Most of the birds that you will see along The Riesling Trail are species native to Australia. Some are thriving in the highly altered agricultural landscapes of the Clare Valley. Others are struggling - isolated populations in fragmented remnants of native bushland.

As you pass by vineyards, crops and pastures, along the edges of towns and through remnant patches of native vegetation, you will encounter many different birds.

Some, like Adelaide rosellas, are residents. Others, like grey fantails and rufous whistlers, are migrants, spending only part of the year in the region. Nomads, like purple-crowned lorikeets, silvereyes and white-necked herons, stay awhile then move on.

Some birds have benefitted from changes to the landscape. Cereal crops, vines and orchards provide birds like galahs, crested pigeons and common bronzewings with new resources. These adaptable birds have expanded their range and their populations. But other birds, like white-winged choughs (pictured below), brown treecreepers and diamond firetails, are in decline. These and other birds of the grassy woodlands have lost most of their native habitat since European settlement. Watch for these uncommon birds as you pass through grassy woodland remnants along the trail.



Birds use the landscape in different ways. Parrots and lorikeets occupy tree hollows where they nest and raise their young. Common bronzewings and peaceful doves spend most of their time on the ground foraging for seeds. Pardalotes, weebills and honeyeaters flit from one plant to another, feeding on nectar, fruit, seeds and insects. Birds of prey, like black-shouldered kites, often sit quietly on elevated perches, watching for prey, which they take with lightning speed.

Where good bird habitat is found



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NATIVE BIRDS of The Riesling Trail



CLARE VALLEY SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Native Birds of The Riesling Trail

☐ Adelaide Rosella R ☐ Spotted Harrier U ☐ Australasian Grebe N/U Striated Pardalote R Australasian Pipit R Striated Thornbill R Australian Magpie R Tree Martin R Australian Wood Duck R ☐ Wedge-tailed Eagle R/U ☐ Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike S/U Weebill R ■ Black-shouldered Kite N Welcome Swallow S ☐ Black-tailed Native Hen N ■ Whistling Kite U ☐ Brown-headed Honeyeater R ■ White-faced Heron R ☐ Brown Goshawk U ☐ White-browed Woodswallow S Brown Songlark S ■ White-necked Heron N ■ Brown Treecreeper U ■ White-plumed Honeyeater R Budgerigar N ■ White-winged Chough R/U Collared Sparrowhawk U Willie Wagtail R Yellow-rumped Thornbill R Crested Pigeon R Common Bronzewing R ☐ Diamond Firetail U Dusky Woodswallow U **R** Resident Eastern Shrike-tit U Seasonal ☐ Eastern Spinebill U Galah R Nomadic Grey Fantail S Grey Shrike-thrush R Uncommon Grey Teal N ☐ Hardhead N ■ Laughing Kookaburra R ☐ Little Raven R ■ Magpie-lark R Masked Woodswallow S ☐ Mistletoebird R ☐ Musk Lorikeet R Nankeen Kestrel R ■ New Holland Honeyeater R

Noisy Miner R

Pacific Black Duck R

Peaceful Dove R

Peregrine Falcon U

Pied Cormorant U

Rainbow Bee-eater S

Red-rumped Parrot R

■ Singing Honeyeater R

Red Wattlebird R

Rufous Whistler S ☐ Silvereye N

☐ Purple-crowned Lorikeet N

The Friends of The Riesling Trail are building an image library of birds seen along the Trail. If you have any good quality images of birds taken while walking or cycling The Riesling Trail and would like to share them with us please contact us by email. We can also assist with species identification.

medika@adam.com.au



Rainbow Bee-eater

Masked Woodswallow

Rufous Whistler

Grey Fantail









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D

Silvereye

Black-shouldered Kite

Purple-crowned Lorikeet

White-necked Heron

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D









Diamond Firetail

Brown Treecreeper

Eastern Shrike-tit

Spotted Harrier