



Cape York

Birding Tour — 7 days

Eyes on Wildlife

PO Box 839

Atherton, QLD, Australia

Ph. +61 439817214

patrick@eyesonwildlife.com.au

www.eyesonwildlife.com.au

This 7 days Cape York Tour lets you explore the remote Cape York woodland, open-forest, marine plains, swamps and wetlands with waterholes as in the Southern Cape York Tour, but we also spend three days birding in Kutini-Payamu/Iron Range NP where we will explore vine forest, beach and open woodland.

Day 1 – Cairns - Musgrave

Pick up from your accommodation for a 7am start of our birding day. First stop is Mount Molloy where we will look for Grey-crowned Babbler, Squatter Pigeon, Red-winged Parrot, Great Bowerbird and other local highlights. On our way to Musgrave, we will make a few stops to see Australian Bustard and possibly Banded Honeyeater, Silver-crowned Friarbird and Apostlebird.

After lunch, we will cover the final section of our drive to remote Musgrave Roadhouse and have a first look for Black-backed Butcherbird, Red-browed Pardalote and maybe our first glimpse of the endangered **Golden-shouldered Parrot**.

After dinner we will go on our first spotlighting session with a good chance of seeing Australian Boobook and Tawny Frogmouth.

Accommodation: Musgrave Roadhouse

Day 2 – Musgrave to Iron Range NP

An early morning short pre-breakfast outing will allow us to try for our first views of the endangered **Red Goshawk**. Along the way, we might pick up species like Yellow-tinted Honeyeater and Little Woodswallow, among others. After breakfast at Musgrave Roadhouse we'll have a longer morning session with Golden-shouldered Parrot at Artemis Station. Galahs are common in the area as well and we might get Red-browed Pardalote too.

From mid morning we will start making our way up north to Iron Range/Kutini-Payamu NP. Arriving late afternoon might allow for a quick look around the accommodation grounds before dinner. Black-eared Catbird, **Northern Scrub-robin** and **White-faced Robin** will possibly be our first new birds for the location.

After dinner, we will have our second spotlighting session which will target Marbled Frogmouth.

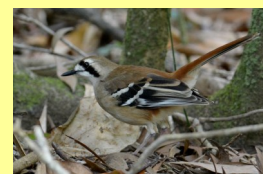
Accommodation: Lockhart River

Day 3,4 & Day 5 — Iron Range NP/Kutini-Payamu

Two full days will be spent looking for Eclectus Parrot, Red-cheeked Parrot, **Palm Cockatoo**, Frill-necked Monarch, Green-backed Honeyeater, Graceful Honeyeater, White-streaked Honeyeater, **Magnificent Riflebird**, Trumpet Manucode, Yellow-legged Flycatcher, Marshall's Fig-parrot, **Yellow-billed Kingfisher**, Tropical Scrubwren, and others, and some local subspecies of birds that can be found elsewhere in Australia.

Two nocturnal sessions will allow us to target Large-tailed Nightjar and the local subspecies of Papuan Frogmouth. Mammals and other wildlife are also often encountered on the nocturnal sessions.

Accommodation: Lockhart River



Day 6 — Iron Range NP/Kutini-Payamu to Musgrave

We will spend our final early part of the morning at Kutini-Payamu to pick up species that we possibly missed out on, or need better views of.

If time allows we will have another look for birds that we may have missed out on around Musgrave on day 1. Black-backed Butcherbird, Silver-crowned Friarbird and Red-browed Pardalote to name a few.

Accommodation: Musgrave Roadhouse

Day 7 — Musgrave to Cairns

On our final morning, we will make our way back to Cairns via Lakefield National Park. There, we will look for Star Finch, **Masked Finch** and Black-throated Finch in the marine plains, but also explore creek crossings for possible encounters with Rufous-throated Honeyeater and **Bar-breasted Honeyeater**. Waterbirds populate the many waterholes and birds of prey like **Black-breasted Buzzard** or Spotted Harrier are sometimes encountered.

When we get to the southern end of the National Park, we will look for the **white-bellied race of Crimson Finch** and will possibly get White-gaped and other Honeyeaters. If time allows, we will visit some birding hotspots between Laura and Cairns.

Return to Cairns by 6.00 for check-in at accommodation booked by guest.

Tour dates, start/end

This tour can be booked from July to early November pending availability at the time of enquiry. The tour starts in Cairns and ends in Cairns. Alternative start and end locations can be discussed.

Included in the tour price

The tour includes 7 full days and 4 nocturnal sessions. All meals are included, except breakfast on day 1 and dinner on day 7. Accommodation (for 6 nights) is included in the tour price. Guests will have to arrange accommodation for the night before day 1 of the tour, and for the night of day 7 of the tour. Drinks, and snacks are not included.

What to bring and how to be well prepared

This tour involves some long stretches of driving on gravel roads. We will make regular stops for birding or just to break up the long ride, but if you have difficulty coping with longer periods of sitting, then please bring whatever you need (pillow, etc) to make your ride more comfortable. The maximum number of 3 guests makes the drive quite comfortable as well.

Water bottles, mosquito spray and snacks are always a good to have at hand. Footwear should be sturdy shoes, either hiking shoes or boots, or decent runners.

Please communicate any physical discomforts or health issues you may have well before the start of the tour. Terms & Conditions will be emailed with other booking documents.

Email patrick@eyesonwildlife.com.au , or phone on +61 439817214 if you wanted to book this tour, or wanted to inquire further.

