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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The aim of this book is to give people visiting the most popular tourist areas of Australia a chance at identifying the animals they are most likely to see. Species have been selected drawing on Iain's extensive experience throughout the continent growing up in Australia, and spending long hours in the bush, and Sam's many trips Down Under over the past six years. Special emphasis has been given to species that are readily found in widely visited areas such as Kakadu National Park, Ayers Rock, the Great Barrier Reef, the Atherton Tablelands, Lamington National Park, the Blue Mountains, the Dandenong Ranges, southwestern Western Australia, and Tasmania. For more detailed information on these species, please refer to the more comprehensive guides listed in the bibliography. Decisions on species inclusion within the guide were based not on species abundance but on the likelihood of seeing the species. For example, Little Kingfisher, although generally considered a scarce Australian bird, has been included, as it is regularly encountered in Kakadu National Park.

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