

# What you might find



Azure Kingfisher



King Parrot



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo



Honeyeater



Wedge-tailed Eagle



Superb Lyrebird

# Birdwatching Guide



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Oct24



## 1 Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks

These national parks provide two areas of wilderness where many bird species not normally seen further west can be found. Picnic and camping facilities are available in both parks.

Travel east towards Grafton on the Gwydir Highway. The turn off to Gibraltar Range is on the right 69km from town and the Washpool turn off is a further 5km on the left.

**Birds seen at this location:** Grey goshawk, brush-turkey, Wompoo fruit-dove, topknot pigeon, brown cuckoo-dove, glossy black and yellow-tailed black cockatoo, Australian king parrot, superb lyrebird, brush cuckoo, noisy pitta, rufous scrub bird, cicadabird, White's thrush (bassian thrush), pale yellow robin, black-faced monarch, rufous fantail, eastern whipbird, southern emu-wren, large-billed, white-browed and yellow-throated scrubwren, brown gerygone, yellow and striated thornbill, little wattlebird, Bell miner, Lewin's honeyeater, figbird, green catbird, spangled drongo, satin bowerbird.

## 2 Mann River Nature Reserve

A scenic reserve with rugged terrain contrasting with peaceful river flats. Camping and picnic facilities are provided and there is good swimming in the river.

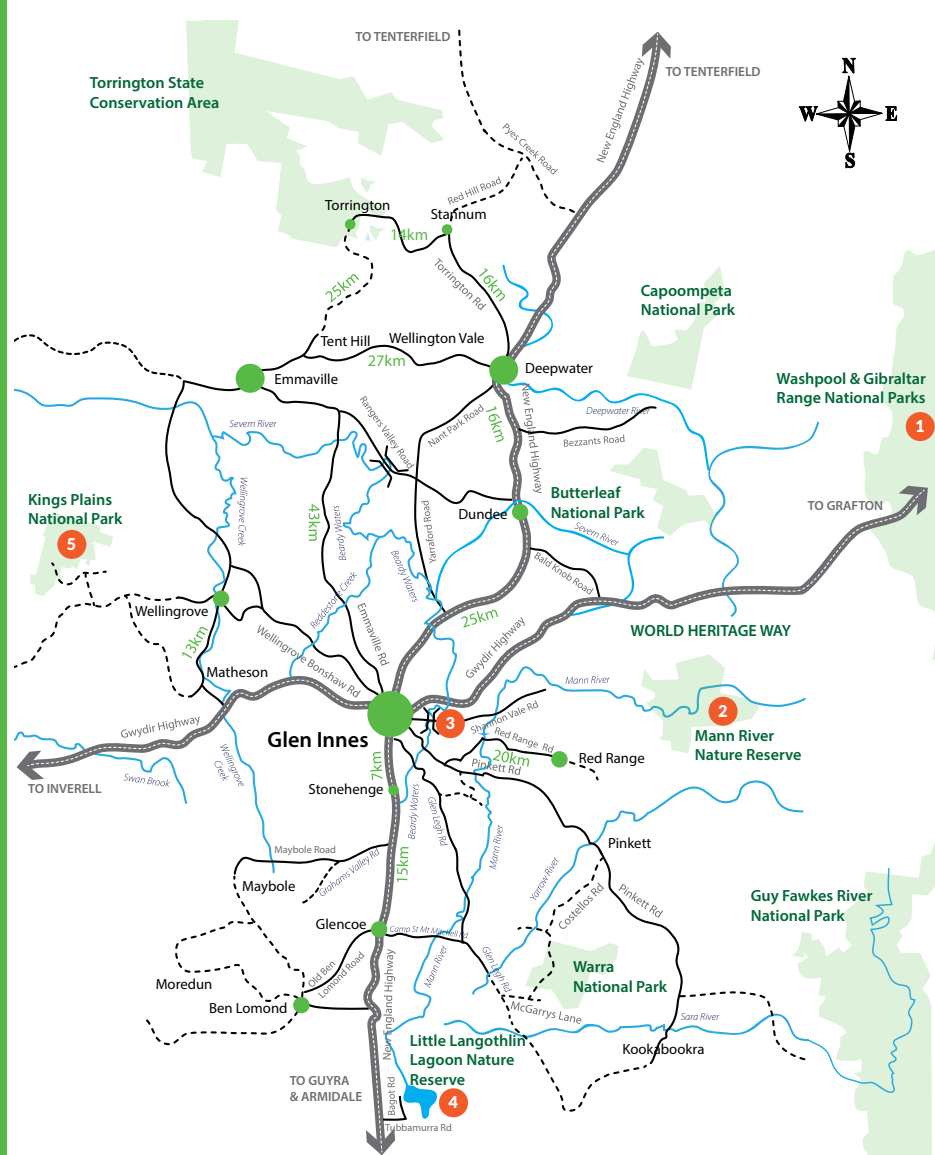
Travel east on the Gwydir Highway towards Grafton from Glen Innes. 36km out, turn right onto the Old Grafton Road. Mann River is 10km further on down the hill.

**Birds seen at this location:** Little pied cormorant, straw-necked ibis, common koel, azure kingfisher, rainbow bee-eater, dollarbird, spotted quailthrush, rose robin, golden and rufous whistlers, red-backed fairy wren, speckled warbler, spotted and striated pardalote, red-browed and white-throated tree creeper, red-browed firetail, yellow-faced honeyeater, eastern spinebill, Torresian crow.

## 3 Beardy Dam and Woodlands

The Beardy Waters Dam is one of the best birdwatching areas in the district. The site supports a great diversity of waterfowl and there is always a chance of something unusual stopping over. To view the entire dam, go to both the Shannon Vale bridge and the Beardy Woodlands Reserve.

Shannon Vale Bridge - head east on the Gwydir Highway towards Grafton, then at the top of the hill turn right into the Shannon Vale Road. The bridge is 2km further on.



## 3 Beardy Dam and Woodlands (continued...)

Beardy Woodlands - go east on the Gwydir Highway towards Grafton again and proceed 5km. The woodlands are signposted on the right. You can walk upstream on the eastern side of the bridge towards the weir, where you will have to cross a fence. View the dam from the side of the weir with the knoll to the left.

**Birds seen at this location:** Little pied, littleblack, pied and great cormorant, little, intermediate and great egret, darter, yellow-billed and royal spoonbill, straw-necked, sacred and glossy ibis, hardhead, shoveler, musk, blue-billed and pink-eared duck, little and wedge-tailed eagle, red-kneed and black-fronted dotterel, sharp-tailed, pectoral and marsh sandpiper, painted and Japanese snipe, black-winged stilt, whiskered tern, restless flycatcher, Torresian crow.

## 4 Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve

A highland wetland nature reserve attracting a variety of waterfowl and waders. Turn left onto Tubbamurra Road, 42km south of Glen Innes on the New England Highway.

**Birds seen at this location:** Australasian grebe, white-faced and white-necked heron, black swan, black-winged stilt, Japanese snipe, swamp harrier, grey teal, black and musk duck, black-fronted dotterel, varied sitella, grey butcherbird.

## 5 Kings Plains National Park

An area of eucalypt woodland populated with casuarina, wattle and some heath surrounding pools and falls on the Kings Plains creek. Bush camping is permitted and a fireplace is provided at a scenic picnic area on the banks of the creek.

Located 50km north west from Glen Innes, via the Strathbogrie Kings Plains Road. The road is unsealed for about 25km. Follow the signs from Glen Innes off the Gwydir Highway heading towards Inverell.

**Birds seen in this location:** Little and musk lorikeet, scarlet and eastern yellow robin, rufous and golden whistler, speckled warbler, honeyeater including yellow tufted, spotted pardalote, dusky wood swallow, double-barred, red-browed finch, white-winged triller, chestnut-rumped heathwren.