



Birdwatching

Australian Geographic Magazine has rated the Daintree as the second best place in Australia for birdwatching, preceded by Kakadu National Park. Stating: "The internationally recognized, World Heritage-listed Daintree attracts bird enthusiasts from all over the globe, who come to check out some of the staggering 430 different kinds of bird species. A tropical rainforest in Queensland's far north, the Daintree has wet conditions, thick forests and fast flowing rivers that act like veins supplying life to its inhabitants. Birds in the Daintree are most prevalent during summer (the wet-season)."

Daintree Secrets is the perfect place for birdwatching, and we have supplied a pair of 10 times binoculars for your enjoyment. Please leave these for other guests to use and enjoy.

Winter is perhaps the quietest time of the year for birds. The Wompoo Fruit-Doves nest just in front of the balcony and Spotted Catbirds can be seen happily eating the fruits of the many Blue Quandong trees. Monarchs and Flycatchers pass through and the raptors will be building their nests.

Spring is a treat with the Pied Imperial Pigeons and Metallic Starlings returning from winter in New Guinea while the Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfishers arrive for their breeding season. Common Koels and Channel-billed Cuckoos also return at this time.

Summer is the Wet Season and, despite the sometimes difficult conditions, can be excellent for birding. The spring arrivals are joined by the Black Bittern which can be often seen on the river or beside the numerous creeks and waterways. Kingfishers abound.

Whilst autumn sees the departure of the migrants to warmer climates, we are joined by Dollar Birds and Rainbow Bee-eaters which add to our colourful regulars.



Buff Breasted Kingfisher



Metallic Starling



Rainbow Bee-eater



Olive-Backed Sunbird

Keep your eye out for:

Ground Dwellers:

- Cassowary *Casuarius casuarius ssp. johnsonii* *
- Australian Brush Turkey *Alectura lathamii*
- Orange Footed Scrub Fowl *Megapodius reinwardt*
- Red necked Crake *Rallinia tricolor*
- Bush-Hen *Amauromis olivaceus*
- Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor*
- Emerald Ground Dove *Chalcophaps Indica*

Mid-Canopy Birds:

- Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera sylvia*
- Little Shrike Thrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*
- Barred Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina lineata*
- Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*
- Pale-yellow Robin *Tregallasia capito*
- Grey Whistler *Pacchycephala simplex*
- Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus*
- Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*
- Pied Monarch *Arses kaupi*
- Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*
- Leaden flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*
- Grey Fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa*
- *Rufous Fantail* *Rhipidura rufifrons*
- *Northern Fantail* *Rhipidura rufiventris*
- *Large-billed Scrubwren* *Sericornis magnirostris*
- *Large-billed Gerygone* *Gerygone magnirostris*
- *Black Butcherbird* *Cracticus quoyi*
- *Spotted Catbird* *Ailuroedus melanotis*
- *Fairy Gerygone* *Gerygone palpebrosa* *
- *Silvereye* *Zosterops lateralis*
- *Little Bronze Cuckoo* *Chrysococcyx minutillis*
- *Gould's Bronze Cuckoo* *Chrysococcyx russatus*

* endemic to Far North Queensland



Green Spotted Catbird



Woompoo Fruit-Dove



Yellow Breasted Boatbill