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## INGHAM

This busy town is the commercial centre for the surrounding cane farms, forestry industry, and nearby fishing ports of Lucinda and Dungeness. Many of the original cane farmers came from Italy, and the town has a definite Italian ambience, with some good continental delicatessens and cafes. It is also an excellent birdwatching area, with over 370 species recorded within 50km of the town.

### Tyto Wetlands

The speciality of this wetland reserve, and the reason it was not developed for other purposes is the presence of Grass Owls. These are best seen in the early evening when they leave for their nightly foraging. There are plenty of waterbirds including Little Bittern as well as Tawny Grassbirds and several finch species, making it well worth a visit at any time. Turn off the highway at the new excellent Tyto Interpretive Centre 500m south of the town.

Guiding: John Young - Phone: (07) 4777 1271. See page 130.

The QPWS office is at Ripple Creek 10km North of Ingham on the road down to Lucinda via Macknade, open Mon-Fri, 9.00am - 4.30pm. Phone: (07) 4777 2822.

From **DUNGENESS** Phil Menzies runs 5hr boat trips up the spectacular Hinchinbrook Channel, calling in at Deluge Inlet and a unique area of Nypa palms. Great-billed Herons may be seen along the channel, and on Haycock Island is a huge White-bellied Sea-Eagle's nest. There are usually Varied Honeyeaters near the boat ramp at Dungeness. Phil also ferries bushwalkers to, or collects them from, Georges Pt, to start or finish the Thorsborne Trail on Hinchinbrook Island. Phone: (07) 4777 8307.

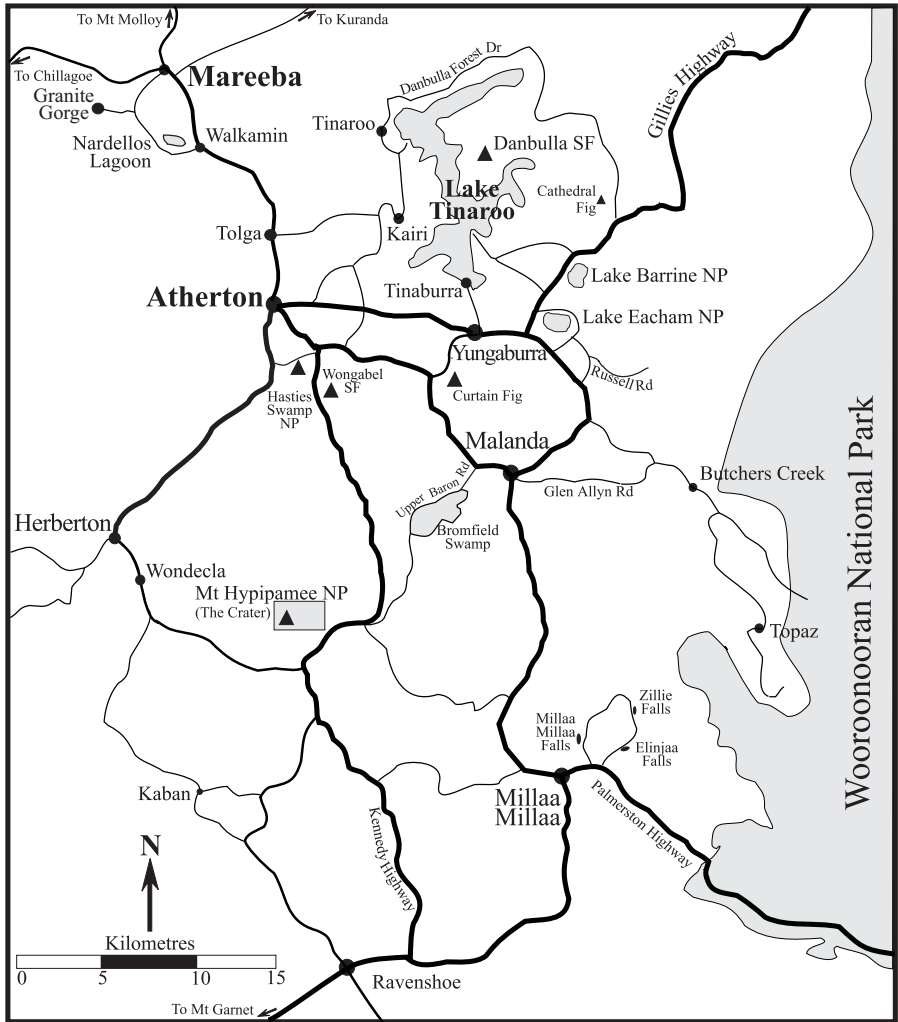
Email: [info@hinchinbrookwildernesssafaris.com.au](mailto:info@hinchinbrookwildernesssafaris.com.au)

### Girringun National Park

This large park, formerly named after the naturalist/explorer Carl Lumholtz, covers pre-existing National Parks, areas of State Forest and Crown land. It includes Wallaman Falls, Herbert River Gorge, Yamanie Falls and Hinchinbrook Channel National Parks, Blencoe Falls and parts of Kirrama State Forest.

### Wallaman Falls

Wallaman Falls, Australia's largest, permanent, clear-drop waterfall is also far enough off the beaten track to warrant a stay of two or more nights. Here Stoney Creek, a tributary of the Herbert River, drops 305m. Vegetation



**Atherton Tableland**

**\*Fairy Gerygone** - *Gerygone palpebrosa*

Moderately common, usually in family parties, in coastal lowlands in coastal scrubs and mangroves, gallery forests and rainforest edges. Less common on the Tableland. North of Innisfail birds approach the black-throated race.

**White-throated Gerygone** - *Gerygone olivacea*

Moderately common resident in drier woodland, often near water. Numbers increase in the winter.

**\*\*Mountain Thornbill** - *Acanthiza katherina*

Resident in pairs and small groups in upland rainforest, 450-1600m.

**Buff-rumped Thornbill** - *Acanthiza reguloides*

Uncommon on western edge of the Tableland south to Hervey Range, in open forest and casuarina thickets.

**Yellow Thornbill** - *Acanthiza nana*

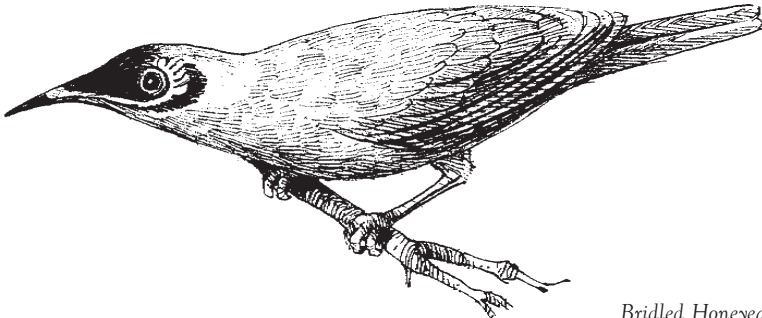
Resident in open forest and casuarinas on the western edge of the Tableland. Try Kaban.

**MELIPHAGIDAE - Honeyeaters****\*Helmeted Friarbird** - *Philemon buceroides*

Common resident of coastal lowlands in open forests, vine scrubs, mangroves, gallery forests and gardens in cities and towns. Rare on the Tableland.

**Noisy Friarbird** - *Philemon corniculatus*

Common nomadic honeyeater seen in flowering trees and tall shrubs in most drier areas. Resident in some areas.



*Bridled Honeyeater*