

California Towhee



Anna's
Hummingbird



California Scrub-jay



Nuttall's Woodpecker



Anna's Hummingbird

4" Male - Green with ruby throat.
Female - Green with grey below
and red spots on throat.

This minute bird weighs no more than a nickel. It has tiny legs and is unable to walk or hop. You many see it scoot sideways on a branch.

An amazing jewel of a bird that can be seen all year long in gardens, by flowers, and near Eucalyptus Trees. They are more vocal than other hummingbirds and have a buzz-whistle-chirp call.

California Towhee

8-10" Matte grey with rust color under the tail and around the beak (females and males).

You may see this bird foraging on the ground for insects and bugs. They keep close to shrubs for protection.

This essentially large sparrow has a long tail and short wings that cause them to look awkward in flight. They have to use a lot of wing power for even short distances. Their call consists of squeaky chirps followed by a long trill.

Nuttall's Woodpecker

7-7 1/2" Black and white stirpes with thin white stripes on face. Males have a red crown.

This woodpecker has been spotted in Oregon, but is mostly found in California, living close to oak trees and feeding on insects. It can be seen circling around branches in search of food.

If you live close to oak trees and put up a suet feeder this bird may visit you. If you are around oak trees listen for this bird's dry rattle call and you may spot it.

California Scrub-Jay

11-13" Blue head, wings and tail with grey back and white throat (males and females).

Interested and interesting, these loud and assertive birds can often be seen high up in trees and on wires acting as lookouts.

Known for stashing food for later, they can remember up to 200 hiding places. The Miwok refer to this bird as "the one who plants oaks" due to all the acorns they hide in the ground. Their "song" is a loud-buzz-rattle-thrill.

Great Blue Heron



Turkey



Black-necked stilt



American Goldfinch



Wild Turkey

Male - 48", 15 to 25 lbs.

Female - 36", 30 to 12 lbs.

They look like a combination of a miniature dinosaur and a feather ball and are often found attacking the windows at the library. These birds usually walk or run. They can fly, and typically roost in tall trees at night.

They forage in the morning and evening, scratching in leaf litter to expose food. Their diet is mostly plant based, but they will eat insects and small animals, such as lizards.

Gooble! Gooble!

Great Blue Heron

4' feet with a 6' to 8' wing span.

Grey body with a black crown strip on a whiteish head (females and males).

The Great Blue Heron forages in coastal bay waters, rivers and calm fresh waters. They use their long blade like beaks to catch mostly fish, and other other small animals.

These birds gather in colonies or "heronries" to build stick nests high off the ground.

They fly with their neck tucked into their body in a S shape.

American Goldfinch

4 1/2"-5"

Male -Yellow with black tail and forehead. Female- duller yellow allowing for camouflage which helps keep their nests safe.

This vibrant bird has a sweet song and social nature. They gather in flocks while feeding and migrating.

Plant sunflowers and coneflowers in the garden and hang feeders with small seeds to attract this bird. Seeds are the mainstay of their diet.

They can be seen all year in weedy open areas and at feeders.

Black-necked Stilt

13" to 16"

These birds have short bodies, long necks, and long pink legs. Females have brownish backs. Males have black backs.

Found in shallow bodies of water, these birds can swim, but rarely do.

Their diet consists of insects, crustaceans and small fish. They have a high-pitched yap which can sound like a squeak toy.

If a predators approaches, the male birds will fly into the distance to do aerial maneuvers or fake an injury to create a distraction.

Mark off the birds you find this summer.



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Tips for Birding



- Birds are easier to hear than to spot. Close your eyes. What do you hear? Follow the sounds to see some feathered friends. Knowing and noticing the calls of local birds make them easier to find.
- Spend some time being still. You will begin to notice the movements of birds around you. It is amazing what nature will reveal when we are quiet.
- Practice spotting birds and you will start to observe them all around you. The more you practice the more you see!



Cornell Lab of Ornithology offers a wealth of bird information for free on their website, <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/home/> and through their free app, Merlin. Listen to bird songs, find a list of birds that live in your area. Find out the types of birds you hear by recording them on the app.

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