

1. Blackwood River Walk

An easy 3-4km return walk along the Blackwood River with seating to enjoy the quiet ambience and birdlife. Start at the car park at the River Park next to the main bridge and follow the boardwalk across the river. Turn left for a shorter walk to a creekline or right to walk to Gifford Rd and back among Marri and Jarrah trees and views to the river with Melaleuca thickets. Look for waterbirds along the river: Purple Swamphen, Eurasian Coot, Australasian and Hoary-headed Grebes and cormorants. Along the track, Western Rosella, Red-capped and Elegant Parrots, Golden Whistler, Red-eared Firetail, Red-winged and Splendid Fairy-wrens, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Striated Pardalote and sometimes Crested Shrike-tit can be found.

Western Rosella
(male)



2. Rifle Range Rd

Drive about 3km south from the main bridge over the Blackwood River, then turn right into Rifle Range Rd. Drive 500m and turn right along a track (turnoff marked '50') and park in a small clearing. Explore several creekline tracks through dense vegetation for Red-eared Firetail and Red-winged Fairy-wren. Options to walk or drive 1km further along the main track to a T junction, turn left and back through old growth forest to Rifle Range Rd, with many birding spots along the way. Masked Owl, Tawny Frogmouth and Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo can be found here.

Scarlet Robin
(male)



3. Sunnyside Reserve

Follow Tweed Rd along the south side of the Blackwood River, then turn left into Sunnyside Reserve opposite the Carburnup Rd turnoff. An interesting mix of vegetation provides good habitat for a variety of birds, including waterbirds, Sacred Kingfisher, Scarlet Robin, Splendid Fairy-wren, Shining Bronze-cuckoo, Western Rosella, White-naped Honeyeater, Dusky Woodswallow, Red-tailed and White-tailed Black-Cockatoo and Tawny Frogmouth.

Birdwatching in Bridgetown-Greenbushes District

Bridgetown-Greenbushes District

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire is a comfortable three hour drive (256km) south of Perth. Bridgetown is nestled along the Blackwood River Valley and is surrounded by attractive rural landscapes and healthy native Forest Conservation Areas and National Parks. Greenbushes sits on the highest point in the area among native forests 15km north of Bridgetown. Both towns were settled early and have a long pioneering heritage.

A brochure entitled 'Your Guide to Walk Trails—Greenbushes-Bridgetown-Hester' and other information are available from the Bridgetown Visitor Centre on Hampton St (Ph: 08 9761 1740). The Greenbushes Discovery Centre also has information on the various walk trails around town (Ph: 08 9764 3883)

Acknowledgements

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Birdwatching around Bridgetown Greenbushes

Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo female by Keith Lightbody



birds are in our nature


birdlife
Western Australia

4. Old Abattoir Walk

Drive 4.5km along the Boyup Brook Rd from Steere St turnoff and then left into the forest down a track signposted with this walk to the car park. An easy walk track past the gazebo picnic area takes you through Jarrah and Marri forest to Krsuls Rd then back along the creekline (1.7km). Other tracks are clearly signposted and a little more challenging. A great place to enjoy the wildflowers as well as Western, Yellow-rumped and Inland Thornbills, Red Wattlebird, Grey Shrike-thrush, Grey Fantail, Striated and Spotted Pardalotes and Western Gerygone.

Western Thornbill



5. Wandoo Valley Walk

Turn right off the Boyup Brook Rd at Winneup Rd and drive 1km, then turn right along the powerline track to the car park. Three well-signposted loop walks (1.0-3.7km) take you through delightful open Marri and Wandoo woodland, Jarrah forest and upland wetland then along creeklines with banksia and ancient grass trees. A large variety of bush birds can be found in the different habitats. Look for Western and Inland Thornbills, Striated Pardalote, Red-capped Parrot, Weebill, Dusky Woodswallow, Western Spinebill, Elegant Parrot and Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

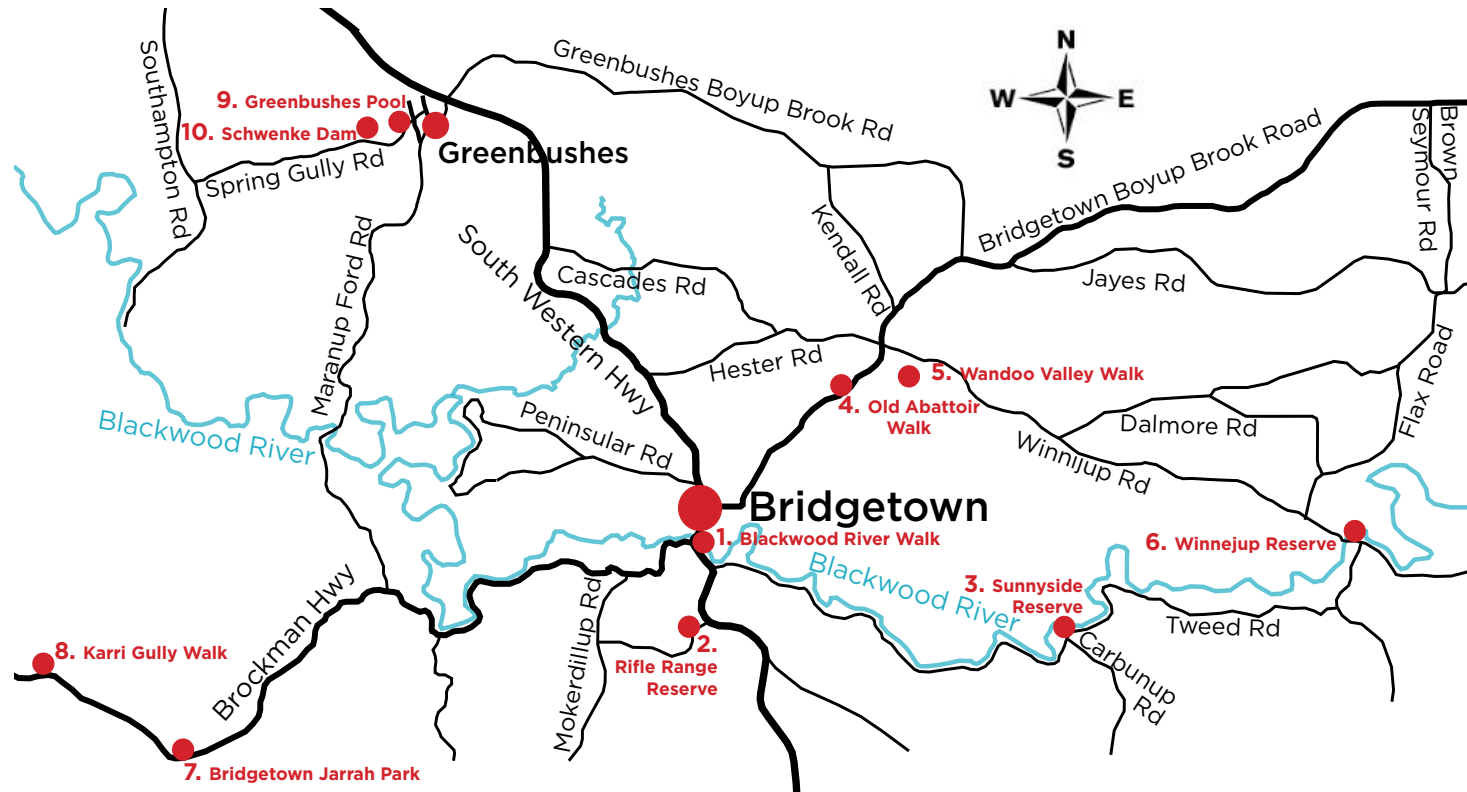
Elegant Parrot



6. Winneup Reserve

Travel about 15km along Winneup Rd from the Boyup Brook Rd to the Winneup Bridge. Park over the bridge on the left side and look for waterbirds along the river. Four cormorant species and Australasian Darter have been seen here as well as Australasian Shoveler, Grey Teal, Musk Duck and Nankeen Night-Heron. Walk around the sandy track through open woodland with old growth Jarrah and Bull Banksia, then low shrubland to find Golden and Rufous Whistlers, Elegant and Red-capped Parrots, Western Rosella, Rainbow Bee-eater, Dusky Woodswallow, Tree Martin, Red and Western Wattlebirds, Scarlet Robin, Singing Honeyeater and Western Spinebill.

BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES BIRD SITES



7. Bridgetown Jarrah Park

Enjoy a scenic drive along Brockman Highway for about 20km to Bridgetown Jarrah Park. Turn right at the sign and drive along a short track to the secluded picnic area with toilets. The four loop walks (0.8-5.9km) meander along Maranup Brook and take you through differing habitats with four of the main tree species present (Karri, Jarrah, Marri and Blackbutt) and an abundance of wildflowers in spring.



Western Spinebill (male)

Old growth trees, fallen logs, banksias, tall shrubs and moist creekline habitats attract a variety of birds including Red-winged Fairy-wren, Spotted Pardalote, White-breasted and Yellow Robins, White-browed Scrubwren, Western Rosella, Crested Shrike-tit, Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Western and Red Wattlebirds, Western Gerygone and Varied Sittella.



Golden Whistler (male)

8. Karri Gully

Drive another 4.5km west along Brockman Highway to the Karri Gully car park on the right. There are picnic tables and toilets at this delightful rest stop among towering Karri trees and tall shrubs. Follow the Bibbulmun Track north through the forest to Guy Rd and back, or take the left fork along the Bibbulmun Track parallel to the highway for about 1km or so, then back to the car park. Both ways provide good opportunities to see the noisy Purple-crowned Lorikeet, especially when the Karri is flowering, and the elusive Crested Shrike-tit. White-browed Babbler, Red-winged and Splendid Fairy-wrens, White-browed Scrubwren, White-naped Honeyeater, Common Bronzewing, Varied Sittella, Red Wattlebird and Striated and Spotted Pardalotes can be found here.



Purple-crowned
Lorikeet

9. Greenbushes Pool

Drive into Greenbushes and turn into Spring Gully Rd off Blackwood Rd and Telluride St, then drive or walk about 1km to the Greenbushes Pool. An attractive pool and wetland setting with boardwalk, picnic tables, BBQ and toilets. A variety of birds are found here including White-breasted Robin, Red-winged Fairy-wren, Western Spinebill and Red-eared Firetail. Various walking and driving tracks from the pool join the Greenbushes Loop Walk to Dumpling Gully and the Bibbulmun Track taking you through different habitats, including sheoak woodland with prospects of finding Western Yellow Robin and White-browed Babbler.



Red-winged
Fairy-wren
(male)

Bird List

Emus & Cassowaries

Emu U

Ducks, Geese & Swans

Blue-bill Duck R O

Black Swan M

Australian Shelduck C

Hardhead R

Australasian Shoveler U

Pacific Black Duck C

Northern Mallard U

Grey Teal C

Musk Duck M

Australian Wood Duck C

Pheasants & Quail

Stubble Quail R

Brown Quail R

Grebes

Australasian Grebe C

Hoary-headed Grebe U

Great Crested Grebe R

Pigeons & Doves

Laughing Dove U *

Common Bronzewing C

Crested Pigeon R

Cuckoos

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo U Mi Sp Su

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo M Mi Sp Su

Fan-tailed Cuckoo M Mi Sp Su

Pallid Cuckoo R Mi SP Su

Frogmouths

Tawny Frogmouth U

Owlet-nightjars

Australian Owlet-nightjar R

Crakes, Rails & Swamphens

Buff-banded Rail R

Australian Spotted Crake U

Spotless Crake U

Purple Swamphen C

Dusky Moorhen M

Eurasian Coot C

Plovers, Dotterel and Lapwings

Black-fronted Dotterel M

Snipe, Sandpipers, Godwits, Curlew, Stints & Phalaropes

Common Sandpiper R

Bird List

Button-Quail

Painted Button-quail R

Little Button-quail R

Gulls, Terns & Noddies

Silver Gull R

Pelican

Australian Pelican U

Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns

Nankeen Night-Heron U

White-necked Heron R

Australian Little Bittern R O

Great Egret R IA

White-faced Heron C

Ibis & Spoonbills

Australian White Ibis U

Straw-necked Ibis U

Yellow-billed Spoonbill U

Cormorants & Shags

Little Pied Cormorant C

Great Cormorant U

Little Black Cormorant M

Pied Cormorant U

Darter

Australasian Darter U

Eagles, Kites & Goshawk

Black-shouldered Kite U

Square-tailed Kite U Mi Su

Wedge-tailed Eagle C

Little Eagle U

Swamp Harrier U

Brown Goshawk M

Collared Sparrowhawk U

Whistling Kite U

Masked Owls

Masked Owl U O

Barn Owl R

Hawk-Owls

Southern Boobook M

Bee-eaters

Rainbow Bee-eater M Mi Su IA

Kingfishers

Sacred Kingfisher M Mi Su

Laughing Kookaburra C *

10. Schwenke Dam

Drive 1km further along Spring Gully Rd to the Schwenke Dam car park, or follow the loop walk through melaleuca swamp along Spring Gully from Greenbushes Pool. The loop walk continues around the dam and back to the pool. This area has been extensively rehabilitated to enhance the habitat and vegetation for wetland birds. Good viewing of birds is possible from the upstream causeway near the car park, or from the dam wall further downstream. Australasian and Hoary-headed Grebes, Australasian Darter, Little Black and Little Pied Cormorants, Australian Reed-Warbler, Musk Duck, Swamp Harrier, Whistling Kite, Sacred Kingfisher and Nankeen Kestrel are found here. The Jarrah and Marri forest surrounding the dam is a known roosting site for Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos.



Swamp Harrier

BIRD LIST CODES

Abundance		Season	
C	common	Su	Summer
M	mod. common	Au	Autumn
U	uncommon	Wi	Winter
R	rare	Sp	Spring
Status			
*	Introduced	IA	Protected by International Agreement
Mi	migratory		
N	nomadic		
T	threatened	O	Of conservation concern
WA endemics in bold		OSP	Other specially protected

Current Birdlife Australia names and taxonomic order applied

Bird List

Falcons			
Nankeen Kestrel		U	
Australian Hobby		U	
Brown Falcon		U	
Peregrine Falcon		R	OSP
Cockatoos & Corellas			
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo		C	T
Baudin's Black-Cockatoo		M	T
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo		M	T
Galah		U	
Parrots, Lorikeets & Rosellas			
Regent Parrot		U	
Red-capped Parrot		C	
Western Rosella		C	
Australian Ringneck		C	
Elegant Parrot		M	
Purple-crowned Lorikeet		M	
Treecreepers			
Rufous Treecreeper		U	
Fairy-wrens, Emu-wrens & Grasswrens			
Red-winged Fairy-wren		C	
Splendid Fairy-wren		C	
Southern Emu-wren		R	
Honeyeaters & Chats			
Brown Honeyeater		C	
New Holland Honeyeater		C	
White-cheeked Honeyeater		R	
Brown-headed Honeyeater		U	
White-naped Honeyeater		C	
Western Spinebill		M	
White-fronted Chat		R	
Western Wattlebird		U	
Red Wattlebird		C	
Singing Honeyeater		U	
Pardalotes			
Spotted Pardalote		C	
Striated Pardalote		C	
Thornbills & Gerygones			
Western Gerygone		C	
Weebill		R	
Rufous Fieldwren		R	
White-browed Scrubwren		C	
Yellow-rumped Thornbill		C	
Inland Thornbill		C	
Western Thornbill		M	
Australian Babblers			
White-browed Babbler		R	

Bird List

Sittellas			
Varied Sittella		U	
Cuckoo-shrikes & Trillers			
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike		C	
White-winged Triller		U	Mi Su
Whistlers, Shrike-thrushes & Allies			
Rufous Whistler		C	
Goldern Whistler		C	
Grey Shrike-thrush		C	
Shriketits			
Crested Shrike-tit		R	
Woodswallows, Currawongs, Butcherbirds, Magpie			
Grey Currawong		R	
Australian Magpie		C	
Grey Butcherbird		R	
Dusky Woodswallow		M	
Black-faced Woodswallow		R	
Fantails			
Willie Wagtail		C	
Grey Fantail		C	
Crows & Ravens			
Australian Raven		C	
Monarch & Flycatchers			
Restless Flycatcher		M	
Magpie-lark		C	
Australian Robins			
Scarlet Robin		C	
Red-capped Robin		R	
Jacky Winter		R	
Western Yellow Robin		C	
White-breasted Robin		C	
Hooded Robin		R	
Flowerpeckers			
Mistletoebird		U	
Weaver Finches			
Red-eared Firetail		C	
Pipit & Wagtails			
Australasian Pipit		M	
Grassbirds			
Little Grassbird		U	
Reed-Warblers			
Australian Reed-Warbler		M	
Swallows & Martins			
Fairy Martin		R	Su
Tree Martin		C	
Welcome Swallow		C	Mi Su
White-eyes			
Silveryeye		C	