

There is a network of better maintained tracks to take to be sure of access, whilst in dry weather many others become an option. Large parts of the forest may be closed in times of flooding.

**Birds to look out for:** A large number of birds - such as Spoonbills, Egrets, Cormorants and ibis - flock to the wetlands. The forest is an important breeding area for rare species such as the Superb parrot, and Latham's snipe.

Consisting of the Barmah National Park and Millewa Forest form the largest River Red Gum Forest in the world. The complex ecology of the forest is closely linked to the Murray River and its flooding regime, creating a diverse natural habitat for a variety of wildlife, particularly waterbirds. The Barmah Forest is an internationally recognised Ramsar wetland, a range of waterbird and migratory species utilise the forest.

### Barmah-Millewa Forest

Best bird watching period is spring breeding season which lasts from August to late November. The weather is perfect for hiking in Autumn, whilst the Gums Forest, Parakeets, Cockatoos and Treecreepers frequent the Red Gum Forest. The weather is perfect for hiking in Autumn, whilst the herons, ibis, Egrets and Cormorants can be seen near the creek.

**Birds to look out for:** Emu's are known to wonder the area, whilst Pacific Black Duck, ibis, Parrots and Parakeets such as Crimson Rosella's and Musk Lorikeets, Cockatoos and Honeyeaters.

Search for waterbirds such as the Eastern Great Egret, Musk Ducks, Yellow Rosellas, Superb Wrens and Purple Swamphen. There are plenty of river birds to be spotted including kingfishers (Kookaburra, Azure Kingfisher and Sacred Kingfisher), Black Duck, Wood Duck, Eurasian Coot and the Buff-banded Land Rail. The tall forest trees also attract numbers of common birds such as Yellow Rosella, Long-billed Corella (sometimes in deafening flocks), Noisy Miner and Willy Wagtail. The Plains Wanderer can be found in native grasslands.

### Moama Wetland & Horseshoe Lagoon

Set amongst Horseshoe Lagoon is Moama's Wetland and Floodplain Reserve. The area includes a 'horseshoe' shaped lagoon, a dillabong, and is home to native birds, animals, plants and fish. Indulge in some wildlife spotting or just enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this natural hidden gem. The reserve is widely used for walking and bird watching with interpretive panels throughout the area that can help you to learn about the importance of wetlands and floodplains along the mighty Murray River.

**Birds to look out for:** Spot a variety of waterfowls such as Manded duck, Pacific Black Duck, ibis, Parrots and Parakeets such as Crimson Rosella's and Musk Lorikeets, Cockatoos and Honeyeaters.

### Barham Landcare Federation Reserve

Located just 1.6 kilometres from Barham town centre, the 10 hectare reserve managed by Barham Landcare is open to visitors to appreciate the natural environment and the wonderful biodiversity at the site. The landscape diversity provides suitable habitat to over 125 species of plants that are endemic to the local region and over 130 bird species identified by local birdwatchers. The reserve contains three walking tracks with interpretive signage about plants and animals found at the site with many plants numbered to aid in species identification.

**Birds to look out for:** Superb Fairywrens, Fantails, Dusky Woodswallow's, Thornbill's and a variety of Honeyeater species including White-plumed, Singing, Friarbirds and Red Wattlebirds.

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### Tullakool Evaporations Ponds Viewing Platform

Located just 30kms from Barham, the viewing platform is situation just off the main Barham-Moulamein road. Boosting views over the 3500 acre salinity ponds, the region supports inland species such as the Chestnut-crowned Babbler, Black Honeyeater, Flame Robin, Superb Fairywren, sharp-tailed sandpipers and white-winged fairy-wrens.

**Birds to look out for:** When in flood, the environment supports waterplants and mudflats which attract a wide range of species and migratory shorebird species such as herons, crakes, sandpipers, spoonbills, rare waterbirds such as Blacktailed Godwit, White-winged Black Tern, Gull-billed Tern and Banded Stilt.



If you are looking to see Eastern Great Egret in the wild, there is no better place than at the Reed Beds Bird Hide. Don't forget to take your camera!

A hidden gem located just 5km from Mathoura along Picnic Point Road, Reed Beds Bird Hide is a birdwatcher's paradise. The Bird Hide is part of the Ramsar-listed wetlands in Murray Valley National Park. This is a unique space to absorb and explore the rich diversity of bird life whilst you wander along the boardwalk.

### Guilpa Creek Reed Beds Bird Hide, Mathoura



Search for waterbirds such as the Eastern Great Egret, Musk Ducks, Yellow Rosellas, Superb Wrens and Purple Swamphen. There are plenty of river birds to be spotted including kingfishers (Kookaburra, Azure Kingfisher and Sacred Kingfisher), Black Duck, Wood Duck, Eurasian Coot and the Buff-banded Land Rail. The tall forest trees also attract numbers of common birds such as Yellow Rosella, Long-billed Corella (sometimes in deafening flocks), Noisy Miner and Willy Wagtail. The Plains Wanderer can be found in native grasslands.

### Yanga Lake Redgum Bird Hide and Viewing Deck



Attracting over 150 species of birds, Yanga Lake Red Gum bird hide offers some of the most spectacular birdwatching in NSW. Located in Yanga National Park, the bird hide is nestled amongst the river red gums and old man saltbush, the hide provide tranquil views and the prefect spot to watch pelicans and black swans as they forage for food and bring up their young. Accessed along easy 1km Yanga Lake walking track, the bird hide hosts a scenic wetland and spectacular birdwatching opportunities such as crested grebes and sea eagles. The elevated viewing deck lookout provides sweeping 270 degree views of the 1,200ha wetlands. Be prepared to be fascinated by the array of migratory and wetland birds.

### Gunbower Island State Forest, Barham

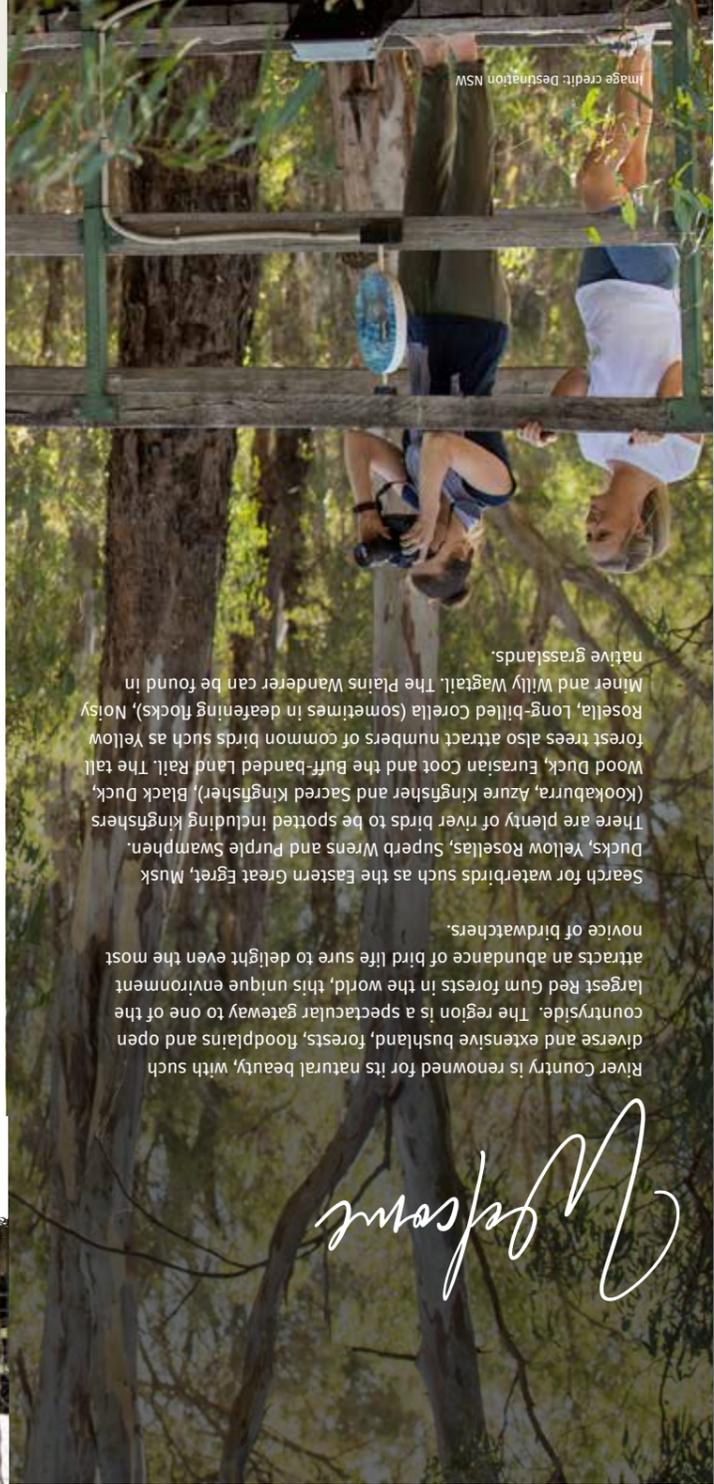
The wetlands of the Gunbower Island is a unique and diverse wonderland, this 20,000 hectare flood plain are internationally recognised Ramsar Wetland, offering a sanctuary for birds and wildlife. The State Forest best access is via Koondrook, just south of the township of Barham. The permanent wetland and water flows into Reedy Lagoon provide a vital breeding and feeding habitat for many waterbird species. It is highly recommended to obtain a detailed map of the island as there are many tracks established, visitors should note that the island is subjected to annual flooding, typically during the months of August to November

**Birds to look out for:** A large number of migratory birds rely on the wetlands, the environment provides an ideal resting, foraging and breeding ground for waterfowls and is home to several threatened species. Keep an eye out for Sacred Kingfishers and Great Crested Grebe's at the lakes edge. Best viewing time is Spring and Autumn as the lakes fill with birds such as white-bellied sea eagles and great crested grebes.

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**Birds to watch for:** In the woodland look for birds such as Red-capped Robin, Diamond Firetail, Western Gerygone and Painted Button-quail. Along the banks of the Murray and lagoons you'll find Sea Eagles, spoonbills, Noisy and Little Friarbirds, Sacred and Azure Kingfishers and parrots.



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# River Country

## BIRDS OF RIVER COUNTRY

Moama | Barham | Mathoura | Moulamein  
Murray Downs | Tooleybuc | Wakool

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## Birds to look out for:

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> Great Egret



> Little Wattlebird



> Straw-necked Ibis



> Sulphur-crested Cockatoo



> Superb Fairy-Wren



> White Throated Treecreeper



> Yellow Rosella



> Australasian Darter



> Intermediate Egret



> Long-billed Corella



> Australian Pelican



> Crimson Rosella



### Best Bird watching spots

- Moama Wetland & Horseshoe Lagoon
- Gulpa Creek Reed Beds Bird Hide, Mathoura
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- Barmah-Millewa Forest
- Barham Landcare Federation Reserve
- Tullakool Evaporations Ponds Viewing Platform
- Yanga Lake Redgum Bird Hide and Viewing Deck
- Gunbower Island State Forest, Barham
- ⚓ Boat Ramp