

# Black-eared Miner

*Manorina melanotis*



## At a glance

### **What is it?**

The Black-eared Miner (*Manorina melanotis*) is a native bird with an extensive black face 'mask' and an overall dark colour. The Black-eared Miner has significantly shorter wings, tail and legs than its close relative, the Yellow-throated Miner (*M. flavigula*).

### **Where can I find it?**

The Black-eared Miner can be found in old-growth Mallee eucalypts in the Murray-Sunset National Park.

These birds eat mainly invertebrates and search for insects on the ground, on foliage and under bark, particularly on the trunks and limbs of Mallee trees. Black-eared Miners also take nectar.

### **Quirky fact:**

When Black-eared Miners breed, the aunties and uncles help look after the young and protect them from predators.

Image courtesy Chris Tzaros, Birds Australia.