

Winter Birds of Guadalupe Mountains National Park

Montane	Montane/Riparian	Riparian	Desert Grassland	Desert	Widespread
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- Wild Turkey
- Montezuma Quail***
- Acorn Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker**
- Downy Woodpecker
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- Brown Creeper
- Bewick's Wren
- House Wren
- Winter Wren***

Where to Begin?

This guide is meant to introduce people new to birding or new to this area to the birds of the Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Familiarizing yourself with what birds occur here and in what habitats prior to your visit will enhance your trip and allow you to prioritize where you'd like to spend your time.

The format of this list should serve as a rough guide. Of course, the mobility of birds and the intergrading of habitats and the fact that more than one habitat is passed through on most hikes mean that you can expect to see a wide array of birds wherever you spend your time.

The most rewarding birding will be found at the Frijole Ranch, Smith Springs Loop Trail, and McKittrick Canyon. If you'd like to find birds listed as more common in desert areas, then the old state highway at Guadalupe Canyon, the Williams Ranch Road, or the Salt Basin Dunes would be worth

- Cooper's Hawk**
- Sharp-shinned Hawk**
- Lewis' Woodpecker***
- Red-naped Sapsucker**
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker***
- Steller's Jay**
- Pinyon Jay***
- Mountain Chickadee
- Hermit Thrush
- Plumbeous Vireo***

visiting. If you'd like to find montane species of birds, a hike to the Bowl or, for an easier ascent, a hike on the Tejas Trail from Dog Canyon are recommended.

If you are just passing through try birding at Frijole Ranch and the area around the Headquarters Visitor Center at Pine Springs and the McKittrick Canyon Contact Station (opens at 8:00 a.m. Mountain Time). If you have more time, but are not able to hike, Williams Ranch is accessible by high-ground clearance vehicles (4x4 recommended) and the Salt Basin Dunes are accessible by passenger car. Both of these areas require keys that can be checked out at the Headquarters Visitor Center.

If you'd like to hike and bird for the day, begin at Frijole Ranch and Manzanita Springs area near dawn and then head over to McKittrick and plan on spending the rest of the day there. If you

- Gadwall
- American Widgeon
- Mallard***
- Green-winged Teal***
- Ring-necked Duck
- Common Snipe***
- American Coot***
- American Dipper***
- American Pipet***
- Northern Cardinal***
- Spotted Towhee

have a second day to spend in the park, a hike to conifer forest found in the Bowl can be done in 6-8 hours roundtrip.

As you will see from this list, approximately 40% of the park's winter species of birds are listed as widespread. Another approximate 40% are restricted to specialized habitats that can be characterized in broad terms as **riparian** (an area with increased water runoff and thicker concentrations of woody plants and trees), **montane** (areas of high elevation, cooler temperatures, increased rainfall, and tall evergreen trees), and **desert** (areas of lower elevation, hotter temperatures, lower rainfall, and sparsely vegetated). Part of Guadalupe Mountains National Park's significance is the biological diversity that is preserved here. As you make your way through the canyons and mountains, we wish you the thrill of discovering this diversity for yourself.

—Happy Birding!

- Prairie Falcon***
- Mountain Bluebird
- Loggerhead Shrike**
- Brewer's Sparrow**
- Field Sparrow***
- Savannah Sparrow***
- Eastern Meadowlark
- Western Meadowlark
- American Goldfinch



Northern Flicker

LEGEND

Common	(seen on 75% of trips)
Fairly Common	(seen on 25% of trips)
Uncommon	(seen on 10% of trips)
Rare to Not Present Every Season***	(seen on <10% of trips)

- Harris Hawk***
- Scaled Quail
- Greater Roadrunner**
- Ladder-backed Woodpecker
- Say's Phoebe***
- Chihuahuan Raven***
- Verdin
- Cactus Wren**
- Rock Wren
- Canyon Wren
- Townsend's Solitaire
- Sage Thrasher**
- Curve-billed Thrasher
- Crissal Thrasher
- Phainopepla**
- Pyrrhuloxia**
- Cassin's Sparrow***
- Black-chinned Sparrow
- Black-throated Sparrow
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- Great-tailed Grackle***
- Green-tailed Towhee

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before.

—Robert Lynd, *The Blue Lion and Other Essays*

- Northern Harrier**
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Ferruginous Hawk***
- Rough-legged Hawk***
- Golden Eagle**
- American Kestrel
- Peregrine Falcon***
- White-winged Dove
- Mourning Dove
- Great Horned Owl
- Long-eared Owl***
- Northern Flicker
- Western Scrub Jay
- Common Raven***
- Juniper Titmouse
- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Eastern Bluebird***
- Western Bluebird
- American Robin
- Northern Mockingbird
- Cedar Waxwing**
- European Starling***
- Yellow-rumped Warbler***
- Canyon Towhee
- American Tree Sparrow***
- Chipping Sparrow
- Fox Sparrow***
- Song Sparrow***
- White-throated Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- Cassin's Finch
- Pine Siskin**
- Lesser Goldfinch
- House Sparrow
- Ring-billed Gull***
- Herring Gull***
- Evening Grosbeak***

Birdlist in Alphabetical Order

BLUEBIRD, Eastern Mountain Western	Ferruginous Harris Red-tailed Rough-legged	ROADRUNNER, Greater	Ladder-backed
BUNTING, Lark	JAY, Pinyon Western Scrub	ROBIN, American	Lewis'
BUSHTIT	JUNCO, Dark-eyed	SAPSUCKER, Red-naped Yellow-bellied	WREN, Bewick's Cactus Canyon House Rock Winter
CARDINAL, Northern	KESTREL, American	SHRIKE, Loggerhead	
CATBIRD, Gray	KINGLET, Golden-crowned Ruby-crowned	SISKIN, Pine	
CHICKADEE, Mountain	MEADOWLARK, Eastern Western	SOLITAIRE, Townsend's	
COOT, American	MERGANSER	SPARROW, American Tree Black-chinned Black-throated Brewer's Cassin's Chipping Field Fox House Lincoln's Rufous-crowned Sage Savannah Song White-crowned White-throated	
DICKSISSEL	MERLIN	STARLING, European	
DIPPER, American	MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	THRASHER, Brown Crissal Curve-billed	
DOVE, Mourning White-winged	NUTHATCH, Pygmy Red-breasted White-breasted	THRUSH, Hermit	
DUCK, Ring-necked	OWL, Burrowing Great Horned Long-eared	TITMOUSE, Juniper	
EAGLE, Golden	NORTHERN SAW-WHET Spotted Western Screech	TOWHEE, Canyon Spotted	
EGRET, Cattle	PHAINOPEPLA	TURKEY, Wild	
FALCON, Peregrine Prairie	PHOEBE Black Say's	VERDIN	
FINCH, Cassin's House Purple	PIPET, American	WOODPECKER, Acorn Downy Hairy	
FLICKER, Northern	PYRRHULOXIA		
GADWALL	QUAIL, Montezuma Scaled		
GNATCATCHER, Black-tailed Blue-gray	RAVEN, Chihuahuan Common		
GOLDFINCH, American Lesser			
GOOSE, Snow			
GRACKLE, Great-tailed			
GROSBEAK, Evening			
GULL, Herring Ring-billed			
HARRIER, Northern			
HAWK, Cooper's			

Guadalupe Mountains

National Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Winter Birds



Golden Eagle