



O'Reilly's

RAINFOREST RETREAT

INTRODUCING

BIRD WEEK

Autumn 2016

"Search for migratory birds
that may be about to leave
for wintering grounds
further afield."

Celebrating 90 years at O'Reilly's

So this year it's...
BIGGER
& BETTER





Meet some of our Guides

Glen Threlfo

Glen has guided for O'Reilly's and participated in most birdweeks since 1978. Whilst working the discovery program at O'Reilly's, he also caters for private birding tours with guests and wildlife safari groups during the year. His long history of achievement includes a photographic catalogue of local wildlife and scenery in the region contributing pictures to many publications. Glen has also produced regularly shown, and sold, local nature documentary series with remarkable footage. Glen has inspired many to take an interest in Australia's birds and wildlife. His adventures have taken him around many parts of Australia as well as Africa, India and Antarctica. Glen has never been short of a great story for any situation and has a deep connection to the natural world.

Duncan Fowler

Duncan joined the O'Reilly's Discovery Centre team in 2004 and has been birding 7 days a week ever since. Duncan enjoys guiding adventure and nature tours all through the year with O'Reilly's. He has been a birdweek leader since 2007 and, with Glen, specialises in private guiding with birders and wildlife safari groups during the year. Whilst away from the mountains Duncan tries to seek out birds in the local region and Australia wide during nature based holidays. He also maintains the birding update report for the O'Reilly's website.

O'Reilly's Activities Guides

Many highly experienced, qualified and passionate guides come to work at O'Reilly's. Several of them will assist us in our search for birds this week as well as some logistical support. Guides often have good recent knowledge of bird sightings which is often very useful.

What to bring

- Binoculars
- Torch for night birding
- Bird Guide
- Wet weather equipment
- Camera
- Hat
- Sunscreen and insect repellent for valley trips
- Warmer jackets for cooler nights
- Small backpack is very useful for most outings

Sunday March 6th Introductory birding

2:00pm- Welcome to Autumn Birding 2016! We will gather in the theatre to meet your leaders and summarise the program for the week ahead.

2:30pm- An Introduction to the Birds of O'Reilly's (1.5km, 2.5hr, downhill, bus pickup). We shall start the birding on the famous Wishing Tree Track for a couple hours seeking rainforest birds and some edge type species at the end of the track.

5:00pm- A short bus ride to the dramatic Moonlight Crag deck will follow from the cedar tree for welcome drinks as the sun sets (weather permitting). Return 6:30pm

7pm- Dinner in the dining room

Monday March 7th Mountain Based birding sites

6:30am- Morning birdwalk (1.5hrs)-we shall seek out rainforest species around the Rainforest Circuit area of the Border Track and Booyong Walk

9:00am- Similar species presentation. A useful session to point out handy differences between often confusing species typical of the area.

9:30am- High eucalypt birding along the Duck Creek Road-(Bus based walks 3hrs). Morning can be quite active in the high Eucalypt forest as we target sightings of Red Browed Treecreeper, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Sittellas, Fairy Wrens, Thornbills, Honeyeaters, Pardalotes and Raptors.

2:00pm- Morans Falls Rainforest Birding (2km, 2.5hrs, bus return). Another classic walk targeting rainforest species such as Paradise Riflebird, Noisy Pitta, Pale Yellow Robin, Monarchs and some Eucalypt species at the end of the trail

7:00pm- Dinner

Tuesday March 8th Coastal Tour

8:00am- Coastal Lagoons-(bus based short walks-all day-lunch out)-Today will focus off the ranges and towards the bird rich lower end of the Albert River catchment. We shall explore the Tamborine, Eagleby and Coombabah sites which include farmland, riverine, lakes, surrounding bush sites, treatment works, mangroves and waders of the tidal zones. There is a huge array of interesting possibilities with expectations of some migratory species still present. Hopefully we shall find Magpies Geese, Avocets, Sandpipers, Mangrove Kingfishers, Swifts, Owllet Nightjar, Jabiru, Terns, Shorebirds and much more.

6:30pm- Bird Review

7:00pm- Dinner in Dining Room

Wednesday 9th Mountain Based Birding

6:30am- Morning birding (Lukes Farm Road, Pats Gate and Lukes Farm 1.5hrs)-bus based short walks rainforest and farmland species

9:00am- Python Rock Lookout Track (3.4km level walk, 3hrs)-A classic birding track offering rainforest species such as Thrushes, Lyrebird, Pitta, Riflebird with some Eucalypt forest edge species and escarpment views.

2:00pm- Charlies Waterhole and Kamarun Lookout area-(bus based short walks, 3hrs)-another mix of habitats for a diverse afternoon birding dryer rainforest and Eucalypt species. Targeting Monarchs, Yellow Thornbill, Little Shrike Thrush, Wompoo Pigeon, Bell Miners, Brush Cuckoo, Cicadabird, Raptors and Fairy Wrens

6:30pm- Bus at Front of Reception for transfer to Dinner location. Dine in the appropriately named Slaughterhouse which will be the starting point for our next activity.

8:00pm- Nocturnal Bird Spotlighting-(short walks, vehicle based-2hrs or sometimes more)-a search seeking nightbirds such as; Boobook Owl, Marbled Frogmouth, Owllet Nightjar and hopefully a Sooty Owl. Please bring a torch.

Thursday 10th Kerry Valley tour

8:00am- Kerry Valley Bus Tour- (lunch out)-Full day out birding lower elevations of the scenic valley habitats toward Beaudesert. We shall be searching bushlands and waterholes for Snipes, Rails, Finches, Sittellas, Grassbirds, Kingfishers, Waterfowl, Raptors, Flycatchers, Beeaters, Speckled Warbler, Honeyeaters, Babbler and much more.

7:00pm- Dinner

Friday March 11th Last chance birding

6:30- Morning birding along the main road and new Centennial Track (1.5hr) 9:00-Clean up tour (3.5hrs) We are bound to have missed something so will endeavour to find what may be missing-destination unknown

12:30- Final Species count. Please bring along your species list and we shall summarise the week that was and its birds. Highlights and magic moments will be reflected on.



Here's what we have planned...