

Georgetown Bird Checklist

Emu	U	Eastern Great Egret	C	Bush Stone-curlew	U,h	Brown Treecreeper	C	Grey Butcherbird	U	Brown Songlark	R
Brown Quail	U	Intermediate Egret	C	Black-winged Stilt	C	Great Bowerbird	C	Pied Butcherbird	C	Welcome Swallow	R
Magpie Goose	C	Little Egret	U	Black-fronted Dotterel	C	Red-backed Fairy-wren	C	Australian Magpie	C	Fairy Martin	C
Plumed Whistling-Duck	C	White-faced Heron	C	Red-kneed Dotterel	U	Variiegated Fairy-wren	C	Grey Fantail	U	Tree Martin	U
Wandering Whistling-Duck	C	Nankeen Night-Heron	U	Masked Lapwing	C	Weebill	C	Willie Wagtail	C	Mistletoebird	C
Black Swan	R	Glossy Ibis	U	Comb-crested Jacana	C	White-throated Gerygone	U	Australian Raven	U	Zebra Finch	C
Australian Wood Duck	C	Australian White Ibis	U	Marsh Sandpiper	R,Mn	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	C	Torresian Crow	C	Double-barred Finch	C
Pink-eared Duck	C	Straw-necked Ibis	C	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	U,Mn	Striated Pardalote	C,h	Apostlebird	C	Black-throated finch	C
Cotton Pygmy-goose	U	Royal Spoonbill	C	Little Button-quail	R	Red-browed Pardalote	C,h	Leaden Flycatcher	U	Masked Finch	C
Green Pygmy-goose	C	Yellow-billed Spoonbill	U	Red-chested Button-quail	R	Singing Honeyeater	R	Restless Flycatcher	C	Plum-headed Finch	U
Grey Teal	C	Black-shouldered Kite	U	Australian Pratincole	R	White-gaped Honeyeater	R	Magpie Lark	C	Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	R
Australian Shoveller	R	Square-tailed Kite	R	Whiskered Tern	R	Yellow Honeyeater	C	Jacky Winter	U	Pictorella Mannikin	U
Pacific Black Duck	C	Black-breasted Buzzard	U	Red-tailed Black-cockatoo	C	Grey-fronted Honeyeater	U	Horsefield's Bushlark	C	House Sparrow	R
Hardhead	C	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	R	Galah	C	Yellow-tinted Honeyeater	C	Rufous Songlark	C	Australasian Pipit	C
Australasian Grebe	C	Whistling Kite	C	Little Corella	R	Yellow-throated Miner	C				
Hoary-headed Grebe	R	Black Kite	C	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	C	Bar-breasted Honeyeater	R				
Great Crested Grebe	U	Brown Goshawk	C	Cockatiel	C	Rufous-throated Honeyeater	C				
Common Bronzewing	U	Grey Goshawk	R	Rainbow Lorikeet	C	Banded Honeyeater	U	C=Common	Likely to be recorded on most visits		
Crested Pigeon	C	Collared Sparrowhawk	U	Varied Lorikeet	R	Brown Honeyeater	C	U=Uncommon	Recorded regularly but not every visit		
Squatter Pigeon	C	Spotted Harrier	U	Red-winged Parrot	C	Black-chinned Honeyeater	R	R=Rare	Recorded infrequently		
Spinifex Pigeon	R	Wedge-tailed Eagle	C	Pale-headed Rosella	C	Blue-faced Honeyeater	C				
Diamond Dove	C	Little Eagle	R	Budgerigar	C	Noisy Friarbird	U	h=More often heard than seen			
Peaceful Dove	C	Nankeen Kestrel	C	Pheasant Coucal	C	Little Friarbird	C	Mn=Migrant from the North (approx Oct-Mar)			
Bar-shouldered Dove	C	Brown Falcon	C	Eastern Koel	U,Mn,h	Grey-crowned Babbler	C				
Tawny Frogmouth	C	Australian Hobby	U	Channel-billed Cuckoo	U,Mn,h	Varied Sitella	C				
Spotted Nightjar	R	Black Falcon	R	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	U,h	Ground Cuckoo-shrike	U				
Australian Owlet Nightjar	R	Peregrine Falcon	U	Pallid Cuckoo	U	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	C				
Fork-tailed Swift	R,Mn	Sarus Crane	U	Brush Cuckoo	U,Mn,h	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	C				
Australasian Darter	C	Brolga	C	Southern Boobook	U,h	White-winged Triller	C				
Little Pied Cormorant	C	Purple Swampphen	U	Laughing Kookaburra	U	Rufous Whistler	C				
Little Black Cormorant	C	Buff-banded Rail	U,h	Blue-winged Kookaburra	C	Grey Shrike-thrush	U				
Pied Cormorant	R	Baillon's Crake	R	Forest Kingfisher	C	Olive-backed Oriole	U				
Australian Pelican	C	Black-tailed Native-hen	R	Red-backed Kingfisher	C	Masked Woodswallow	U				
Black-necked Stork	U	Dusky Moorhen	R	Sacred Kingfisher	C	White-browed Woodswallow	U				
Black Bittern	U	Eurasian Coot	C	Rainbow Bee-eater	C	Little Woodswallow	R				
White-necked Heron	C	Australian Bustard	C	Dollarbird	C,Mn	Black-faced Woodswallow	C				

Definition: The C/U/R annotations in this list give an indication of how easy or difficult it might be to find a species. They indicate the likelihood that an experienced birder might record the species, during a day bird-watching, at the right time of year, in the appropriate habitat.

Information based on records kindly provided by D & A Magarry, Cairns Naturalists' Club, from 1974-2009 and also Atlas Data.

This list includes residents, seasonal migrants, regular & uncommon visitors, but very rare species are not included where we have only 1-2 records over 35 years. Names and taxonomic order used for the list follow *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* by L. Christidis & WE Boles (CSIRO, Melbourne, 2008).

WHO ARE WE?

BirdLife Northern Queensland

is a branch of the national organisation BirdLife Australia, formed in 2012 by the merger of Birds Australia and BOCA.

BirdLife Northern Queensland organizes both scientific and social activities. These include bird surveys, outings, workshops and presentations with guest speakers. The regular field trips and campouts cater for all levels of expertise from beginner to professional and emphasise fun as well as worthwhile conservation projects.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter *Contact Call* detailing local activities and also enjoy *BirdLife Australia* magazine dealing with national bird issues.

You can join BirdLife Australia and help the conservation of Australian birds at www.birdlife.org.au

Georgetown Bird List Details

The abundance of birdlife in inland Australia is highly variable. It is principally dependant on rainfall which then effects availability of food such as insects, flowering plants, seeding grasses etc. When conditions are appropriate, even an uncommon species like the **Plum-headed Finch**, has been recorded in flocks of over 1,000. Despite this variation it is still possible to help visitors by indicating the chances of recording the species that regularly occur.

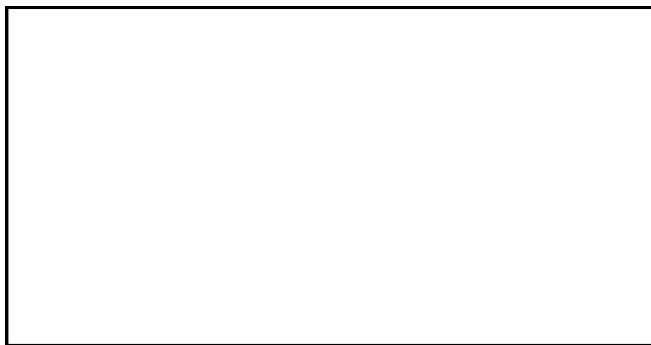
Georgetown is at the limit of the normal range of a number of birds from the North, South, East & West. There are one or two records of at least 30 additional species. These are not included here to avoid confusion. But be on the lookout. You never know what might turn up.

INFORMATION

Georgetown is situated roughly halfway between Cairns and Karumba, at the base of the Cape York Peninsula. It is one of the best places in Queensland for observing the savannah birds of Northern Australia.

Productive areas include the Cumberland Dam (20km west of the township), the Georgetown racecourse, rubbish tip and other private dams in the area. It can often be very productive to just stop beside the road when a lot of activity is noticed. The number of birds observed changes with the seasons. Birds spread out into the countryside after good rain but concentrate near water in the drier months. Over 50 species can be recorded in just one hour around Cumberland Dam in good conditions. Of particular interest in this area is the **Gouldian Finch**. This species was recorded here by the Cairns Naturalists' Club almost every single year from 1974 to 1997 but has not been seen since. **Spinifex Pigeons** used to be regular until 1999 but are only rarely recorded now.

Distributed by:



Updated April 2013

© BirdLife Northern Queensland

GEORGETOWN

Bird Checklist No 30



BirdLife Northern Queensland



Email northernqld@birdlife.org.au

Web www.birdsaustralianq.org

www.birdlife.org.au

Facebook Birdlife Northern Queensland