

Australian White Ibis

Threskiornis molucca

In the estuary
All year round



The **White Ibis** often has grubby plumage as it has learned to forage in rubbish tips and garbage bins. Its natural habitat is wetlands along the Barwon Estuary or on the foreshore. It is mainly white, with black tail feathers and black skin on the bare neck and head. During flight, narrow scarlet patches of skin can be seen on the underwing.

Beak-to-tail: 65 - 75 cm

Up in the sky
In the estuary
Flocks overhead Sep - Nov

Straw-necked Ibis

Threskiornis spinicollis

During spring, the **Straw-necked Ibis** grows yellow straw-like plumes on the upper chest and neck. Their back is a distinctive glossy black. Large flocks of these ibises can be seen flying in a V formation when the birds fly to grassy paddocks to feed before returning to their nesting colony on Mud Islands in Port Phillip Bay. By consuming large amounts of insects, they help farmers to be more productive. They also feed in shallow water such as the estuary.



Beak-to-tail: 60 – 70 cm