


Home to around 240 bird species, the Katherine region gives you an insight into a world of flight and colour and will inspire you to explore further throughout this spectacular landscape. Known as an area where 'the outback meets the tropics', this region provides a range of habitats including sandstone escarpments, tropical savanna woodlands and rocky outcrops.



Welcome TO THE KATHERINE BIRDING TRAIL



TOP END BIRDFINDER

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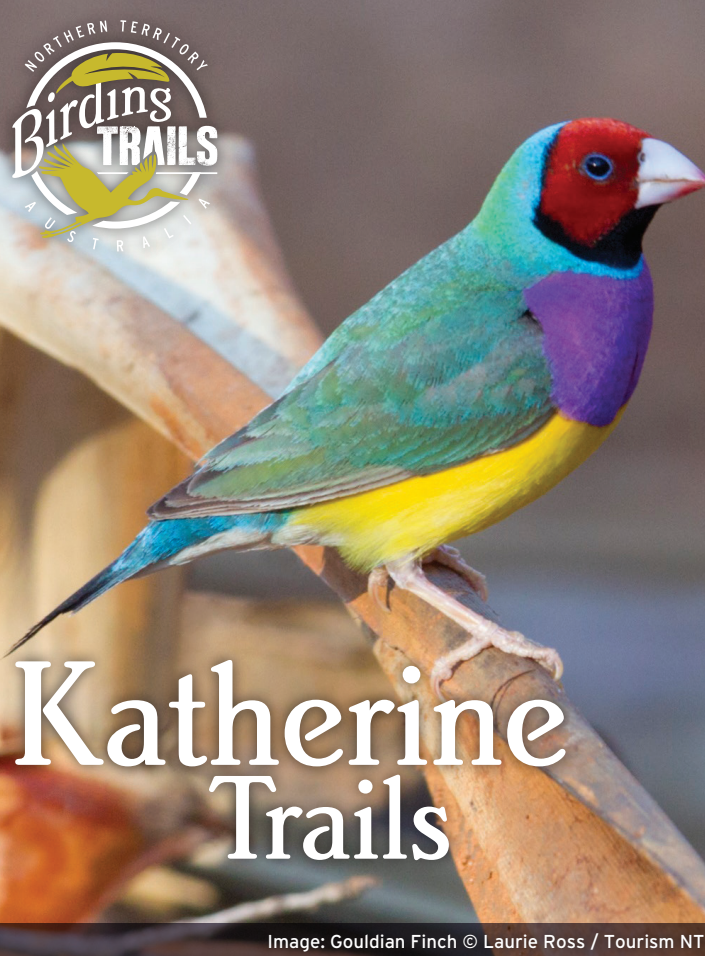
BIRDING & PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

www.tracksbirding.com.au

The wellbeing of our birds is our top priority. Making as little impact as possible in these environments is of high importance for the future protection of these wonderful species. Although our land is vast, there are restrictions placed on certain areas where access is strictly prohibited.

- Please respect all landowners. Much of the Katherine region is held under traditional indigenous custodianship, by private landholders or managed conservation areas. Please keep to marked tracks and obey all signage. If you are unsure, please ask.
- Remain a safe distance (5m) from the water's edge when you are close to any body of water as saltwater crocodiles are common and can be found in all natural waterways.
- Try not to disturb or feed any of the wildlife. Limit the use of recordings or 'call-back' and keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts and important feeding sites.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Katherine Trails

Image: Gouldian Finch © Laurie Ross / Tourism NT

www.northernterritory.com/birding



KATHERINE TRAILS - WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO SEE

1 LELIYN (EDITH FALLS) – NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK

A spectacular place to visit and look for birds amongst the sandstone escarpment, riverine corridor and open eucalypt woodland. The Sweetwater walk up to 'Longhole Pool' from the carpark is a good place to search for the beautiful Gouldian Finch. A variety of other species can be found in this area including Crimson Finch, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Helmeted Friarbird, Long-tailed Finch and White-bellied Cuckooshrike.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Gouldian Finch
- ☐Red-backed Fairywren
- ☐Varied Lorikeet
- ☐Bonus: Northern Rosella



Gouldian Finch © Luke Paterson

2 NITMILUK GORGE - NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK

A pleasant 30 minute drive out of Katherine, the beautiful Nitmiluk Gorge is a popular place to visit. In addition to the many water based activities you can do here, there are plenty of walks on the 'Southern Walks trails' to enjoy the beautiful birdlife. Keep an eye out for White-faced Heron, Grey Shrikethrush, Silver-backed Butcherbird and Australian Hobby.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Azure Kingfisher
- ☐Chestnut-quilled Rock Pigeon
- ☐Great-billed Heron
- ☐Bonus:Peregrine Falcon



Azure Kingfisher © Luke Paterson

3 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

As you travel into Katherine, drop into the information centre and also have a look around this area for some great birding, especially near the drainage culverts where you may spot Fairy Martins and Crimson Finches. The shady grounds and well-established trees provide shade and food for a host of Honeyeaters, including White-throated, Dusky and Rufous-throated.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Chestnut-breasted Mannikin
- ☐Apostlebird
- ☐White-breasted Woodswallow
- ☐Bonus: Yellow-rumped Mannikin



Chestnut-breasted Mannikin © Luke Paterson

4 WALKING PATH TO KATHERINE MUSEUM

A great little walking track early in the morning or late afternoon where an array of bird species can be seen in the trees along the riverbank. Keep an eye out for Northern Rosella, Rainbow Bee-eater, Double-barred Finches and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos. After dark, listen out for the Barking Owl as they are fairly common in this area.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Red-winged Parrot
- ☐Yellow-tinted Honeyeater
- ☐Barking Owl
- ☐Bonus: Southern Boobook



Red-winged Parrot © Luke Paterson

5 KATHERINE LOW LEVEL NATURE RESERVE

Just 3 kilometres along the Victoria Highway and just out of town, the Low Level Nature Reserve is a great place to birdwatch. There are a network of paths as well as picnic facilities to enjoy a full day here, however birders also love this place because of the many different habitats within easy walking distance. Keep an eye out for Sacred Kingfisher, Radjah Shelduck, Little Pied Cormorant and Red-collared Lorikeet.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Nankeen Night-Heron
- ☐Shining Flycatcher
- ☐Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
- ☐Bonus: White-winged Triller



Nankeen Night-heron © Luke Paterson

HEADING FURTHER OUT OF KATHERINE? TAKE IN A COUPLE OF OTHER OUTSTANDING AREAS SUCH AS:

6 PINE CREEK TOWNSHIP

One hour north of Katherine, Pine Creek is an ideal spot to stretch your legs and keep a look out for Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Cockatiel, Varied Lorikeet, Red-backed Kingfisher and Blue-winged Kookaburra.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Hooded Parrot
- ☐Grey-crowned Babbler
- ☐Great Bowerbird
- ☐Bonus: Partridge Pigeon



Hooded Parrot © Mick Jerram

7 ELSEY NATIONAL PARK

Located an hour south of Katherine, Elsey National Park is a wonderful place to explore. Visit Bitter Springs, Mataranka Thermal Springs and various day-use areas on the road to Jalmurark (12 Mile Stockyards). Look for birds such as Rufous Whistler, Little Friarbird and Mistletoebird.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Crested Shrike-tit (Northern form)
- ☐Arafura Fantail
- ☐Banded Honeyeater
- ☐Bonus: Red Goshawk



Red Goshawk © Mick Jerram

8 VICTORIA RIVER

Travelling west from Katherine you will start to see a change in the landscape, noticeable by the slow appearance of Boab trees and the spectacular escarpment. Keep an eye out for Wedge-tailed Eagles feeding off road kill. Check areas near the Victoria River to search for a variety of finches including Masked and Long-tailed. The walks along the escarpment provide magnificent views overlooking Victoria River as well as great birds such as Sandstone Shrikethrush and Banded Honeyeater.

Top 3 Birds

- ☐Purple-crowned Fairywren
- ☐White-quilled Rock Pigeon
- ☐Star Finch
- ☐Bonus: Chestnut-backed Buttonquail



Purple-crowned Fairywren © Mick Jerram

Birds of Katherine Checklist

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Quail | <input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Parrot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australasian Darter | <input type="checkbox"/> Varied Lorikeet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great-billed Heron | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-collared Lorikeet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nankeen Night-Heron | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Bowerbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Osprey | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-tailed Treecreeper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-breasted Buzzard | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple-crowned Fairywren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Variegated Fairywren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wedge-tailed Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-backed Fairywren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Harrier | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-tinted Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Goshawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Banded Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collared Sparrowhawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Bar-breasted Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Goshawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-chinned Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Goshawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Dusky Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White-bellied Sea-Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Rufous-throated Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Bustard | <input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Honeyeater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brolga | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver-crowned Friarbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bush Stone-curlew | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Friarbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-backed Buttonquail | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-browed Pardalote |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-backed Buttonquail | <input type="checkbox"/> Striated Pardalote |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Bronzewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Weebill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dove (Peaceful, Diamond, Bar-shouldered) | <input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Gerygone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partridge Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Grey-crowned Babbler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-quilled Rock Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Woodswallow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White-quilled Rock Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Pied Butcherbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pheasant Coucal | <input type="checkbox"/> Varied Sitella |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brush Cuckoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Crested Shrike-tit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pallid Cuckoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Shrikethrush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barking Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandstone Shrikethrush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Boobook | <input type="checkbox"/> Rufous Whistler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tawny Frogmouth | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Fantail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Nightjar | <input type="checkbox"/> Arafura Fantail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Owlet-nightjar | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaden Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Azure Kingfisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Paperbark Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Kookaburra | <input type="checkbox"/> Shining Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-backed Kingfisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Apostlebird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Kingfisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Buff-sided Robin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacred Kingfisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Tawny Grassbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow Bee-eater | <input type="checkbox"/> Golden-headed Cisticola |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Hobby | <input type="checkbox"/> Crimson Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Falcon | <input type="checkbox"/> Star Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peregrine Falcon | <input type="checkbox"/> Zebra Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Double-barred Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Galah | <input type="checkbox"/> Masked Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Long-tailed Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cockatiel | <input type="checkbox"/> Gouldian Finch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Parrot | <input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-breasted Mannikin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rosella | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Mannikin |



KATHERINE & SURROUNDS



Map Images © Mick Jerram