



Foothills

Nature Notes

CITY OF PALO ALTO • COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT • OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND GOLF DIVISION

Foothills Bird Checklist

This checklist has the most common birds found in the Palo Alto foothills. Some are here only seasonally, others are here year-round. With a guidebook, binoculars and patience you can see them and identify them. Can you find others?

Birds of Prey	
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooper's Hawk <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Horned Owl <i>Bubo virginianus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-shouldered Hawk <i>Buteo lineatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-tailed Hawk <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Screech Owl <i>Megascops kennicottii</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	White-tailed Kite <i>Elanus leucurus</i>
Birds Often Seen on the Ground	
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Crow <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Robin <i>Turdus migratorius</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	California Quail <i>Callipepla californica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	California Towhee <i>Pipilo crissalis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dark-eyed Junco <i>Junco hyemalis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hermit Thrush <i>Catharus guttatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mourning Dove <i>Zenaida macroura</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spotted Towhee <i>Pipilo maculatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Meadowlark <i>Sturnella neglecta</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wild Turkey <i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>
Perching Birds	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen's Hummingbird <i>Selasphorus sasin</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anna's Hummingbird <i>Calypte anna</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ash-throated Flycatcher <i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bewick's Wren <i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black Phoebe <i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black-headed Grosbeak <i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila caerulea</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brewer's Blackbird <i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bushtit <i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	California Scrub Jay <i>Aphelocoma californica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	California Thrasher <i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chestnut-backed Chickadee <i>Poecile rufescens</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chipping Sparrow <i>Spizella passerina</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	European Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fox Sparrow <i>Passerella iliaca</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Golden-crowned Sparrow <i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black-headed Grosbeak <i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila caerulea</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	House Finch <i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	House Wren <i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hutton's Vireo <i>Vireo huttoni</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lazuli Bunting <i>Passerina amoena</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesser Goldfinch <i>Carduelis psaltria</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oak Titmouse <i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pacific-slope Flycatcher <i>Empidonax difficilis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pine Siskin <i>Carduelis pinus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-winged Blackbird <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruby-crowned Kinglet <i>Regulus calendula</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Say's Phoebe <i>Sayornis saya</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Song Sparrow <i>Melospiza melodia</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steller's Jay <i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wrenit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>
Swifts and Swallows		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>
Water Birds		
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>

Wading Birds that Also Wade in the Grass		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
Woodpeckers		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-breasted Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i>
Other Birds You Have Seen		
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*Original list from Acterra
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