



Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Naracoorte Caves Trail

STOP 3

Naracoorte's landowners are helping to restore natural habitats.

Looking out across this landscape, you will observe striking differences in native vegetation cover on the dune range and the agricultural land. The deep sandy soils along the range are largely unsuitable for agriculture, so uncleared patches of stringybark bushland still persist. This provides important habitat for wildlife such as bats, kangaroos, echidnas and birds.

South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyne*) are found only in SE South Australia and SW Victoria. A threatened species, they feed almost exclusively on the seeds of stringybark eucalypts (*Eucalyptus baxteri* and *E. arenacea*).

These beautiful birds are often seen in this area.

Throughout Australia, native bushland has been broken up into isolated patches due to clearing and changes in land use. In the Limestone Coast, landowners and conservation agencies are working hard to restore tracts of native vegetation and establish biodiversity corridors to allow movement of wildlife. You will see some of these areas along the trail.

Naracoorte's Bat Cave is home to around 30,000 critically endangered Southern Bent-wing bats. Feeding on flying insects such as moths, these tiny pest controllers eat several species considered harmful for agriculture.



Restoration of natural habitat is vital for threatened species such as the Southern Bent-wing Bat, which lives at the Naracoorte Caves.

Source: Steven Bourne.



Don't forget to see the mural of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos in the Naracoorte town square. The female birds have red/yellow tail panels, and the male birds have red.

Source: Liz Reed.



Aerial view showing patches of remnant vegetation and established biodiversity corridors.

Source: Steven Bourne.

