

Come & explore  
the incredible bird life in  
the city of Adelaide  
with us

# A BIRD ADVENTURE

# Welcome

 **MARNI NAA PUDNI**

The City of Adelaide sits on the traditional Country of the Kurna people.

It's a city inside a park, hugged by a ring of green Park Lands. It's full of life and birds too!

There are birds that fly in each year when the pine cones are ready to eat. Many others stay, noisily feeding on nectar, busily catching insects during the day, roosting at night in old gumtree hollows or right in the centre of the city.

Come on a bird adventure with us - you'll be amazed who you meet!

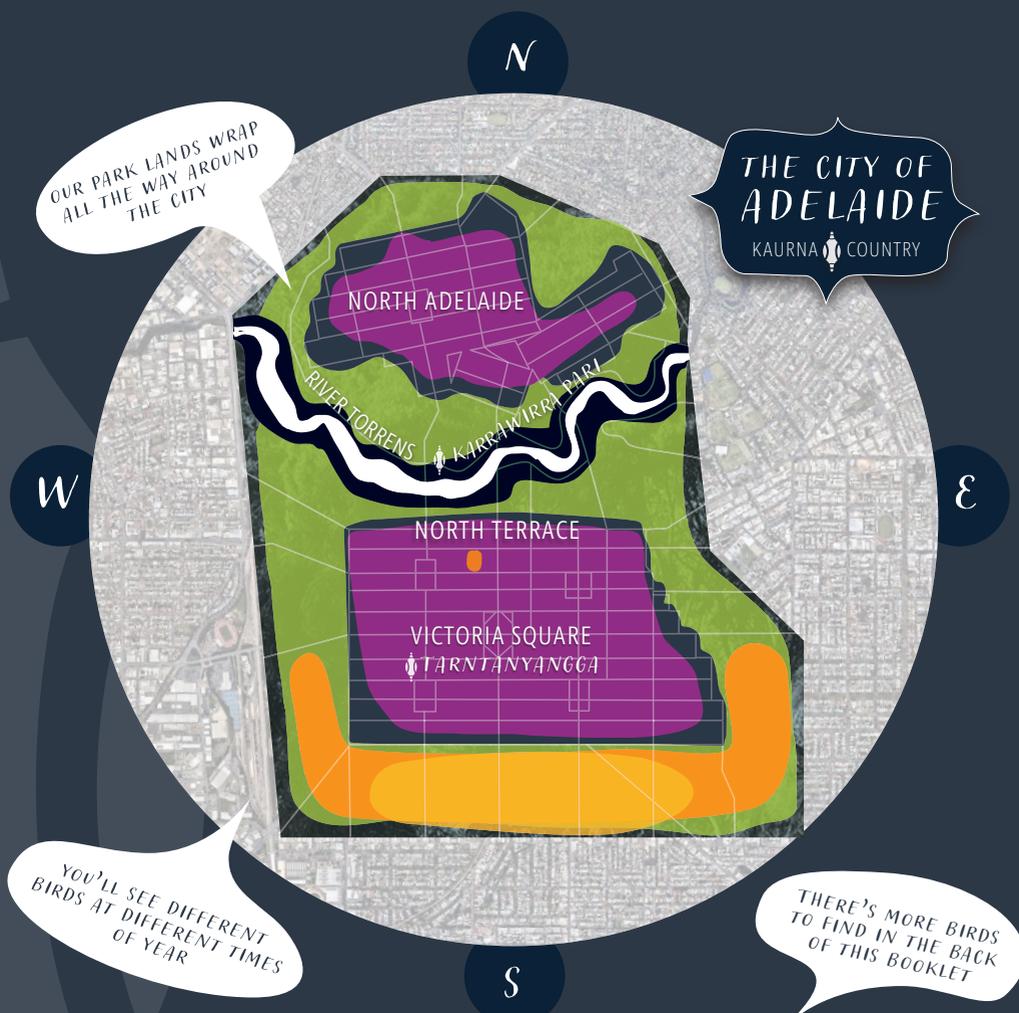


GET READY TO LOOK & LISTEN CLOSELY... LET'S GO!

HERE'S THE KAURNA SHIELD.   
LOOK OUT FOR IT ALONG THE WAY & YOU'LL LEARN SOME KAURNA LANGUAGE WORDS

## BIRDS TO FIND

-  **1** Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo  
WE LOVE PINE CONES! YOU'LL SEE US IN LARGER NUMBERS IN THE COOLER MONTHS
-  **2** Musk Lorikeet  
WE'RE HERE ALL YEAR, CHATTERING & NIBBLING ON FLOWERING TREES
-  **3** Australian White Ibis  
FIND US IN THE MARSHY PLACES IN THE PARK LANDS
-  **4** Tree Martin  
WE FLY IN DURING FESTIVAL TIME, FEEDING IN THE SOUTHERN PARK LANDS, ROOSTING IN AN ORNAMENTAL PEAR TREE IN LEIGH STREET
-  **5** Pigeon  
YOU'LL SEE US IN THE BUSIEST PARTS OF THE CITY



Use this map to **CHOOSE YOUR OWN BIRD ADVENTURE!**

# BIRD 1

# Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

 WILAMPA YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

WHEE-LA!

You may have seen and heard flocks of **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos** feeding in our Park Lands. They are very social and you'll often see (and hear) large flocks, especially when it is colder.

They have large round heads and fly with long, slow, deep wing beats, echoing the call 'whee-la'. This all makes them easy to spot.

Their habitat ranges from coastal areas, eucalypt woodland and forest, but they particularly enjoy eating the seeds of many types of pine trees.

OUR LONG & SLOW FLYING STYLE MAKES US EASY TO SPOT

HERE ARE SOME OF MY FAVOURITE SNACKS

## ACTIVITY

IF IT'S A COOLER TIME OF YEAR, YOU MIGHT SPOT ME. IF YOU DO, HOW MANY ARE IN MY FLOCK?

SEE IF YOU CAN FIND THE FOODS I LIKE TO EAT - PINE CONES, HAKEA NUTS OR EVEN BANKSIA FLOWERS

### KAURNA WORDS TO LEARN

 **TUDLYU** ROSELLA  
**KURRAKA** MAGPIE  
**WINTA** OWL  
**KATPAMARTU** WATTLEBIRD

## YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

*Calyptorhynchus funereus*

**SIZE** 55-65cm

**DESCRIPTION** Mostly black with yellow cheek patches and yellow tail panels.

Its specific name 'funereus' relates to its dark plumage - as if dressed for a funeral. Other names include 'Wilampa' from the Kaurna language.

**WHERE TO FIND THEM** They fly over the city, through the southern Park Lands or occasionally in other parts of the Park Lands where Hakea or Radiata Pine trees grow.

LOOK UP & YOU MIGHT SEE ME WITH MY FLOCK...



PINE CONES

HAKEA SEEDS

...FLYING HIGH ABOVE THE CITY

WE'RE ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TREES WITH CONES TO CRUNCH!

## BIRD 2

# Musk Lorikeet

You might be more familiar with their famous friend, the Rainbow Lorikeet, but the slightly smaller and extremely chatty **Musk Lorikeet** can be spotted throughout most of the Park Lands and gardens of the city of Adelaide.

They noisily feed on flowers in eucalyptus trees, often with other parrots and honeyeaters. With a brush-tipped tongue, they love tracking down pollen and nectar of many flowers, including banksias and grevilleas. They also eat seeds, fruits, insects and their larvae.

Even when they're flying, they're noisy and can travel quite a distance to reach that perfect flowering tree.



RAINBOW LORIKEET



NEW HOLLAND HONEYEATER



EASTERN SPINEBILL

I SMELL A LITTLE MUSKY – WELL MAYBE VERY MUSKY SINCE THAT'S WHERE MY NAME COMES FROM!



WE CAN SQUEEZE INTO THE SMALLEST HOLES & HOLLOW BRANCHES OF EUCALYPTUS TREES

YES, YES, YES... MY COLOURS MATCH MY FAVOURITE FOOD – EUCALYPTUS FLOWERS! THEY HELP ME TO BLEND RIGHT IN

WE LIKE TO HAVE A CHAT, AND NO! WE'RE NOT RAINBOW LORIKEETS!

HERE ARE SOME OF MY FRIENDS!

MAYBE A RAINBOW LORIKEET?

### MUSK LORIKEET

*Glossopsitta concinna*

SIZE 20-23cm

**DESCRIPTION** Mainly green with yellow patches on their sides, bright red forehead and band from eye to the ear, and a blue crown. Slightly smaller than the Rainbow Lorikeet. Very noisy.

**WHERE TO FIND THEM** Any flowering eucalyptus in the Park Lands. Also seen in street trees and formal gardens through the city.



GREVILLEA

BANKSIA

EUCALYPTUS

## ACTIVITY

HAVE A LOOK AROUND YOU, DO YOU SEE ANYTHING THAT I WOULD LIKE TO EAT?

HOW MANY COLOURS CAN YOU COUNT ON ME?

### KAURNA WORDS TO LEARN

- NGURIKA** FLOWER BLOSSOM
- KATPA-ATPA** PARROT
- NGAUWAKA** BLUE-HEADED, RED BREASTED PARROT
- PATHA** RED GUM TREE
- PARRA** BRANCH OF A TREE

# BIRD 3 Australian White Ibis



MMMMMMM! THESE LOOK DELICIOUS...



## AUSTRALIAN WHITE IBIS

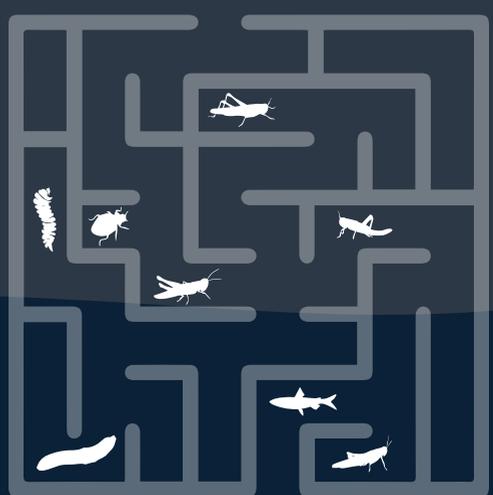
*Threskiornis molucca*

**SIZE** 65-76cm

**DESCRIPTION** A wading bird with mostly white feathers, a bare, black head, long downcurved bill and black legs. In flight, flocks of Australian White Ibis form distinctive V-shaped flight patterns.

**WHERE TO FIND THEM** Australian White Ibis are seen through much of the Park Lands, especially along the river, around irrigated areas like sports fields - in wetter, marshy areas.

SO YOU THINK I LIKE BINS... GUESS WHAT?



I LIKE WHAT'S IN MUD



MUCH MORE THAN WHAT'S IN A BIN



## ACTIVITY

HOW MANY CREATURES CAN YOU CATCH  
←-- IN THE MAZE?

### KAURNA WORDS TO LEARN

**TJILBRUKE** GLOSSY IBIS  
**PARTI** GRUB/INSECT  
**KANTU** BULLFROG  
**PARRAIPA** LOCUST  
**WAKU** SPIDER

The **Australian White Ibis** is a little bit misunderstood. In the eastern states it's earned some nicknames, like...

**BIN CHICKEN** or **TIP TURKEY**



But in the city of Adelaide, it's not as easy finding one in a bin. You're more likely to catch an ibis walking slowly in marshy, grassy places, foraging for worms, insects, and in waterways eating mussels, yabbies and small fish.



The Australian White Ibis is a native Australian bird - it does not come from anywhere else, especially not Egypt (that's the Sacred Ibis).

Another ibis, the Glossy Ibis is one of the Kaurna people's most important creator ancestors. Its Kaurna name is

**TJILBRUKE**

SAY IT 'CHILL-BROO-KEY'





AUSTRALIA



SOUTH AUSTRALIA



ADELAIDE



LEIGH STREET

WE TRAVEL TO THIS SAME PEAR TREE EVERY YEAR IN LEIGH STREET – SOMETIMES THERE ARE 10,000 OF US IN THE STREET!

WE'RE BACK!

WE LIKE THE PARTY SEASON TOO IN ADELAIDE!



PEREGRINE FALCON

I LOVE TO HUNT THESE LITTLE BIRDS DURING THE DAY



# BIRD 4 Tree Martin

**Tree Martins** fly into our city from northern Australia and other places further north like Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. They arrive in the warmer months between January and May every year. Hundreds of them (sometimes a few thousand) come to roost in one single tree - an Ornamental Pear - right amongst the goings-on in busy Leigh Street.

Like most swallows Tree Martins can be seen flying in huge numbers, chasing flying insects such as beetles, flies and wasps.

In this Leigh Street tree, it seems that they're getting a taste for Adelaide's laneway city life!

IF YOU'RE ON LEIGH STREET WHEN IT'S WARM, TRY TO COUNT US!



## TREE MARTIN

*Petrochelidon nigricans*

**SIZE** 10-13cm

**DESCRIPTION** A small swallow-like bird with a forked tail. White and brown markings, with an iridescent blue back and crown and a reddish-brown forehead.

**WHERE TO FIND THEM** The most common place to see Tree Martins is up in the air! As well as in city trees they can also be seen in many city parks like Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) and near any of the city's wetlands.

They nest in small hollows in upper branches and when hollows are too big, they use mud to reduce their size. In cities they can also nest on bridges and buildings.

## ACTIVITY

CLENCH YOUR FIST AND LOOK AT ITS SIZE – THAT'S ABOUT THE SIZE OF A TREE MARTIN!

THE TREE MARTIN LIKES TO TRAVEL. HAVE YOU BEEN TO MANY PLACES OUTSIDE ADELAIDE?

### KAURNA WORDS TO LEARN

**TURLU** SWIFT OR SWALLOW  
**KUA** CROW



# BIRD 5

# Pigeon



YOU MAY NOT KNOW IT, BUT WE'RE ACTUALLY INCREDIBLY SMART!



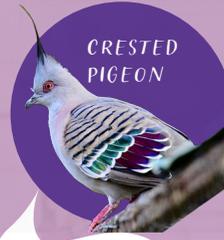
WE WERE DOMESTICATED BY THE EGYPTIANS 5000 YEARS AGO



DON'T YOU LOVE OUR SHINY IRIDESCENT FEATHERS?



COO ROO COO COO



CRESTED PIGEON

YES I'M ANOTHER PIGEON, BUT CHECK OUT MY HAIR-DO!

OF US LIVE IN CITIES AROUND THE GLOBE!  
WE'VE TAKEN OVER THE WORLD!! 400 MILLION

As in many cities around the world, it won't take long before you spot a **pigeon** - or 20!  
Pigeons arrived in Adelaide from Europe (just like some Australians) and are related to homing pigeons.

Cities provide everything that a pigeon needs: buildings create perfect nesting places, there's always some food and water to find - so there's no reason for them to leave.

You can find pigeons in all Australian cities except Darwin and they breed all year round. In Adelaide they especially love it in Rundle Mall.



STANDING PROUDLY AT 2M TALL IN RUNDLE MALL IS 'PIGEON', A NEW SCULPTURE BY SA ARTIST PAUL SLOAN. PAUL WANTS US TO IMAGINE THE PIGEON AS A PROUD & PROMENADING BIRD, WITNESSING OUR ACTIVITIES FROM DAY TO NIGHT.

## ACTIVITY

DO YOU HAVE A NICKNAME? WHAT IS IT? CAN YOU THINK OF OTHER BIRDS OR ANIMALS THAT HAVE NICKNAMES?

STAND NEXT TO THE PIGEON SCULPTURE, WHICH OF ITS BODY PART DO YOU COME UP TO?

LOOK AROUND YOU RIGHT NOW. CAN YOU SEE A PIGEON? (HINT: THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!)



**PIGEON**  
*Columba livia*  
SIZE 33-36cm

**DESCRIPTION** Other names include Rock Pigeon, Rock Dove, Domestic or Homing Pigeon, Feral Pigeon. Feathers vary, but most common has a grey back, two black bars on their wings, a blue-grey head with some iridescent green and purple on neck.

**WHERE TO FIND THEM** All throughout the city, gathering in greatest numbers around Rundle Mall, where people often feed them (but please don't!).



RATS WITH WINGS!

THAT'S WHAT SOME PEOPLE CALL US! WHAT DO YOU THINK? WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT US?

WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT US?



Now you've learnt about these city birds, can you tell which bird is which from the clues below?

If you can, name each bird, complete each drawing and colour them in too.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



NAME \_\_\_\_\_



NAME \_\_\_\_\_



NAME \_\_\_\_\_



NAME \_\_\_\_\_



# MY BIRD LIST

Here's a list of many of the birds that you can see in the city of Adelaide. Mark off below the birds you come across, recording when and where you saw it.

- YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSK LORIKEET**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- TREE MARTIN**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- AUSTRALIAN WHITE IBIS**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- PIGEON**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- NEW HOLLAND HONEYEATER**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- MAGPIE-LARK**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- AUSTRALIAN MAGPIE**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- LAUGHING KOOKABURRA**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- NOISY MINER**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- NANKEEN KESTREL**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- ADELAIDE ROSELLA**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- RAINBOW LORIKEET**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- PEREGRINE FALCON**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- CRESTED PIGEON**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- GALAH**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- BLACK SWAN**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_
- WILLIE WAGTAIL**  
WHEN \_\_\_\_\_  
WHERE \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT OTHER BIRDS CAN YOU SEE?  
WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU TO OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR SUPPLYING THE FOLLOWING IMAGES: CRAIG GREER FOR THE MUSK LORIKEET & TREE MARTIN, DAVIDE GAGLIO FOR THE YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO & AUSTRALIAN WHITE IBIS.

THANKS FOR COMING ON A BIRD ADVENTURE. KEEP LOOKING & LISTENING!



NGAITYALYA

THANK YOU &



NAKUTHA SEE YOU LATER!



The city of Adelaide  
is a city in a park.  
It's full of life - bird life!

Full of information, this guide introduces you to some of Adelaide's familiar bird visitors and others that might surprise you. There are activities to keep you busy and a handy Bird List to mark off what bird you see each time you visit.

Come on  with us!



CITY OF  
ADELAIDE

FOR MORE INFORMATION [CITYOFADELAIDE.COM.AU/BIRDS-IN-THE-CITY](http://CITYOFADELAIDE.COM.AU/BIRDS-IN-THE-CITY)