



The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior

David Allen Sibley

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“Once in a great while, a natural history book changes the way people look at the world. In 1838, John James Audubon’s *Birds of America* was one...In 1934, Roger Tory Peterson produced *Field Guide to the Birds*...Now comes *The Sibley Guide to Birds*.”

Thus did *The New York Times*, in 1999, greet David Allen Sibley’s monumental book, which has quickly been established nationwide as the peerless, standard bird identification guide.

The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior is the new landmark book from David Allen Sibley. Designed to enhance the birding experience and to enrich the popular study of North American birds, the book combines more than 795 of his full-color illustrations with authoritative text by 48 expert birders and biologists. In this new guide Sibley takes us beyond identification, to show us *how birds live and what they do*.

Introductory essays outline the principles of avian evolution, life cycle, body structure, flight dynamics, and more. The 80 family-by-family chapters describe the amazing range of behavior dictated by birds’ biology and environment. Among the subjects covered and illustrated are:

- molts and plumages
- habitats
- food and foraging
- vocalizations and displays
- courtship and breeding
- rearing of young
- migration and movements
- scientific groupings
- introduced species
- accidental species
- anatomy
- flight patterns
- nests and eggs
- conservation
- global distribution

Accessibly written, superbly designed and organized, and brilliantly illustrated, *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* is an indispensable source of information on the avian life around us.

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