

Birdwatching

In the Bathurst Region



Bathurst has a wealth of birdwatching opportunities with a wide variety of ecosystems that provide habitat for a host of endemic and migratory birds. This is not an exhaustive list of birdwatching localities but rather the places that are most accessible and well known for their birdwatching opportunities. All bird species lists used in this guide and on our website are the property of Ebird.org. Please consider contributing your sightings to Ebird.org during your stay in Bathurst. Additionally, you can report bird sighting to environment@bathurst.nsw.gov.au.

BOUNDARY ROAD RESERVE

3km west of Bathurst CBD



Accessible via the Vietnam Veteran's Park off Boundary Road. Comprising 80 hectares of rehabilitated bushland, Boundary Road Reserve is a community-managed land restoration project on the edge of Bathurst. Filled with native Box Gum Grassy Woodland, the Reserve is home to one of the largest remnants of Yellow Box and Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland close to the city.

There are two walking tracks throughout the reserve with the longer (3.5km loop, Grade 2) taking 1 hour at a leisurely pace to complete. Benches and stopping areas throughout the Reserve make this an excellent place to go birdwatching. Over 120 species of native and migratory birds have been seen here.

CHIFLEY DAM

22km south of Bathurst



Chifley Dam is the main water source for Bathurst, containing over 30 thousand megalitres. When there is high capacity, the dam can attract a wide variety of waterbirds. The variable water level of the dam limits the shore habitat but allows for a wide range of water-dependent species.

EDGEELLS LANE (Bathurst Brick Pits)

2.4km east of Bathurst CBD

This area (approximately 6.6 hectares) is currently a wetland's restoration project. During wet seasons or after heavy rain, the wetlands and old clay quarries fill with water, attracting a wide variety of native and migratory birds. Over 100 bird species have been spotted here. Stroll along the walking track, with bench seating provided.

EVANS CROWN NATURE RESERVE

45km east of Bathurst



At a maximum elevation of 1104 metres above sea level, Evans Crown Nature Reserve protects a 425 hectare pocket of remanent vegetation and spectacular granite tor formations. With over 76 recorded species of native birds and evidence of Peregrine Falcon nesting sites, Evans Crown Nature Reserve is a great place to spend a day enjoying the sights and birdwatching. Visitors can access the reserve via the carpark at Honeysuckle Falls Road, about 3km southeast of Tarana. A short 30 minute bushwalk can be completed to reach the reserve summit. From the summit, there are several unmaintained footpaths that can be used to explore the ridge and find good places to birdwatch.

FLAT ROCK PICNIC AREA

28.8km south of Bathurst, off Mutton Falls Rd, O'Connell



This public reserve is a popular picnic and swimming spot with locals, situated on the Fish River upstream from O'Connell. The riparian zone of Fish River provides habitat suitable for Painted Honey Eaters and a range of water and terrestrial birds. With its location close to Bathurst, Lithgow and Evans Crown Nature Reserve, Flat Rock is a great spot for a weekend of birdwatching.

MACQUARIE/WAMBUUL RIVER

1.2km east of Bathurst CBD



Popular with local birdwatchers, the Macquarie River Bicentennial Park is a great spot to set up and enjoy an early morning or late afternoon birdwatching session. The river attracts a wide range of waterfowl and offers some great photo opportunities for photographers. For those looking for a more adventurous birdwatching day out, the Macquarie River can also be accessed via the Bridle Track.

MACQUARIE WOODS

Macquarie Woods Drive, Vittoria, 30km west of Bathurst



Macquarie Woods recreation area sits in the centre of Vittoria State Forest, which was first established as a demonstration forest in 1988. Made of up of four main areas: Heritage Grove, The Arboretum, Farm Tree Demonstration, and Demonstration Forest. Birdwatchers to the area may enjoy a walk through the arboretum area where trees from all over the world provide habitats suitable for various bird species.

PEEL NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVE

15km north of Bathurst



Peel Flora and Fauna Reserve supports a diverse range of woodland bird species, with 95 species recorded in the reserve. The native forest and woodland habitats provide important refuge for several threatened species, including the Gang-gang Cockatoo, Scarlet Robin, Diamond Firetail and Speckled Warbler.

TURON RIVER

Northeast of Bathurst



Stretching from Hill End to Capertee, there are some great spots to go birdwatching along the Turon River. Set up and enjoy a day of birdwatching by the water.

WATTLE FLAT HERITAGE LANDS

37km north of Bathurst



Accessible from 3649 Sofala Road (Southern Reserve) or via Thompson Street (Northern Reserve). Follow signs in Wattle Flat at the first left after the general store. The Buurree Walking Trail, situated in the Wattle Flat Heritage Lands North, is great for birdwatching. This is an area of open woodland bush close to the gold mining township of Wattle Flat.

Of a slightly higher elevation than the rest of Bathurst region, this managed Crown Land Reserve has some good quality box gum woodland and yellow and white box trees, with a large dam central to the Northern Reserve. There are some great birdwatching opportunities, with sightings of the vulnerable Speckled Warbler and Varied Sitella being of particular note.

WINBURNDALE NATURE RESERVE

49km northeast of Bathurst



From Bathurst, access to the northern section of the reserve can be gained via Limekilns and Mount Horrible Road and then along either Eskdale Road or Palmers Oaky Trail.

The eastern section of the reserve can be reached from the Great Western Highway along the Sunny Corner Road and then along a number of public roads (West Mitchell Road, Cupitts Lane, Eskdale Road and Dark Corner Road) through Sunny Corner and Turon State Forests.

A **four wheel drive is needed** to access this reserve. This is the largest and most diverse state reserve close to Bathurst. 132 species of native birds, 7 of which are vulnerable, have been spotted here.

Lyrebirds are commonly heard in the valleys here and Wedge-tailed Eagles and Peregrine Falcons can be seen along the conglomerate cliff lines of this reserve. Winburndale Nature Reserve is dominated by the major ridge system running in an east and northeast direction along the watercourse. It is home to a diverse range of habitats, depending on the altitude of the area, from Snow Gums to Red Box Gum and vulnerable Capertee Stringybark Forest.

Birdwatching Log

Date:

Location:

Start Time:

Species:	Count:	Notes:

This information sheet has been prepared by Bathurst Visitor Information Centre using information available at the time of publication. The content has been researched to the best of Council's knowledge and, where appropriate, developed in consultation with community members and relevant stakeholders.

While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the information is accurate, complete and current, Bathurst Visitor Information Centre does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information and accepts no responsibility for any errors, omissions or changes that may occur after publication.

Users are responsible for assessing the suitability of the information for their own circumstances and for exercising appropriate care and judgement when participating in any activities described. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Bathurst Visitor Information Centre disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, injury, cost or expense arising from the use of, or reliance on, the information contained in this publication, except where liability cannot be excluded by law.

Bathurst Visitor Information Centre

1 Kendall Avenue, Bathurst NSW 2795

Phone 1800 681 000
Website Bathurstregion.com.au
Opening Hours Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday – Sunday and P/H 10am – 3pm



Scan the QR code to view the 'digital' Birdwatching in the Bathurst Region guide.

