

# Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

## Bird Walk (Site 1)



### Pied Oystercatcher (*Haematopus longirostris*)



#### Local Status - Common

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk  
(Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

Conspicuous black bird with white belly, coral coloured legs, long and bright orange-red bill, orange-red eye-ring. Black wing-bar noticeable in flight. Prefers coastal sandy and pebbly beaches, tidal flats and estuaries.

**Bird Size** - 48cm - 50cm.

**Food** - Feeds on the intertidal zones eating molluscs, marine worms and snails.

**Nest style** - Sand scrape.

**Material used** - Sand.

**Nest Site** - Well above high water among rocks, seaweed, pigface or shells

**Breeding Season & Details** - August to January. Lays two to three spotted eggs. Thought to pair for life.

**Habits** - Usually seen in pairs or small groups, mainly sedentary, very territorial when breeding. At low tide, forages for food at tide edges and rocky outcrops. Courting birds run side by side, twittering and piping. To protect their young, will feign injury by dropping one wing as if broken. This display can sometimes be followed with a "death act", which involves laying on the ground and flapping, or they will attack the intruder by swooping till a safe distance is achieved.