

Common Name/*Scientific name*:

White Throated Honeyeater/ *Melithreptus albogularis*



Description: The adult white-throated honeyeater is 115 to 145mm long, with olive-green or yellow-green upperparts, yellower on the rump, and white throat and underparts, a black head, a blue-white patch of bare skin over the eye and a white stripe at the back of the neck. The bill is black, the eyes red-brown, and the legs purple-brown.

Where seen in the gardens: White-throated Honeyeater are found mainly high up in eucalypt forests and woodlands but do move into open areas for feeding, so you could see one of these in any area at the gardens, except maybe the thick riparian forest along creeks.

Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens: They often feed in the outer foliage, chasing insects and larvae, and taking nectar from flowers, sometimes while upside down. They are local nomads, moving to follow the flowering of trees.

Nesting: White-throated honeyeater breed from July or August to December, raising one or two broods a season. The nest is a sturdy cup-shaped structure made of bark and grasses in the fork of a tree. A clutch of two eggs measuring 18 by 14 millimetres is laid, pinkish with brownish markings

Similar Species: White-naped Honeyeaters (*M. lunatus*) which although very similar, have a red eye patch. Generally not seen in the gardens.