



# Birds in a Digital World

A List of Apps and



Internet Resources

for the Modern Bird Enthusiast



## Apps

### **Merlin Bird ID**

An incredibly easy-to-use app designed for beginners. Takes you step-by-step through the process of identifying the bird you are looking at, and gives you results specific to your geographic location and time of year! Developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

**Price:** Free!

**Available for:** iOS (Apple) and Android

### **The Sibley eGuide to the Birds of North America**

The digital version of one of the gold standards of print field guides. Outstanding illustrations covering virtually all plumage variations, combined with many sound recordings and the ability to compare two species side-by-side make Sibley's a favorite in the app world as well.

**Price:** \$19.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple) and Android

### **iBird Pro, iBird Plus, and iBird Yard+**

This suite of digital guides offers identification, behavior, habitat and ecology information, hand-drawn illustrations, professional photographs, range maps, and playable songs and calls. Pro and Plus cover Hawaii as well as North America! Go to [ibird.com](http://ibird.com) for a full comparison of their guides.

**Price:** \$2.99- \$19.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple) and Android

### **National Geographic Birds**

This app is currently the most comprehensive identification guide available, covering 995 species, including many that are very rare in North America. It also includes fun quizzes, a tool kit, news, and space for your own lists and bird sighting journal. Find more information at [nationalgeographic.com/mobile/apps/handheld-birds/](http://nationalgeographic.com/mobile/apps/handheld-birds/).

**Price:** \$9.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple)

### **Peterson Birds – A Field Guide to Birds of North America**

Though many find this app more challenging to navigate, it has plenty of extra information to make the effort worthwhile. It offers illustrations, songs, range maps, and nest photos for over 800 species, in addition to the ability to keep track of your sightings and look up other local sightings from eBird (see eBird in "Websites" section). Find more information at [petersonguides.com](http://petersonguides.com)

**Price:** \$14.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple)

### **BirdLog North America**

This app has no bird identification information, but is an easy way to record species while you are out in the field or just don't have a paper and pencil handy. Integrated with the website [ebird.org](http://ebird.org) (see right), the app helps you keep track of the species and numbers of birds you're seeing, and many other things. You can then upload your checklists to eBird straight from your phone!

**Price:** \$9.99

**Available for:** iOS and Android

### **BirdTunes**

This app series has no visual ID information, but is an "encyclopedia of bird songs." It offers more song and call recordings per species than any of these other apps, and it includes which state/province each recording was made, so it is very helpful for learning the amount of variation present in the sounds of a certain species. The three apps they offer differ only on the number of species covered (24-674). See [birdtunesapp.com](http://birdtunesapp.com) for more information.

**Price/s:** Free -- \$9.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple)

## Websites

### **All About Birds**

Hosted by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, this site offers a wealth of knowledge about North American birds. It features a page for each species, covering details like life history, range maps, keys of identification, and much more!

**Web address:** [www.allaboutbirds.org](http://www.allaboutbirds.org)

### **eBird**

A trove of world-wide bird sightings mapped out using Google Earth, this expansive resource shows citizen science at its finest. Any person can access reports of virtually any species from an hour ago to fifty years ago. An easy way to peruse recent local sightings, it also shows bar charts of when you're likely to see a given species in your area. You can also use it to keep track of your own sightings!

**Web address:** [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)

### **Macaulay Library and Xeno-Canto**

These two websites host a vast compendium of bird sound recordings. The Macaulay Library has many more recordings, including those of other animals, but Xeno-Canto often has more information about the recordings. Both show each location and date, and that can be very useful since many birds sound different up here in Alaska than they do farther south.

**Web addresses:** [www.macaulaylibrary.org](http://www.macaulaylibrary.org)  
[www.xeno-canto.org](http://www.xeno-canto.org)

### **The Birds of North America**

This site, hosted by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the American Ornithologists' Union, is probably the most comprehensive online resource for information about the birds that breed in North America. Biologists and ornithologists regularly update these scientific pages as they perform field research, making their fascinating discoveries accessible to those outside the scientific community. Though there is a subscription fee (\$45 per year or \$5 for 30 days), they do have a few free trial species so you can sample the depth of the material you would have access to.

**Web address:** [www.bna.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.bna.birds.cornell.edu)

### **Dendroica**

Originally developed to aid participants in the Breeding Bird Survey, this interactive website is now available to help anyone improve their skills at identifying birds by sight or by sound. The site includes many songs and photos of birds from throughout the Western Hemisphere, but you can easily narrow the scope of your study by location. The main unique feature of this site is the quizzes, where you can test and hone your identification skills by songs and calls, sight, or both! Registration is required but free.

**Web address:**

[www.natureinstruct.org/dendroica](http://www.natureinstruct.org/dendroica)

### **American Birding Association**

When you find that your interest in finding birds is becoming more of an obsession than you would like to admit, the ABA may be the place for you. Their publications, web resources, and events have much to offer anyone with an active interest in birding, whether you like to stay close to home, wander the globe, or a bit of both. Membership starts at \$45 per year and includes a subscription to the bi-monthly magazine *Birding*, and the quarterly *Birder's Guide*. For an extra fee, you can also receive the quarterly publication *North American Birds*, which documents the seasonal reports of rare birds across North America and identifies trends of species range expansions and contractions.

**Web address:** [www.aba.org](http://www.aba.org)

# Audubon

## Audubon Website

On the National Audubon website you will find a wealth of free information about birds, conservation, reports, and citizen science projects on a national scale. In addition, you will find links to many other websites relating to bird conservation programs and concerns.

**Web address:** [www.birds.audubon.org](http://www.birds.audubon.org)

## Audubon Birds Pro App

The award-winning Audubon Birds is now Audubon Birds Pro, an outstanding mobile field guide resource completely updated to the current AOU checklist. Includes “Find Birds with eBird” powered by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology; 821 total species; advanced gallery view for easy comparison and search; field mark call outs; and NatureShare - a social community of birders who observe, identify, and share their observations and photos in the mobile app and online.

**Price:** \$4.99

**Available for:** iOS (Apple) and Android

## Audubon Guides Apps

Go to this website to discover all of the nature apps that Audubon has to offer! Not only do they have a bird guide, but they also offer identification apps for mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies, mushrooms, trees and wildflowers. Don't miss out on their regional Ultimate Nature Series either!

**Web address:** [www.audubonguides.com](http://www.audubonguides.com)

## Juneau Audubon Society

Visit our website to find out about all the events hosted by your local Audubon chapter—monthly adventure presentations in winter, weekly bird walks in spring, monthly Saturday Wild outdoor adventures during the summer, and cruises to Berners Bay! Become a member to receive our monthly newsletter, The Raven.

**Web address:** [www.juneau-audubon-society.org](http://www.juneau-audubon-society.org)

