



# Bellbird

BIRDING, WILDLIFE & PHOTO TOURS

*Unique and unforgettable nature experiences!*

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## Red Centre Adventure 5 day birding tour 10-15 Sep 2025



The Red Centre around Alice Springs is host to a variety of exciting bird species. Using Alice Springs as a base, this comfortable 5-day tour takes daily trips out to different areas targeting enigmatic birds such as Dusky Grasswren, Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, Spinifexbird, Grey Honeyeater, Western Bowerbird, Painted Finch and maybe even Grey Falcon...! This is an all-inclusive, fully guided tour, departing from Alice Springs and finishing

in Yulara (Uluru). The Red Centre Adventure visits the Eastern and Western MacDonnell Ranges, the sewage works, the Old Telegraph Station, the Tanami Road, Kunoth Bore and the Deep Well Road, and then ventures into the outback to visit the scenic Kings Canyon and Australia's most famous rock: Uluru (Ayers Rock), while looking for other good birds including the rare Sandhill Grasswren. Read on for further details!

**Tour starts:** Alice Springs, NT

**Tour finishes:** Yulara or Alice Springs, NT

**Scheduled departure & return dates:**

• 10 - 15 Sep 2025

**Price:** AU\$5,799 per person all-inclusive.

**Leader:** Michael Greenshields/David Kowalic

**Trip reports and photos of previous tours:**

<http://www.bellbirdtours.com/reports>

**Questions? Contact BELLBIRD BIRDING TOURS :**

- Freecall 1800-BIRDING
- email [birds@bellbirdtours.com](mailto:birds@bellbirdtours.com)

**READ ON FOR:**

- Further tour details
- Daily itinerary
- Booking information

*"Michael was an excellent guide and worked very hard for us, he managed to squeeze as many birds as possible out of the tour!" Richard, UK*



**Tour starts** Alice Springs, NT **& finishes:** Yulara/Uluru, NT or Alice Springs, NT

**Scheduled departure and return dates:**

Tour commences with dinner on 10 Sep 2025. *Why not join our preceding Best of Top End tour finishing in Darwin, a short flight from Alice Springs, on 9 Sep?* Please arrive in Alice Springs on or before 10 Sep. Tour finishes afternoon of 15 Sep 2025. Please depart Yulara airport on 15 Sep or hitch a ride with our guide back to Alice Springs that same afternoon. See itinerary on next pages for further details. *Or join our subsequent Australian Endemic Families birding tour commencing the evening of 17 Sep in Perth. Instant discount if you book a 2<sup>nd</sup> trip.*

**Leader:** David Kowalick or Michael Greenshields, our dedicated Alice Springs bird and wildlife experts.

**Difficulty:** Low/Medium/~~High~~/Excellent level of fitness required. The tour has a relaxed pace and walks are on varying surfaces, from paved roads to uneven, rocky walking trails. We generally walk slowly, with lots of stops. You can opt out of any challenging walks.

**What to bring:** Please travel light. Binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, power adaptors if you're an international guest, insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, sun hat, water bottle, hand sanitizer. Sturdy footwear recommended. Scopes, super-telephoto lenses with tripods, and heavy suitcases are discouraged.

**Clothing:** Lightweight long pants, t-shirt and long-sleeved shirt, over the top of which you can wear layers that can be taken off as necessary, including a jumper / sweater and a wind- and rain-proof jacket.

**Group size:** Minimum 4, maximum 8 participants.

**Cost:** AU\$5,799 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on twin-share room occupancy. Not included: drinks, tips, personal expense. Return-client discount may apply. \$99 earlybird discount applies to bookings received  $\geq 12$  months in advance. Single supp.: AU\$880.

**Bookings:** <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings> - see the last page of this brochure.

## ITINERARY

## Red Centre Adventure 2025 - II

**Day 0: 10 Sep '25.** Arrive in Alice Springs today and make your own way to our hotel. Why not join our preceding Chestnut-breasted Whiteface outback tour which finishes in Alice on 17 July? Either way, we'll all meet up for introductions and dinner this evening. Overnight **Mercure Springs Resort, Alice Springs** (motel with en-suite rooms, meals included: D).

**Day 1: 11 Sep '25.** We'll head into the Eastern MacDonnell Ranges for our best chance at some of the tricky species. Prime targets are the tiny Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, the elusive Dusky Grasswren, the pleasantly sounding Chiming Wedgebill, Spinifexbird, Crimson Chat, and Painted Finch. We'll return to Alice Springs to have lunch in the famous Olive Pink Botanic Garden, with its resident Grey-crowned Babblers, Western Bowerbirds and many honeyeaters. A short walk here should also yield Black-footed Rock Wallabies. Afterwards we head to a 'mulga' (acacia) scrubland where we'll spend the afternoon looking for Black-breasted Buzzard, Slaty-backed, Chestnut-rumped and Inland Thornbills, Western Gerygone, Hooded Robin and Diamond Dove. We will stake out a waterhole waiting for birds to come and drink on sunset. Here we should see Australian Ringneck, Mulga Parrot, Common Bronzewing, Brown Goshawk, Red-capped Robin, Major Mitchell's Cockatoo and if we're lucky, Budgerigars and Bourke's Parrot. Overnight **Mercure Springs Resort, Alice Springs** (motel with en-suite rooms, meals included: B, L, D).

**Day 2: 12 Sep '25.** Before we begin our drive towards Kings Canyon we'll look for much-sought-after Grey Honeyeater and the gorgeous diminutive Red-browed Pardalote. We should also see both Purple-backed and Splendid Fairy-wren. Heading towards Kings Canyon we'll stop a few times to search the road-sides for speciality species including Cinnamon Quail-thrush, Southern and Banded Whiteface, Orange Chat and if the season is right, Inland Dotterel. After lunch in the geographical centre of Australia we head west towards our final destination for today. Upon arriving at Kings Canyon we'll do a bit of birding in the grounds of our accommodation before dinner. After dark we are likely to see wild dingos scavenging for food on the short drive to our rooms. Overnight **Kings Creek Station** (comfortable private glamping tents with normal beds, en-suite & a/c, meals included: B, L, D).

**Day 3: 13 Sep '25.** Today we spend our morning at the spectacular Kings Canyon. After a scrumptious buffet breakfast, we'll take a short drive to the base of the canyon. Our first walk for the way will be suitable for most fitness levels and will be spent looking for Grey-headed Honeyeater, Painted Finch, Dusky Grasswren and Mistletoebird. For those who like to, there will be the chance to do the Rim Walk, a 6km hike around the top of Kings Canyon. For others there are a number of short walks and waterholes at the base of the canyon where plenty of birds can be seen coming in to drink throughout the morning. We'll



Rufous-crowned Emu-wren © G Jones  
Sandhill Grasswren © J Weigel  
Western Bowerbird © C Watson

## Red Centre Adventure 2025 - II

then head back to the resort for lunch before heading out onto the start of the Mereenie Loop Road for part of the afternoon, where we might be lucky enough to see a herd or two of wild camels roaming. Birds we will be looking for include Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo, Spinifex Pigeon, Masked Woodswallow, Crested Bellbird, Wedge-tailed Eagle and if we are really lucky this is also an area that Princess Parrots have been seen on very rare occasions. Overnight: **Kings Creek Station** (comfortable private glamping tents with normal beds, en-suite & a/c, meals included: B, L, D).

**Day 4: 14 Sep '25.** A somewhat longer drive this morning to Uluru (Ayers Rock) with plenty of opportunities to stop for short birding walks. After lunch near our accommodation we'll head to the spectacular outback icon, Uluru and spend the afternoon there exploring the many trails, waterholes, grassland and mulga scrub around the rock. We'll keep an eye out for Grey-fronted & White-fronted Honeyeater, Little and Black-faced Woodswallow, Black-eared Cuckoo, Black-breasted Buzzard, White-winged Fairywren and Cockatiel. There will be an opportunity to visit the Cultural Centre highlighting information about the indigenous culture, bush tucker and geography, as well as being a great place to purchase any local souvenirs. Late in the afternoon we will take a short walk to the small but productive sewage ponds where besides the many thousands of Zebra Finch we should also see a selection of waterfowl, Major Mitchell Cockatoo as well as Australian Hobby. For those interested there will be the option for a spotlighting walk amongst the sand dunes after dinner. Overnight: **Uluru Resort**, Yulara (hotel with en-suite rooms, meals included: B, L, D).

**Day 5: 15 Sep '25.** Up early before breakfast for a chance at seeing the elusive Sandhill Grasswren in the sand dunes behind our accommodation. We should also see Budgerigar, Black-faced Woodswallow, Chiming Wedgebill and Black-breasted Buzzard. After breakfast, we will make the 50km drive to Kata Tjuta (The Olgas), another spectacular outback geological formation where we will spend the morning exploring various walks and roadside locations. We expect to find Redthroat, Peregrine Falcon, Pied Butcherbird, Peaceful and Diamond Dove, Painted Finch, Little Crow and Rufous Whistler. We will arrive back at the resort for a late lunch and will have the afternoon set aside to specifically target any species we might have missed on the trip so far or to go back and spend some more time exploring Uluru. Overnight: **Uluru Resort**, Yulara (hotel with en-suite rooms, meals included: B, L, D).

**Day 6: 16 Sep '25.** This morning we will visit a small wetland that few people know of, where we will be looking for Brown Falcon, Australian Hobby, Spotted Harrier, Black-breasted Buzzard, Little Corella, Pied Stilt, Black-fronted and Red-kneed Dotterel. The tour ends this morning where your guide will drop you off at the airport for your flight home. Or you can travel back to Alice Springs with your guide. Meals: B. TOUR ENDS



Major Mitchell's Cockatoo © C Watson

Grey Falcon © C Watson

Painted Finch © G Jones

## Red Centre Adventure 2025 - II

### Pre- and post-tour options:

Why not join our preceding *Best of Top End* tour finishing in Darwin, a short flight from Alice Springs, on 9 Sep? Or join our subsequent *Australian Endemic Families* birding tour commencing the evening of 17 Sep in Perth. An instant discount is available if you book a second tour.

If you wish to extend your stay before the tour starts, or after the tour finishes, and you'd like us to book you into the same hotel we're using for the tour, please indicate this on the booking form.

### Price inclusions and exlusions:

**Included:** All meals commencing with Dinner on Day 0 and finishing with Breakfast on Day 6 (morning tea/coffee, some snacks, some fruit, some drinks, unlimited drinking water refills. Accommodation in private en-suite rooms the nights of Days 0-5. Transport using comfortable and reliable vehicle, expert guiding, any entry fees, taxes.

**Excluded:** Travel to & from departure and finish points, Pre- & post trip accommodation, any meals before Dinner on Day 0, after breakfast on Day 6, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance.

**Bookings:** Online at <http://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings> - see the last page of this brochure. We can also arrange your pre- and post tour accommodation: please contact us for details.

**Disclaimers:** (1) itinerary may be modified slightly due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides and other factors; (2) until we've received your final payment, tour price may be subject to adjustment in the event of significant cost increases in ground arrangements. See our [terms and conditions](#).



Left: Grey Honeyeater © P Waanders. Top-bottom: Dusky Grasswren © C Watson  
Pt Lincoln Ringneck, Red-browed Pardalote © P Waanders

## Red Centre Adventure 2025 - II

### Possible species list

Emu  
Plumed Wistling-duck  
Freckled Duck  
Black Swan  
Australian Wood Duck  
Pink-eared Duck  
Grey Teal  
Chestnut Teal  
Pacific Black Duck  
Australasian Shoveler  
Hardhead  
Brown Quail  
Stubble Quail  
Australasian Grebe  
Hoary-headed Grebe  
Great Crested Grebe  
Glossy Ibis  
Australian White Ibis  
Straw-necked Ibis  
Royal Spoonbill  
Yellow-billed Spoonbill  
Great Egret  
Intermediate Egret  
Eastern Cattle Egret  
White-necked Heron  
White-faced Heron  
Nankeen Night-Heron  
Australian Pelican  
Little Pied Cormorant  
Great Cormorant  
Little Black Cormorant  
Pied Cormorant  
Australasian Darter  
Black-shouldered Kite  
Letter-winged Kite  
Whistling Kite  
Black Kite  
Black-breasted Buzzard  
Brown Goshawk  
Collared Sparrowhawk  
Spotted Harrier

Swamp Harrier  
Wedge-tailed Eagle  
Little Eagle  
Australian Bustard  
Purple Swampphen  
Baillon's Crake  
Australian (Spotted) Crake  
Spotless Crake  
Buff-banded Rail  
Black-tailed Native-hen  
Dusky Moorhen  
Eurasian Coot  
Brolga  
Little Button-quail  
Red-chested Button-quail  
Bush Stone-curlew  
Black-winged Stilt  
Red-necked Avocet  
Banded Stilt  
Red-capped Plover  
Inland Dotterel  
Black-fronted Dotterel  
Red-kneed Dotterel  
Banded Lapwing  
Masked Lapwing  
Common Sandpiper  
Wood Sandpiper  
Common Greenshank  
Red-necked Stint  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper  
Australian Pratincole  
Gull-billed Tern  
Caspian Tern  
White-winged Tern  
Whiskered Tern  
Silver Gull  
Spotted Dove<sup>1</sup>  
Common Bronzewing  
Flock Bronzewing  
Spinifex Pigeon  
Crested Pigeon

Diamond Dove  
Peaceful Dove  
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo  
Black-eared Cuckoo  
Pallid Cuckoo  
Eastern Barn Owl  
Southern Boobook  
Tawny Frogmouth  
Spotted Nightjar  
Australian Owlet-nightjar  
Pacific Swift  
Red-backed Kingfisher  
Sacred Kingfisher  
Rainbow Bee-eater  
Nankeen Kestrel  
Brown Falcon  
Australian Hobby  
Grey Falcon  
Black Falcon  
Peregrine Falcon  
Galah  
Red-tailed Black Cockatoo  
Major Mitchell's Cockatoo  
Little Corella  
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo  
Cockatiel  
Rainbow Lorikeet  
Australian (Pt Lincoln)  
Ringneck  
Mulga Parrot  
Budgerigar  
Bourke's Parrot  
Western Bowerbird  
White-browed Treecreeper  
Splendid Fairy-wren  
White-winged Fairy-wren  
Variegated Fairy-wren  
Rufous-crowned Emu-wren  
Dusky Grasswren  
Pied Honeyeater  
Singing Honeyeater  
Grey-headed Honeyeater

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### Possible species list

Grey-fronted Honeyeater  
White-plumed Honeyeater  
White-fronted Honeyeater  
Yellow-throated Miner  
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater  
Grey Honeyeater  
Crimson Chat  
Orange Chat  
Black Honeyeater  
Brown Honeyeater  
Black-chinned Honeyeater  
Red-browed Pardalote  
Striated Pardalote  
Redthroat  
Weebill  
Western Gerygone  
Yellow-rumped Thornbill  
Slaty-backed Thornbill  
Chestnut-rumped Thornbill  
Inland Thornbill  
Southern Whiteface

Banded Whiteface  
White-browed Babbler  
Grey-crowned Babbler  
Cinnamon Quail-thrush  
Chiming Wedgebill  
Grey Butcherbird  
Pied Butcherbird  
Australian Magpie  
White-breasted  
Woodswallow  
Masked Woodswallow  
White-browed Woodswallow  
Black-faced Woodswallow  
Little Woodswallow  
Ground Cuckoo-shrike  
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike  
White-winged Triller  
Varied Sittella  
Rufous Whistler  
Grey Shrike-thrush

Crested Bellbird  
Grey Fantail  
Willie Wagtail  
Magpie-lark  
Little Crow  
Torresian Crow  
Jacky Winter  
Red-capped Robin  
Hooded Robin  
Horsfield's Bushlark  
White-backed Swallow  
Welcome Swallow  
Fairy Martin  
Tree Martin  
Australian Reed-Warbler  
Little Grassbird  
Rufous Songlark  
Brown Songlark  
Spinifexbird  
Mistletoebird  
Zebra Finch  
Painted Finch  
Australasian Pipit

## Steps to book this tour:

### Step 1: Essential reading

- Download, save and read the itinerary (this document)
- Read our [terms and conditions](https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions) and the [release of liability waiver](https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions) (both can be found on <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions>).
- Read our [health & safety information](https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/) page (<https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/>)

### Step 2: Online booking

Head over to our secure online booking page: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings>.

### Step 3: Pay the deposit

To secure your seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Until full payment has been received, Bellbird Tours reserves the right to change the tour price (eg due to changing fuel prices). Payment options:

☐ *Domestic electronic funds transfer:* please send funds to the following bank account:

- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- Branch No. (BSB) 015-140 Account No. 206136528
  - Please use your *surname* as the booking reference.

☐ *Visa, Mastercard & Google Pay:* through Pin Payments (an easy, secure online payment system). They charge us a fee of ~3%, which we pass on to you. Please contact us to use this option, and we'll email you a secure payment link.

☐ *International electronic funds transfer:* please send funds in Australian Dollars (+ bank charges or AU\$20 bank transaction fee, see notes below) to the following bank account:

- international swift code: anzbau3m (no IBAN codes are used in Australia)
- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- Branch No. (BSB) 015-140 Account No. 206136528
  - If possible, please use your *surname* as the booking reference.
  - If you are asked to provide our physical address, this is: 101 Chilton Road, Berri, SA 5343, Australia.
  - Please specify AU\$ as the recipient's currency, and the correct amount. Select the option for you to incur any charges at *both* ends; if no such option exists, please add AU\$20 to cover the bank fee at the recipient's end.

Any discrepancy between the amount payable and amount received will be added to the final balance, or payable in cash at the start of the tour. Prices and fees are not negotiable.

### Step 4: You're done!

Sit back and wait for your booking confirmation to arrive (24-48 hrs). Meanwhile, should you have any questions, please contact us via: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/>.