

# Other Crabs

## Soldier Crabs

Soldier crabs are unique amongst the crabs as they walk forwards instead of sideways. They have a distinctive blue shell. 'Armies' of crabs (sometimes as large as thousands) can be spotted moving around the tidal flats feeding on surface sediment. When other animals prey on them they quickly disappear into the mud using a 'corkscrew' burrowing technique. Before high tide each crab builds an igloo like convex mound over its burrow. When the tide recedes the crabs appear on the beach again.

Juvenile soldier crabs frequent mangroves and seagrass beds while adults prefer nearby mudflats.

