificent vistas and views of waders in season when the tide is low. Most often seen are the Bar-tailed Godwit, Eastern Curlew, Pied Oystercatcher, Crested Tern and Silver Gull.

### 3. Betka River

Take Betka Road to the Betka Beach Carpark. Shorebirds including Egret, Heron, Swan and Duck may be seen on the lagoon at the river entrance while the beach is a favoured nesting site for Hooded Plover. Picnic and toilet facilities are available here.

The Betka River Loop track takes you along the cliffs and back along the river with good sightings of a variety of bush birds such as Eastern Yellow Robin, Golden Whistler and Grey Fantail.

### 4. Bastion Point

Near the end of Bastion Point Road, a staircase provides access to the main beach. Look here for Red-capped Plover, Hooded Plover and occasional migrants including Little Tern, Double-banded Plover and Red-necked Stint. Watch for the White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Whistling Kite in the air.

A footpath follows the cliff to the Bastion Point boat ramp and break-wall. Cormorant and Gannet hunt off the headland, while a clamber across the rocks may be rewarded with sightings of Sooty Oystercatcher and Eastern Reef Egret.

### 5. Heathland Walk

Accessed either from Betka Road or the Davis Beach car park, the Southern Emu-wren is the main target on this short walk. Others that may be seen include New Holland and Tawny-crowned Honeyeater and Little Wattlebird.

### 6. Airport

Further along Betka Road, take the turn off to the airport. The road beside the airport, and the track along the fence line, are a favourite spot for Jacky Winter and occasionally for Robins. There is also the potential to see the Striated Fieldwren.

Other birds are the Crimson Rosella, Red-browed Finch, and in the adjoining bushland, a variety of honeyeater including the White-eared Honeyeater.

### 7. Buckland's Jetty

Follow Lakeside Drive a short distance beyond Buckland's Jetty where you can leave your car. Take the Walking Track through the National Park following the shore of the Narrows, a strip of water connecting the Top and Bottom Lakes.

You may find a variety of Honeyeater, Scrubwren and the Eastern Yellow Robin. Beautiful Firetail, Superb Lyrebird and Azure Kingfisher may also be seen here. At Captains Creek Jetty, where there are picnic and toilet facilities, the track splits becoming the Captain Creek Track and the Charlie's Creek Track. Both tracks offer a variety of bush birds.

### 8. Double Creek Rainforest Walk

This circular walk, through the temperate rainforest along and above Double Creek, is accessed from Genoa Road about 8 km from Mallacoota.

Birds recorded here include Superb Lyrebird, Brown Gerygone, Satin Bowerbird, Eastern Yellow Robin, Red-browed Finch, Crested Shrike-tit, Black-faced Monarch and Bassian Thrush.

### 9. Double Creek Arm Walking Track

Located on the opposite side of the road to the Double Creek Rainforest Walk and on the north side of the creek, this track follows Double Creek and leads you out to the shores of Double Creek Arm. Honeyeaters, Kingfishers and raptors may be seen on this walk. It is best done in the morning.

### 10. Gipsy Point

Below the Gipsy Point Lodge, from the ramp/car park, a walking track takes you into the National Park on a peninsula of land that is rich in variety. Honeyeater, Fantail, Scrubwren, Firetail, Thornbill, Parrot and Whistler. Sea-Eagle and shorebirds can be seen when you get to the end of the track, which brings you out at the junction of the Genoa and Wallagaraugh Rivers. Glossy Black-Cockatoo may be found in the Casuarina forest nearby.