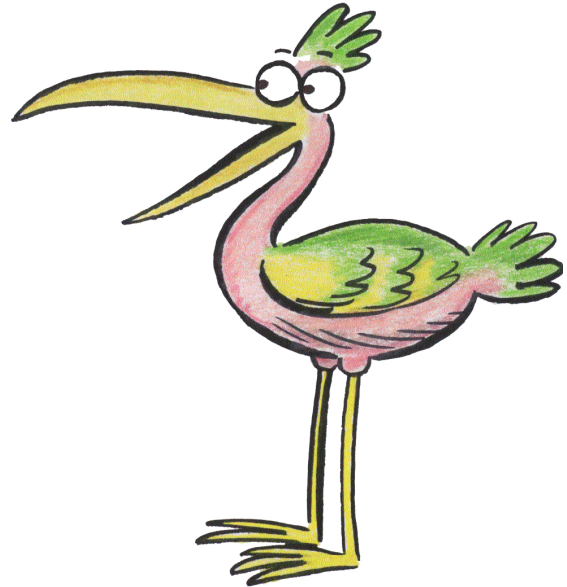


# Birding Sanibel

## Bird Checklist of Sanibel Island



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<http://www.birdingsanibel.com>

How to use your checklist. The bird checklist was designed to be informative and simple to use. The list is arranged in the order established by the American Ornithological Union.

This checklist includes 174 species of birds. A list of 63 accidental sightings (seen once or twice during the past 8 years) has also been included.

### Symbols which appear in this checklist represent the following:

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#### Seasonal appearance

**Sp** **Spring** - March to May  
**S** **Summer** - June to August  
**F** **Fall** - September to November  
**W** **Winter** - December to February

#### Seasonal abundance

**a** **abundant**: a common species which is very numerous  
**c** **common**: certain to be seen in suitable habitat  
**fc** **fairly common**: present but not always seen  
**u** **uncommon**: present but difficult to find  
**r** **rare**: seen at irregular intervals  
**\*** known or suspected to have nested on refuge or known to nest locally

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<b>LOONS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sora	fc	-	-	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	r	-	r	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Moorhen*	a	a	a	a
<b>GREBES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> American Coot	u	-	-	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe	c	u	fc	c	<b>PLOVERS, SANDPIPERS &amp; ALLIES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Grebe	r	-	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-bellied Plover	c	r	c	c
<b>PELICANS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Plover*	u	-	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican	r	-	fc	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Plover	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Pelican*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Semipalmated Plover	r	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Piping Plover	r	r	r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Anhinga*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer*	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnificent Frigatebird	c	c	c	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> American Oystercatcher*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<b>HERONS, EGRETS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-necked Stilt*	fc	fc	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> American Bittern	r	-	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Yellowlegs	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Bittern*	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Yellowlegs	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Sandpiper	r	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Egret*	a	c	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Willet	a	c	a	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Egret*	a	c	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Sandpiper	c	r	fc	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Blue Heron*	a	c	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Marbled Godwit	r	-	r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Tricolored Heron*	a	c	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruddy Turnstone	c	fc	c	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Reddish Egret*	fc	fc	fc	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Knot	c	fc	c	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Egret*	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanderling	c	fc	c	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron*	c	c	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-crowned Night-Heron*	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Western Sandpiper	c	r	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-crowned Night-Heron*	c	c	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Least Sandpiper	c	r	c	c
<b>IBISES, SPOONBILL AND STORKS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dunlin	c	r	r	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Glossy Ibis	r	r	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Stilt Sandpiper	r	-	-	r
<input type="checkbox"/> White Ibis*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Short-billed Dowitcher	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Roseate Spoonbill	c	c	fc	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Snipe	fc	-	-	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Stork	fc	fc	fc	fc	<b>GULLS, TERNS AND SKIMMERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>WATERFOWL</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Laughing Gull	a	c	a	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Green-winged Teal	u	-	-	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Bonaparte's Gull	r	-	-	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Mottled Duck*	c	c	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	fc	-	r	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Pintail	r	-	r	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	r	-	-	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal*	c	r	u	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Caspian Tern	r	-	-	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	r	-	r	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Royal Tern	a	fc	a	a
<input type="checkbox"/> American Wigeon	c	-	r	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Sandwich Tern	c	fc	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Forster's Tern	c	-	fc	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser	u	-	-	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Least Tern*	r	c	c	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Merganser	c	-	-	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Tern	r	r	r	-
<b>VULTURES, HAWKS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Skimmer*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Vulture*	c	fc	c	c	<b>PIGEONS AND DOVES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture*	a	c	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Collared-Dove*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Ringed Turtle-Dove	r	r	r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> American Swallow-tailed Kite	r	r	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove*	a	a	a	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle*	r	r	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Ground-Dove*	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	r	-	r	r	<b>CUCKOOS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	r	-	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Mangrove Cuckoo*	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c	<b>OWLS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Owl*	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Screech-Owl*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	r	-	fc	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Merlin	u	-	u	u	<b>GOATSUCKERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Peregrine Falcon	r	-	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk	fc	fc	fc	-
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck-will's-widow*	fc	fc	fc	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapper Rail	u	-	-	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Whip-poor-will	r	-	r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> King Rail	u	u	u	u					
<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia Rail	u	-	-	u					

<b>SWIFTS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	fc	fc	fc	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-whiskered Vireo*	fc	fc	-	-
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>WARBLERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	fc	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-crowned Warbler	r	-	-	r
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	u	u	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	r	-	-	-
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-winged Warbler	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Warbler	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u	-	-	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	u	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	u	u	u	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	u	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	u	-	-	-
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	u	-	u	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Blue Warbler	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	fc	fc	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	fc	-	fc	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Kingbird	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	r	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	r	-	r	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Warbler	fc	-	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Kingbird*	c	c	c	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Warbler*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	c	-	c	c
<b>MARTINS AND SWALLOWS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	u	u	r	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	fc	-	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	u	-	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	u	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Prothonotary Warbler	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Swallow	r	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	fc	fc	fc	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Worm-eating Warbler	u	-	-	r
<b>JAYS AND CROWS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	u	-	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay*	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	-	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana Waterthrush	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Crow*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<b>WRENS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Warbler	u	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Wren*	fc	fc	fc	fc	<b>TANAGERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	r	r	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer Tanager	r	-	r	-
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	r	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	u	-	fc	fc	<b>NEW WORLD FINCHES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>THRUSHES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	-	-	-	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	u	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	r	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Grosbeak	fc	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray-cheeked Thrush	r	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	fc	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	r	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Painted Bunting	u	-	r	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush	r	-	-	-	<b>SPARROWS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS AND ALLIES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Rufous-sided Towhee*	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	fc	-	fc	c	<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	u	-	r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mockingbird*	a	a	a	a	<b>BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, COWBIRDS AND ORIOLES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher*	u	u	u	u	<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	u	-	-	-
<b>WAXWINGS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	fc	-	-	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Boat-tailed Grackle*	a	a	a	a
<b>STARLINGS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle*	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling*	a	a	a	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Shiny Cowbird	r	r	-	-
<b>VIREOS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> White-eyed Vireo*	fc	fc	fc	fc	<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole	r	-	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Vireo	r	-	-	r	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Oriole	r	-	-	-
					<b>NORTHERN FINCHES</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
					<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	-	-	-	fc
					<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
					<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	c	c	c	c

## ACCIDENTALS

Birds seen only once or twice during the past eight years:

Northern Gannet	Purple Gallinule	White-crowned Pigeon	Monk	Eastern Bluebird
Greater Flamingo	Limpkin	Parakeet		Swainson's Thrush
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Sandhill Crane	Green Parakeet		Loggerhead Shrike
Wood Duck	American Avocet	Canary-winged Parakeet		Yellow-throated Vireo
Mallard	Whimbrel	Rose-ringed Parakeet		Philadelphia Vireo
Snow Goose	White-rumped Sandpiper	Black-billed Cuckoo		Chestnut-sided Warbler
Gadwall	Parasitic Jaeger	Smooth-billed Ani		Pine Warbler
Eurasian Wigeon	Pectoral Sandpiper	Barred Owl		Kentucky Warbler
Canvasback	Common Black-headed Gull	Short-eared Owl		Wilson's Warbler
Redhead	Great Black-backed Gull	Red-headed Woodpecker		Yellow-breasted Chat
Ring-necked Duck	Gull-billed Tern	Hairy Woodpecker		Savannah Sparrow
Bufflehead	Roseate Tern	Vermilion Flycatcher		Eastern Meadowlark
Ruddy Duck	Common Tern	Sedge Wren		
Swainson's Hawk	White-winged Dove	Marsh Wren		
Black Rail	Rock Dove	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		

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## ETHICS FOR BIRDWATCHING

- Take care to avoid disturb nesting birds, exposing eggs and young to extreme temperatures and predation.
- Disturb wintering wildlife as little as possible, particularly during critical feeding and resting periods. They need all of their energy reserves to withstand the stresses of harsh weather and migration.
- Do not litter. Many birds die when they become entangled in fishing lines, 6-pack rings, and other trash, or when they mistake garbage for food.

Presented by Birding Sanibel; Sanibel Island, Florida. Visit our website at <http://www.birdingsanibel.com>

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This resource is based on the following source:

J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, Inc. Birds of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel and Captiva Islands and surrounding waters. J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, Inc. Unpaginated. Jamestown, ND: Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center Home Page. <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/othrdata/check-bird/r4/dingdarl.htm>