



# 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:**

#### **Tracy Lindsey:**

The book *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the best thing like a book *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior*? Several of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim in which book can give many details for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer with your book.

Knowledge or info that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you could share all of these. Book The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and massive function for you. You can look the enormous world by start and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Lily Tarver:**

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#### **Lula Day:**

Spent a free time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the guide untitled The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

#### **Louis Ono:**

Some individuals said that they feel bored when they reading a book. They are directly felt that when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose the actual book The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior to make your own reading is interesting. Your skill of reading skill is developing when you like reading. Try to choose straightforward book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the impression about book and studying especially. It is to be initial opinion for you to like to open up a book and study it. Beside that the publication The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior can to be your friend when you're truly feel alone and confuse with the information must you're doing of the time.

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