Welcome to the Alice Springs Birding Trail.

Important Information

Visit the Alice Springs Botanic Garden
Tunks Road, Alice Springs

The Alice Springs Botanic Garden is home to over 600 Central Australian plants, as well as excellent birdwatching and wildlife viewing. A network of walking trails takes visitors around the garden which is a great place to see species such as Rainbow Bee-eater, White-plumed Honeyeater, Mistletoebird and Galah.

Top 3 Birds
- Western Bowerbird
- Grey-crowned Babbler
- Australian Ringneck

2 Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve
Herbert Heritage Reserve
Located just 4km north of Alice Springs town centre, the Telegraph Station Historical Reserve is a picturesque place to immerse yourself in history and enjoy the outdoors. The extensive trails and varied terrain gives birdwatchers great opportunities to spot species such as Whistling Kite, White-browed Babblers and Masked Woodswallow.

Top 3 Birds
- Redthroat
- Red-backed Kingfisher
- Chestnut-rumped Thornbill

3 Ilparpa Clayspans Crown Land Reserve
Ilparpa Road, Ilparpa

Just 15 minutes from the centre of Alice Springs, the Clayspans is accessible via an unsealed track off Ilparpa road towards the south-west corner of the Ilparpa Swamp Wildlife Protection Area. This location may provide you an opportunity to sight species such as Red-backed Kingfisher, White-vented Duck, Galah and White-plumed Honeyeater.

Top 3 Birds
- Major Mitchell’s Cockatoo
- Black-shouldered Kite
- Mulga Parrot

4 Simpsons Gap
Darwin Drive

Simpsons Gap is located in the Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park, just west of Alice Springs. The walking tracks offer great opportunities to spot Black-shoalered Kite, Dusky Grasswren, Torrensian Crow and Painted Finch.

Top 3 Birds
- Dusky Grasswren
- Peregrine Falcon
- Red-capped Robin

5 Alice Springs Sewage Ponds
Commonage Road, Ilparpa

If you have some extra time while in Alice Springs, a visit to the Ilparpa sewage ponds is not to be missed. Home to a variety of birds and an important stopping point for migratory birds, the birdlife here is spectacular. Lookout for Pink Cockatoo, Grey Teal, Pied Stilt and Black-fronted Dotterel.

Top 3 Birds
- Red-necked Avocet
- Pink-eared Duck
- Red-capped Plover

6 Trephina Gorge Nature Park
Trephina Gorge, an hour east of Alice Springs is noted for its sheer cliff faces and gorges. The waterholes attract much wildlife and a diverse range of birds. Enjoy seeing species such as Painted Finch, Hooded Robin, Zebra Finch and Variegated Fairy-wren.

Top 3 Birds
- Painted Finch
- Spinifexbird
- Yellow-rumped Thornbill

7 Ellery Creek Big Hole
Ellery Creek Big Hole is a spectacular waterhole in the Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park, just 90km west of Alice Springs. The walking tracks offer great opportunities to spot Black-shoalered Kite, Dusky Grasswren, Torrensian Crow and Painted Finch.

Top 3 Birds
- Budgerigar
- Australian Reed Warbler
- Striated Pardalote

8 Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve
About 100km south of Alice Springs, Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve has scenic sandstone bluffs and cliffs that are a photographers and birdwatchers delight. There are two walking tracks and several viewing platforms that provide the best views of Rainbow Valley. Lookout for Pied Honeyeaters, White-winged Fairy-wren, Redthroat, Peregrine Falcon and Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

Top 3 Birds
- Crested Bowerbird
- Crimson Chat
- Little Button-quail

*Access to this site is conditional. All visitors must contact Tourism Central Australia for a list of accredited guides who can facilitate entry. Costs may apply.

**Heading Further Out of Alice Springs? Take in a Couple of Other Outstanding Spots About an Hour from the Centre of Town. (Please Note There is No Mobile Signal at These Locations.**

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