



National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds: Eastern Region

National Audubon Society, John L. Bull, John Farrand

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Introduced in 1977 and completely revised in 1994, these bestselling photographic field guides have become the birding bibles of more than four million enthusiasts. Virtually every bird found in North America is brought to life in a full-color photograph and with textual information on the bird's voice, nesting habits, habitat, range, and interesting behaviors. Accompanying range maps; overhead flight silhouettes; sections on bird-watching, accidental species, and endangered birds make these the most comprehensive field guides to birds available. Note: the Eastern Edition generally covers states east of the Rocky Mountains, while the Western Edition covers the Rocky Mountain range and all the states to the west of it.

National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds: Eastern Region Details

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Author : National Audubon Society , John L. Bull , John Farrand

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From Reader Review National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds: Eastern Region for online ebook

Genee says

I picked up this book to identify a pair of birds that were living in our backyard. I loved that this book had tons of pictures, as well as, descriptions of all the birds. They were also broken down into categories, such as perching birds, duck-like birds, etc. My family and I really enjoyed looking up all the birds that we saw in our neighborhood and on outings.

Richard J. Naylor says

I bought to replace an old dog eared copy I had.
Great reference for any bird watcher. The best out there!

J Gary Palmer says

Hands down the worst field guide I've ever tried to use. The birds are presented in an incomprehensible order, loosely based apparently on silhouette and color. For most species a single photo is the only visual depiction, with no inclusion of alternate plumages. To make this guide even more unusable, the photo plates and species descriptions are separated into the first and last half of the the book, respectively, making it nearly impossible to use range maps and visual depictions of the birds in combination to arrive at an ID.

Corey says

A surprisingly poor field guide from the Audubon Society. The main issue is the organization. I don't like having the pictures in one place and the information and geographical distribution in another part of the book. Too much flipping. Also, there is usually only a single photo of a species, typically standing or perching, so it is difficult to tell how the bird looks in flight. There are several other field guides out there that are much better, so I would avoid this one.

John says

The text is good but the organization and illustrations leave a lot to be desired. Most people will do better with other field guides, such as the Sibley guide or the Peterson guide.

Julie Brock says

This contains great information from a very reputable source, but c'mon National Audubon Society. WHY would you show a photo of a given bird on one page and then refer the reader to another page hundreds of pages later to access the text about the same bird? First half of the book, all photos. Second half of the book, all text. Please put photo and text of each bird all on the same page, and then you'll have a 5-star review from me. :)

Jim says

It's not the best, but I don't know of a better one for the price. We keep 2 copies at home & use it fairly often. The pictures are pretty good & sometimes contain second pictures where season or sex changes the look of a bird - not always, though.

Logan Hughes says

This is the first bird guide I had, and it was better than nothing but not a great experience.

I know it's due to practical weight / expense limitations, but I find the organization of the National Audubon Society books - glossy full color photos in one section, text on plain paper in another - confusing and annoying. I wound up just using the photo sections to try to ID birds, and ignoring the text, which led me to not realize which birds were common and which rare, or what size they were relative to each other, or their geographical region, habitat, behavior, etc. Also, with typically only one photo per bird, it was difficult to ID variants or even the bird in another position (e.g. flight). Some of the photos don't even really look typical of the bird IMO.

For eastern North America bird ID, I prefer The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America or, if you prefer photos, The New Stokes Field Guide to Birds: Eastern Region. Or if weight/packspace is at a premium, download Merlin onto your phone.

Jadwega says

I love this guide! I was introduced to an older format of the guide when I started bird watching at the age of 9. It's easy to use, the pictures are accurate, and it includes not only the more colorful male birds, but also the females as well. Gives a lot of information about each species, including habitat, field markers, bird calls, nesting behavior, and a general roundabout description about the general behavior and lifestyle.

Jerry M says

This is still an excellent field guide. Well organized and small enough to carry into the field. I am giving it a 5 star rating because of its usability and the quality of production. None of the poorly printed birds as in the current Sibley. I keep on in my car.

It won't let you make perfect IDs of all birds in all plumages, but in the field it will get you to most.

Mark says

Fantastic photographs and I like the extra details under the descriptions but most photos only cover the male plumage of the species, which is fine when a bird is not sexually dimorphic, which only few birds are. In the case of a bird like the sanderling the breeding plumage is shown on plate 193 but it's wintering plumage is on 229 and there is no photo for the immature sanderling. Just not practical in the field. Peterson or Sibley drawings give all looks of the individual species.

Ashley Hill says

APA: Bull, J. L., Farrand, J., & Society, N. A. (1996). The national Audubon society field guide to north American birds, eastern region. Alfred a Knopf Inc.

Citation by: Ashley Hill

Type of Reference: Handbook

Call Number: 598.297

Description: This handbook covers birds found east of the Rocky Mountains.

Relevance and Relationship: This material helps students to identify birds in their region and would be a good point of reference for an inquiry project.

Purpose: Teach students about birds east of the Rocky Mountains.

Validity: The Audubon Society is reputable society that has published many reference materials.

Format: 508 bird species east of the Rocky Mountains are covered with well over 600 photographs.

Arrangement and Presentation: The birds are described in the text with their appearance, range, and habitat.

Diversity: There didn't seem to many materials about region. While this could have been more specific to the region of Kentucky, this is a good material to start with to help students identify birds in their area.

Professional Review: McNamee, G. (n.d.). Review: National Audubon society field guide to north American birds. Retrieved from <http://www.abebooks.com/9780679428527...>

Dan says

I like the full color photographs and durable cover. It is the perfect size to use while identifying birds in the field or to be carried in a backpack.

It pales in comparison to the Sibley guide because the photographs are one picture of the bird in whatever position that they have chosen. The Sibley guide has a few illustrations of in flight, seasonal/gender variants and perching positions.

Also I do not like that you must first find the image of a bird, find the page number of the written information and then hunt for that page to see if that matches the bird you are trying to identify. This takes valuable time away from observation and the bird you are watching may fly away before you can identify it.

Marie Gray says

This field guide has been a close companion and invaluable tool in my newest quest to identify the birds who also call Vermont their home. With color photographs and concise descriptions of each species, I have found this particular guide to be helpful and user friendly--and that is saying a lot when the user is as novice a birder as myself! While it deserves a 5-star rating for the part it has played in my summer adventure, sadly I can only give this guide 4 stars as I often wished it included more photographs of females and fledglings.

Victoria says

It is a great book to read
