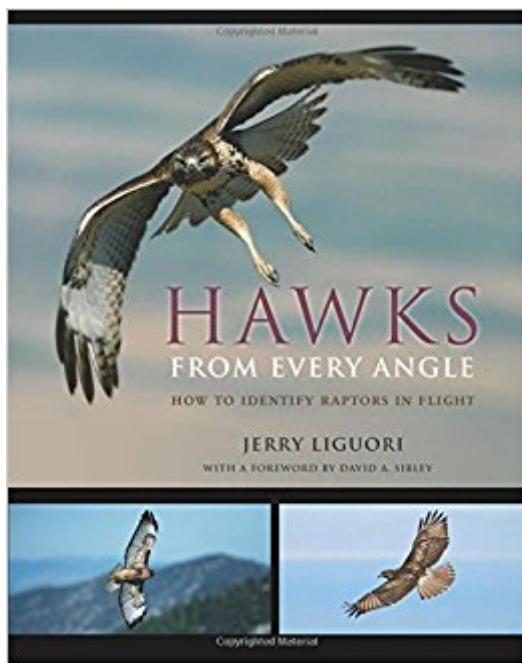


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Hawks From Every Angle: How To Identify Raptors In Flight



Synopsis

Identifying hawks in flight is a tricky business. Across North America, tens of thousands of people gather every spring and fall at more than one thousand known hawk migration sites--from New Jersey's Cape May to California's Golden Gate. Yet, as many discover, a standard field guide, with its emphasis on plumage, is often of little help in identifying those raptors soaring, gliding, or flapping far, far away. *Hawks from Every Angle* takes hawk identification to new heights. It offers a fresh approach that literally looks at the birds from every angle, compares and contrasts deceptively similar species, and provides the pictures (and words) needed for identification in the field. Jerry Liguori pinpoints innovative, field-tested identification traits for each species from the various angles that they are seen. Featuring 339 striking color photos on 68 color plates and 32 black & white photos, *Hawks from Every Angle* is unique in presenting a host of meticulously crafted pictures for each of the 19 species it covers in detail--the species most common to migration sites throughout the United States and Canada. All aspects of raptor identification are discussed, including plumage, shape, and flight style traits. For all birders who follow hawk migration and have found themselves wondering if the raptor in the sky matches the one in the guide, *Hawks from Every Angle*--distilling an expert's years of experience for the first time into a comprehensive array of truly useful photos and other pointers for each species--is quite simply a must. Key Features? The essential new approach to identifying hawks in flight Innovative, accurate, and field-tested identification traits for each species 339 color photos on 68 color plates, 32 black & white photos Compares and contrasts species easily confused with one another, and provides the pictures (and words) needed for identification in the field Covers in detail 19 species common to migration sites throughout the North America Discusses light conditions, how molt can alter the shape of a bird, aberrant plumages, and migration seasons and sites User-friendly format

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Customer Reviews

"Hawks from Every Angle is a major advance in our knowledge of identifying raptors in flight and as such needs to be in the library (and field pack) of every serious raptor biologist, hawk watcher, and birder going afield in North America."--Donald S. Heintzelman, International Hawkwatcher "Perhaps no one knows the intricacies of raptor identification better than Jerry Liguori. . . . There is no doubt that this book will advance the identification of raptors, and that every hawkwatcher will want to own this great new book."--Dan R. Kunkle, Wildlife Activist "This book does a splendid job of educating its readers as to the specific characteristics the experts use to make their identifications. . . . [T]he book's strength is its numerous crisp diagnostic photographs that, if diligently studied, should make readers competent to correctly identify virtually any hawk species. This book is a fine example of the sophistication of field identification in the study of birds."--Choice "I was a bit skeptical about the value of a photo guide, but Liguori, a raptor conservation biologist and excellent photographer, sweeps any doubts away. The book's 371 images, nearly all in color, of hawks from the front, side, below, and above, provide a new perspective on the 19 most common North American species. Read this handy guide and you'll never again have to say, 'All I know is it was a buteo.' This book definitely lives up to its title."--Val Cunningham, Birding Business News "Hawks from Every Angle takes advantage of recent developments in digital photography and computer enhancement to offer a fresh approach to identifying raptors--as the titles promises--from every angle: head on, above, below, sideways, and from the rear...The guide's succinct but flowing text includes introductory material on light conditions, molt aberrant plumages, migration sites, weather, optics for hawk watching, and photography...As good as the text is, the guide's 339 color photographs are even better. Showing the birds as they actually appear in the field, the photos are its heart and soul."--Keith L. Bildstein, Birder's World

"Jerry Liguori has spent most of the last twenty years in the field watching and photographing hawks, and thousands of hours poring over photos and research to piece the puzzle of identification together. The result . . . is this guide, which is the most detailed and confident explanation yet of the myriad clues that lead to successful identification of hawks. This book is the first of its kind that

deals with the real-world problems of identifying flying raptors from different angles. . . . The understanding of what hawkwatchers actually face in the field comes through on every page."--David A. Sibley, author of the National Audubon Society's *The Sibley Guide to Birds*"There is nobody in North America whose identification skills and knowledge base concerning the flight identification of birds of prey surpasses Jerry Liguori. If you want to know where the high water mark in raptor identification falls today, it is in your hands. If you aspire to pin names to birds that fly just this side of the limit of conjecture with a high degree of confidence, start reading."--Pete Dunne, Vice President of Natural History Information, New Jersey Audubon Society, coauthor of *Hawks in Flight* "We have all been perplexed and downright dumbfounded trying to identify flying raptors when seen at odd, but regularly viewed angles! Such difficult angles often offer only glimpses of identification markings shown in typical raptor field guides and bird guides. This impressive book, with its superb collection of color and black and white photographs and concise and informative data, tackles raptor identification problems that hawkwatchers face under real field conditions. Jerry Liguori has created a book that can easily be toted in the field, and is an absolute must-have for any raptor enthusiast!"--Brian K. Wheeler, author of *Raptors of Eastern/Western North America*, illustrator and coauthor of *A Field Guide to Hawks of North America* "Jerry Liguori has long been one of our best raptor experts, and this stunning book proves it yet again. Depicting hawks in the real world, in the hawkwatching arena-and not in an idealized situation that rarely occurs-is this book's forte. Comparisons, contrasts, key points, and even potential pitfalls are highlighted in the excellent photos-and set the book apart. There are a number of raptor guides available, but we finally have one that shows hawks as they are truly seen in the field."--Clay Sutton, coauthor of *Hawks in Flight* and *How to Spot Hawks and Eagles*"*Hawks from Every Angle* takes in-flight identification further than any previous book. Being a seasoned hawkwatcher, I can attest to the accuracy and usefulness of the material presented. Until now, much of the information herein has resided only in the heads of very experienced hawkwatchers and some of it, in the heads of only one or two very experienced hawkwatchers. Well organized and well written."--Tony Leukering, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory"*Hawks from Every Angle* will be quite useful to those seeking a better understanding of the field identification of raptors rather than a feather-by-feather description of plumages. Ultimately, birders want to know which species they are seeing, and this book will guide them to the correct identification."--Brian L. Sullivan, Cornell Lab of Ornithology

This is a really great guide for anyone wanting to identify raptors, especially in the field, in the sky. It shows them as you would see them...not as stuffed dummies on a perch. It helps you learn how to

identify them by their silhouettes, from many angles, how they fly, their particular, individual flying "style", It tells you what TO look for AND, equally important, what NOT to look for (who need to be distracted by looking for something that won't help you, or worse, distracts you from what you should be looking for)...you often have so little time!. It's of the best ID books on the market!

I'm a bird guy. I absolutely love birds, and the birds I love more than any others are hawks. When I die, I want to come back as a hawk. The problem (if it is a problem) is that I'm no naturalist. I seem constitutionally incapable of identifying most birds. Get me past the typical visitors to my backyard feeders--the junkos, sparrows, wrens, cardinals, goldfinches, thrushes, humming birds, and occasional woodpecker--and I'm pretty lost. But because I so love hawks, and because they've recently reappeared in great numbers in my neck of the woods (central PA), I thought I'd give Liguori's book a try. I'm glad I did. The photographs are stunning--beautiful enough to please the eye, but at the same time crisp and detailed enough to serve as a guide for hawk-spotting. I found especially helpful Liguori's shots of hawks at different flight positions--soaring, gliding, stooping, hovering, and so on. Equally helpful are the charts he provides that compare body, wing and head shapes of different kinds of hawks, falcons, and eagles. Ditto on the migration charts. There's only one thing Liguori's guidebook doesn't have that I wish it did: photographs of perched hawks. I see lots of hawks when I'm driving that are perched on tree branches and electric lines, and I still have difficulty identifying them: redtail? Swainson's? Cooper's? Hopefully, the next edition of Hawks from Every Angle will include the perch angle as well. (In all fairness to Liguori, however, his book is subtitled "How to Identify Raptors in Flight.") It would also be convenient were the book a bit smaller in size. It's broadness makes it a little burdensome in the field. But it could well be that a smaller format would've meant less precise photographs. If that's the case, the tradeoff is a good one.

Wow. In some ways, I can't believe the amount of work that must have gone into collecting data and supporting pictures, as well as cross-sorting on characteristics that Mr. Ligouri did with this book. Contrasts are not only on the basics, but by seasonal variations, molts, ages of the bird, cantonation of wings and color phases, just to name a few. In some ways the details are a bit mind-boggling. This is really a great book for raptor lovers. Very well worth the price.

Another excellent book by Jerry Liguori. The text is supported by excellent photographs. It is a book I will use often in the field.

I have been a novice hawk enthusiast for many years, this book really defines what hawks are all about. Jerry Ligouri is in my opinion the utmost authority on hawks in the US. I have met him a few times and he is truly passionate and knowledgeable about hawks!

I bought this book because I am going to be volunteering at a Hawkwatch this fall. I think the book does an excellent job of pointing out the key markings of each species. The combination of detailed text and plentiful photographs makes it an effective learning tool. One thing to note about the book is that it does not include species with very localized distributions, such as Short-tailed Hawk and Black Hawk. Instead, it focuses on the species that are migratory and more widespread.

The BEST raptor ID book on the market! It is great to also have Hawks at a Distance by Jerry Ligouri. This is the most relative hawk ID book I know. Every hawk count I have ever visited (which is many) have this book on site for reference. Easy to use.

the book is very informative, I was looking for a book with larger images of hawks, but this is a good one if you like to read and learn....I was looking for the easy way out....but nice coffee table book.

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