

Migratory Birds Visit Galveston

Galveston has many birds that are permanent residents in our area. We see them every day in the skies and on our shores. Great Egrets, Brown Pelicans, Laughing Gulls, and Great-tailed Grackles are just a few of the birds that live here year-round.

However, there are also many birds that are visitors to our area. They migrate from different parts of North and South America to spend a season here or to stop briefly in their journey. These traveling visitors are migratory birds.

Here are a few of the migratory birds commonly spotted in Galveston during the spring or fall. You may use this list and the photos on the following pages to choose a migratory bird for your artwork or writing inspiration. You may also select another migratory bird of your choice.

Sandhill Cranes
Piping Plover
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Prothonotary Warbler
Northern Parula

Green-wing teal
Osprey
Orchard Oriole
American Avocet
Black-and-white Warbler

Painted Bunting
White Pelicans
Long-billed Curlew
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Scarlet Tanager

Some Facts about Bird Migration

- **Birds in migration can travel thousands of miles.**
- **Some birds travel at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour.**
- **Birds know instinctively where to go and how to navigate back home.**
- **Many birds migrate during the night.**
- **To prepare for migration, birds fuel up with certain foods that help them build body fat.**



For more information about birds and migration look at audubon.org and allaboutbirds.org



Sandhill Crane



Piping Plover



Ruby-throated Hummingbird

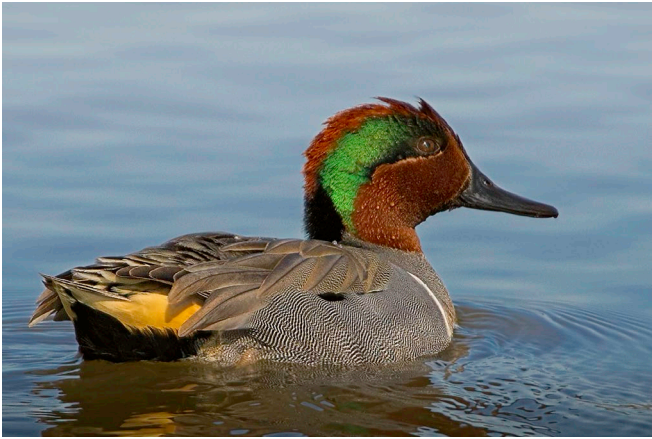


Prothonotary Warbler



Northern Parula

Clockwise from top left: Barbara Rabeck, Jim Stevenson, Kevin Malo, Dan Lotan, Dan Lotan



Green-wing teal



Osprey



Orchard Oriole



Black-and-white Warbler



American Avocet



Painted Bunting



White Pelican



Long-billed Curlew



Scissor-tail Flycatcher



Scarlet Tanager

Clockwise from top left: Roy Freese, Shawn Marshall, Roy Freese, Rufus Burns, Linda Gillory