

# Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

## Bird Walk (Site 8)



### Royal Spoonbill (*Platalea regia*)



#### Local Status – Uncommon

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species  
on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk

(Photography by Adam Marlow)

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A large white bird of wetland areas. When feeding, it sweeps its bill from side to side and uses the spoon shape of the bill to sieve food from the water.

**Bird Size** - 75-80cm

**Food** - Small fish, aquatic insects, and molluscs.

**Nest style** - A platform with a saucer-shaped hollow.

**Material used** - Sticks, or a mat of either reeds or rushes.

**Nest Site** - Branches of a tree growing in or near water at heights of up to twenty metres. Sometimes the matt is placed on trampled down reeds or low bushes in a wetland area. Nests in colonies from a few pairs to large flocks, sometimes with other waterbird species such as egrets.

**Breeding Season & Details** - Generally October to April, varying to other months, according to rainfall. Two to four eggs are laid once or twice a year.

**Habits** - In pairs or small flocks, frequenting swamps and shallow reedy sections of lakes, rivers or streams. At times strays into urban ponds.