

Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

Bird Walk (Site 8)



Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*)



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Local Status - Common

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

(Photography by Adam Marlow & Amelia Nielsen)

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A beautiful bird of prey that is very familiar to beach-goers and fisherman with unmistakable rusty-red upper-body plumage, white head, and white chest.

Bird Size - Male 45cm, Female 51cm.

Food - Fish, crabs, sea-snakes, and cuttlefish.

Nest style - Large and bulky pile with a cup shaped depression in the top.

Material used - Sticks and twigs with a lining of soft material such as dry or green leaves, fine bark, grass or seaweed. Sometimes decorated on the sides with bleached seaweed.

Nest Site - Near the top of a tree close to water at heights from ten to twenty metres, or in mangrove often less than ten metres.

Breeding Season & Details - April to September in the north and west, August to October in the east south of the tropics. One to three eggs laid, usually once a year.

Habits - Singly or in pairs frequenting coastal habitats such as seashores, mudflats/ sandflats, and mangrove swamps. At times straying inland along river systems. It often flies low over the beach or foreshore, swooping down to take dead fish or fish parts from the shore.