

10 HOUTMAN ABROLHOS

An archipelago of 108 coral islands 48 kilometres west of Geraldton.

On the Houtman Abrolhos are found the largest breeding colonies in Western Australia of eleven species of seabirds: Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Little Shearwater, White-faced Storm Petrel, White-breasted Sea Eagle, Eastern Osprey, Common and Lesser Noddy, Caspian, Crested, Roseate, Sooty and Fairy Tern.

Shorebirds that nest here include Australian Pied and Sooty Oystercatcher. Land birds include Painted Button-quail and Brush Bronzewing. Eighty-six species have been recorded here.

Contact Geraldton Tourist Bureau for information on tours to the Abrolhos Islands.



Red-tailed Tropicbird

WHAT IS BIRDS AUSTRALIA?

Birds Australia is a non-profit organisation working for the enjoyment, study and conservation of Australia's birds.

The Western Australian members of Birds Australia are state-wide and are offered a variety of activities and services including conservation and research projects, excursions, camp-outs, bird surveys and social activities.

We also have a library, books for sale and information about birds.

To view our full range of bird guides and bird lists, visit our web site.

INTERESTED?

Contact us at:

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Little Shearwater



Lesser Noddy

Prepared by Birds Australia
Western Australia

BIRDWATCHING around GERALDTON

Number 11a in a series of
Bird Guides of Western Australia



Singing Honeyeater



BIRDING AROUND GERALDTON

1 SPALDING PARK

A large well-vegetated park of native bushland, mainly eucalypts and wattles, on the Chapman River and within the Geraldton townsite.

A good day's birding can be enjoyed with Eastern Great Egret, Variegated Fairy-wren, White-browed Scrubwren, Mistletoebird and Grey Currawong among the many species recorded here.

2 GERALDTON TOWN BEACHES

Point Moore, Gray's beach and Back Beach make a good half-day's walk with many shore birds including Pied Cormorant, Ruddy Turnstone, Crested and Caspian Tern.

3 ELLENDALE POOL

Take a days outing to Ellendale Pool and Burma Road.

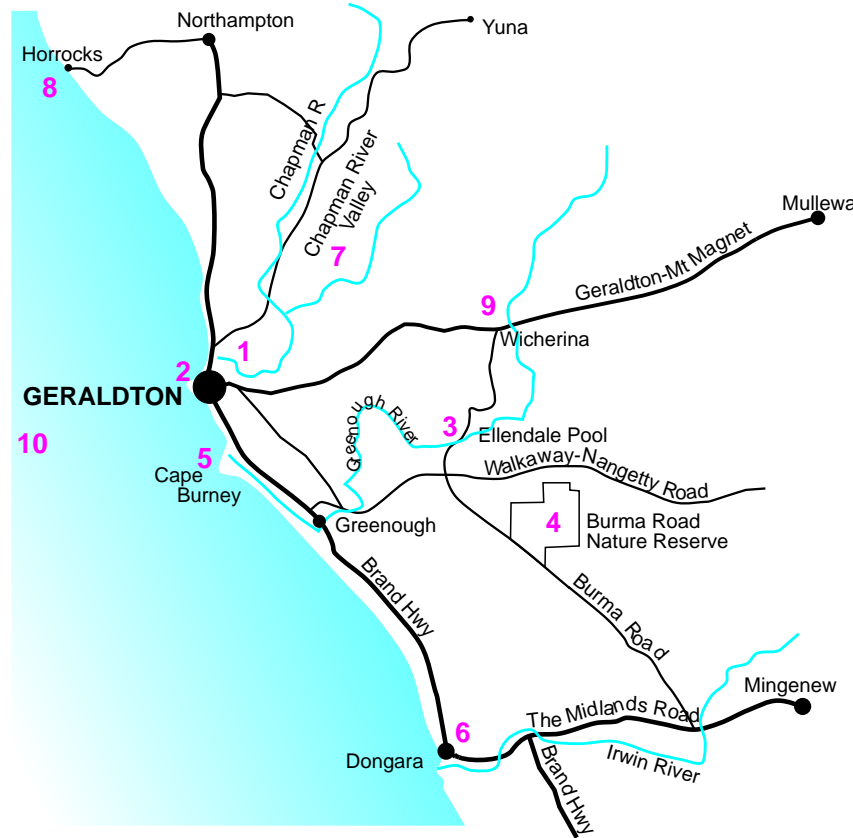
Turn east at Greenough to Walkaway, then north to Ellendale Pool. This natural pool is at the foot of tall river cliffs and is surrounded by eucalypts and wattles and reed beds. A lovely quiet spot for a picnic or a barbeque. Waterbirds include Australasian Darter and Musk Duck. There are many bush birds and Peregrine Falcon nest in the cliff face.

4 BURMA ROAD NATURE RESERVE

In season, this area of scrub-heath is worth a visit for the wildflowers and bush birds. Emu, White-winged Fairy-wren, Red-capped Robin and White-cheeked Honeyeater are among the many bush birds in this area.

6 DONGARA

Visit some of the places of historical interest on the Greenough Flats. Dongara is a delightful town with long white beaches and the Irwin River winding through the town to the ocean. Eastern Reef Egret, Caspian Tern and Eastern Great Egret are among the birds near the river mouth.



5 CAPE BURNEY

An excellent days outing includes a journey through Greenough River Flats to Dongara.

Travel south along Brand Highway to Greenough River mouth. Turn off about 10 kilometres south of Geraldton and explore the river's edge and beach for Australian Pelican, Eastern Osprey and in summer watch out for shorebirds.

7 CHAPMAN RIVER VALLEY

Take a days trip along Chapman Valley Road and take in the beauty of the Moresby Ranges and Chapman River.

You will see many birds - Rufous Whistler, Splendid and Variegated Fairy-wren, Striated Pardalote and Rufous Songlark are among the birds seen here.

8 HORROCKS BEACH

Take the road from Nabawa to Northampton, one of the oldest settlements in Western Australia.

Take Horrocks Road to Three Mile Beach, which is a good area to see Eastern Reef Egret, Eastern Osprey, Roseate and Fairy Tern.

9 WICHERINA

There are large patches of bushland about 40 kilometres east of Geraldton along the Mount Magnet Road. This is a great area for wildflowers. Look for Pallid Cuckoo, Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo, Golden Whistler and Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater.



Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater