



How to Add Birding to Your Next Airstream Trip

Must-Have Birding Apps from Cornell Lab

Merlin Bird ID - Helps you IDENTIFY birds by size, behavior, geography, or sound file. Get it in the App Store.

eBird - Helps you TRACK birds on each birding trip, build your life list and participate in "Citizen Science." Crowdsourced database helps you explore hot spots and know which birds are in which geographic area (download bird packs). Rare bird sightings are verified by local volunteer experts. Recommend downloading bird packs before you head into a no cell service zone. Get it in the App Store.

These two apps are integrated. Identify the bird in Merlin, track it in eBird, and upload your checklists to the eBird database.

Essential Resources

Recommended Field Guide(s): *Sibley Field Guide to Birds* as well as his field guides for western birds, eastern birds, etc. Author: David Allen Sibley. Available on Amazon.

Other Great Field Guides: Peterson Guides and Audubon Guides.

Cornell Lab - <https://AllAboutBirds.org> - Tons of video courses, information, etc.

Audubon.org - So many birding resources. Join a local Audubon if you can - they have local resources that will help you learn your local birds and connect you with the local birding community.

Stuff to Take with You

- **Binoculars** - Suggested "numbers" for beginners: 8x30 or 8x32. Recommend buying the best you can afford; you will never regret it. You will see better, spot better. If you wear glasses, test the "eye relief" on binoculars before you buy.
- **Birding guide and apps**
- **Comfortable clothes and shoes that blend in** - green, gray, tan - no white.
- **"Birding Bag"** - lumbar bag (aka fanny pack) - water, lip balm, pen/pad, bandaids, Clif Bar, etc.



Top 25 National Parks for birding

1. Pt. Reyes National Seashore (CA) - 405
2. Gateway National Recreation Area (NY, NJ) - 375
3. Big Bend National Park (TX) - 360
4. Death Valley (CA) - 357
5. Cape Cod National Seashore (MA) - 339

#19: Acadia National Park (ME) - 261

Top 25 National Parks for Biring - full list and article:

<https://www.npca.org/articles/1501-get-your-binoculars-the-25-best-national-parks-for-birding>

Birding in Maine / Fryeburg

Maine Audubon: <https://maineaudubon.org>

Step Outside: <https://stepoutside.org/fryeburg-me/bird-watching/>

eBird: <https://ebird.com>

10 Birding Etiquette Dos and Don'ts

1. DO silence mobile devices
2. DO keep talking / noise to a minimum
3. DO respect the land and the wildlife
4. DO stay 10 feet away from nests / babies
5. DO keep children under control
6. DON'T throw rocks, or "tree whack" to make birds fly up in order to see them
7. DON'T use bird sound apps to call birds
8. DON'T walk in front of others (in a group)
9. DON'T overuse pishing
10. DON'T bring your dog along