

Perching Birds (continued...)

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found at edges of forest and fields; often seen at feeders.

Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*)

10 points | Permanent resident; found in bogs, coniferous forests; often bold when visiting campsites for a meal.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*)

5 points | Spring, summer, and fall; found in overgrown pastures & edges of woods.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in open fields, woodland edges & gardens. Attracted to red flowers or feeders.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*)

5 points | Permanent resident; found in coniferous woodlands; the Adirondacks are close to the southern extent of its normal range.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found in coniferous woodlands and roadside thickets; considered by some to be the most handsome Adirondack sparrow.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*)

5 points | Spring, summer, and fall. Nests found in Hemlock or yew typically close to the ground. Like mixed woodlands.

Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*)

8 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in shrubby areas & swampy thickets; light gray head and a yellow throat; nests on the ground.

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in fields and open areas; aggressive when defending nest; known to attack large birds that come too close; calls loudly.

Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*)

10 points | Spring, summer, fall; found at edges of forests, open woods, fields; a distinguishable cry; nocturnal.

American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found in meadows, bushes, and overgrown pastures; associated with thistles which they use for food, nests, and shelter.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*)

4 points | Spring, summer, and fall; found in pastures, orchards, and thickets; similar to above.

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in mixed deciduous/coniferous forests; eats mostly bugs.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in woodlands and orchards; brilliantly colored; often humorously called the Black-winged red bird.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found in mixed woodlands; often feeds in large flocks.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*)

10 points | Spring and summer; found in thick evergreen bogs; tail points downward when perched.

Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*)

5 points | Winter; found in coniferous woodlands & thickets; identifying markings best seen in flight.

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)

5 points | Spring, summer, and fall; found in wooded areas; black and orange facial coloration.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*)

5 points | Spring, summer, and fall. Like young woodlands, orchards, and thickets.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in dense wooded areas; named for its catlike call; ability to mimic calls of other birds.

Information compiled from: Birds of the Adirondacks, by Alan E. Bessett, William K. Chapman, Warren S. Greene, and Douglas R. Pens, and Adirondack Nature Guide, by Sherri Amsel.

Special thanks to Gary Lee (Inlet, NY).

Get Your Patch!

Set eyes on the listed birds here to collect 150 or more points and receive a Birding Challenge patch. Be sure to check the box for each bird you've seen.

Challenge Complete:

When you've completed the challenge, receive your achievement patch by mailing your pamphlet to:



Hamilton County Tourism
P.O. Box 57,
Lake Pleasant, NY 12108
518-548-3076
Info@ExperienceOurAdirondacks.com

Name:

Address:

City:

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Birding Challenge



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Birds of Prey

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

8 points | Permanent resident; found in wooded areas near large bodies of water; largest wingspan of any bird in the Adirondacks, measuring 6 to 7 1/2 feet.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

5 points | Spring, summer, and fall resident; found near rivers and lakes; dives for fish, often submerging completely.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*)

2 points | Permanent resident in southern Adirondacks; spring, summer, fall in northern region; found in open woodlands/orchards.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found in woodlands, open fields, along highways.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

10 points | Newly established resident; found in open areas & rock cliffs; endangered species.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)

2 points | Permanent resident; found in fields and open areas; the most common and smallest falcon.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*)

10 points | Permanent resident; found in mixed woodlands; easily recognized by loud hooting call.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*)

5 points | Permanent resident; found in mixed wooded areas; call is usually 8 hoots.

Eastern Screech Owl (*Otus asio*)

10 points | Permanent resident; found in woodlands and orchards; also known as the Mottled Owl or Little Horned Owl; bravely defends nest.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*)

10 points | Permanent resident; found in forests and swampy woodlands; smallest Adirondack owl; often tolerant of people who are close by.

Waterfowl and Shore Birds

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

2 points | Observed throughout the year, mostly during migratory seasons; found near rivers, ponds, lakes, and fields; flies in V-shaped patterns; mates for life.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*)

2 points | Spring, summer, and fall; found in bodies of water that are surrounded by woods.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in rivers, ponds, lakes; tallest bird in the Adirondacks.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found near marshes, ponds, and lakes; also known as Ring-billed Duck and the Ring-necked Scaup.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in bodies of water near woodlands; smallest merganser in the Adirondacks; often seen facing upstream, fishing.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*)

10 points | Spring, summer, fall; lives in ponds and marshes; can fly nearly 50 mph for short distances; seen during migratory periods.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in bogs and marshes; when it is not moving, difficult to distinguish from surrounding weeds.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*)

3 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in open areas, commonly seen on golf courses; named for sound of its cry; pretends wing is broken when nest is approached.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in remote lakes, large ponds; a symbol of the Adirondacks, known for its mournful cry.

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*)

3 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in swamps & bogs, moist fields; active at dusk.

Gamebirds

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*)

3 points | Permanent resident; found in mixed woods, by roads, usually on the ground; also known as a partridge; male makes “drumming” sound by beating its wings.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*)

2 points | Perm. resident; found in open woods, clearings, and along roadways; roosts in trees.

Woodpeckers

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)

3 points | Permanent resident; found in deciduous & mixed woods; largest Adirondack woodpecker; known for its loud “jungle-like” call.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*)

5 points | Permanent resident; found in woodlands & orchards; smallest American woodpecker.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*)

3 points | Permanent resident; found in bogs and coniferous forests; has a mewling call.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*)

10 points | Perm. resident; rare and localized; found in coniferous forests and bogs.

Perching Birds

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*)

1 point | Permanent resident; found in mixed woods, deciduous forests; commonly seen hanging upside down on trees feeding on insects.

Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)

10 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in open areas with large trees; brilliant orange coloration; formerly known as the Baltimore Oriole.

Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*)

10 points | Spring, summer and fall; found in fields and wooded areas; mimics the calls of other birds.

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*)

1 point | Permanent resident; found in wooded areas; aggressive and vocal.

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*)

2 points | Spring, summer, fall; found by freshwater streams, lakes, ponds; hovers over water to fish; has a loud rattling call.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

2 points | Spring, summer and fall; occasionally winter; found in young woodlands, orchards, and yards; begins nesting later than most birds.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

1 point | Spring, summer, fall; found in swamps, wet meadows and marshes; can become very vocal and aggressive defending its nest; returns early in spring.

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in swampy thickets and orchards.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*)

5 points | Spring, summer, fall; found in young woodlands & open fields; NYS Bird.