

The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior

By 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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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

From the creator of the seminal field guide, *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, comes another indispensable book for bird watchers. This veritable bible to the world of birds is the collaborative effort of 48 expert birders and biologists, who combine scientific accuracy and detail with an easily readable and well-organized format. How does a tiny chickadee survive subzero temperatures? How do flocks of birds synchronize their flights? How can an albatross cross miles of ocean without flapping its wings? Which bird brains are actually intelligent? It's all here in essays giving an overview of avian evolution, biology, and the aerodynamics of flight and in chapters devoted to the 80 bird families of North America, each one detailing taxonomy, habitats, feeding, breeding, vocalizations, migrations, and more. Concerned about declining populations, Sibley also discusses the conservation status of each species and the factors that threaten them. This fascinating source of information is destined to be a well-thumbed companion. -- *Lesley Reed*

From Publishers Weekly

Not to be confused with standard field guides to birds, this far-reaching companion to last year's *The Sibley Guide to Birds* complements the best of those avian catalogues that birders take along on their quests for more species to add to their "life lists." Here, the editors have compiled essays from leading ornithologists on bird anatomy, ethology and behavior to round out bird-watchers' knowledge. This National Audubon Society publication details the 80 families of birds found in North America, with hundreds of Sibley's acclaimed full-color paintings, maps, charts and illustrations. Topics range from the familiar migration, feeding, mating, nesting to the esoteric, including feather structure, eye configuration, DNA classification, evolution, hybridization and much more. Readers will learn about bird respiration, metabolism, excretion, vocalizations, senses and intelligence, among other subjects. Although the information is as detailed as a textbook, the writing is jargon-free, light and accessible. Well conceived in structure and conducive to easy reference, the volume ends with a detailed glossary, professional biographies of its dozens of scholarly contributors and a convenient species checklist, based upon the American Ornithologists' Union guidelines. Whether one is a serious expeditionary birder or a casual backyard observer of avian life, this book is a must-have reference. 796 full-color paintings.

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From School Library Journal

This follow-up to *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, an LJ Best Book of 2000, focuses on biology and behavior. With nearly 800 color illustrations by David Sibley, it should be gorgeous.
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rosalva Nichols:

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Jean Gaitan:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always aim to and must have the time or they will get wide range of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , once we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not really a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is usually The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior.

Tom Salgado:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you, why because this The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior e-book written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still doubt The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior as good book not only by the cover but also with the content. This is one book that can break don't ascertain book by its handle, so do you still needing another sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

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