

# Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

## Bird Walk (Site 7)



### Intermediate Egret (*Ardea intermedia*)



#### Local Status - Uncommon

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

(Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

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Similar to its cousin the Great Egret. The easiest distinguishing feature being the greenish gape that does not extend behind the eye as it does in the Great. When breeding the Intermediate has a reddish bill, and the Great's bill is black.

**Bird Size** - 65cm

**Food** - Aquatic life

**Nest style** - A thin, almost flat platform.

**Material used** - Thin sticks and twigs.

**Nest Site** - In trees growing in or near water at heights of up to twenty metres above ground.

**Breeding Season & Details** - October to January, at times later, with two to six eggs laid once a year. Forms breeding colonies in association with other egret species & waterbirds.

**Habits** - Freshwater wetlands, pastures, farmlands, floodplains and also tidal flats. As it stalks its prey, it tends to hold its neck straight whilst waiting to strike, whereas the Great's neck forms an "s" shape in this situation.