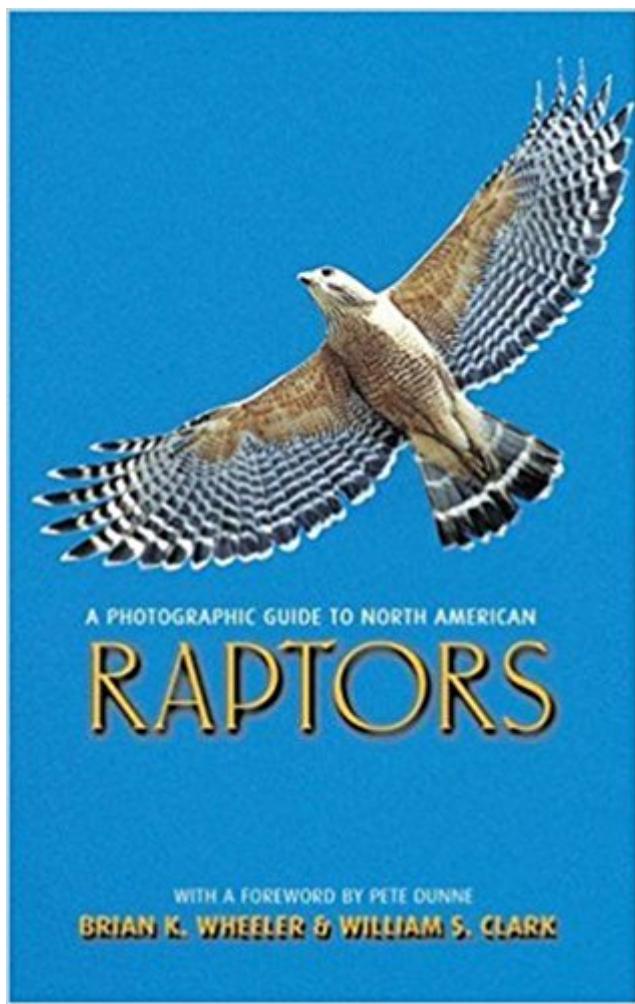


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# A Photographic Guide To North American Raptors



## Synopsis

Whether soaring or perched, diurnal birds of prey often present challenging identification problems for the bird enthusiast. Variable plumage, color morphs, and unique individual characteristics are just some of the factors bird watchers must consider when identifying the different species. In this authoritative reference, two of the world's top experts on raptors provide an essential guide to the variations in the species, allowing for easier recognition of key identification points. All the distinguishing marks described have been exhaustively tested in a wide range of field conditions by the authors as well as the colleagues and students who have learned from them.

**Key Features?**

The only complete photographic guide to North American diurnal birds of prey Includes all species, common and rare Written by well-known experts Contains 365 photographs, each with an explanatory caption and supporting text describing all 43 species of diurnal raptors found in North America Features 14 discussions of specific problems in practical identification Complete set showing every plumage Raptor I.D. problem section showing similar species side by side Species List: Turkey Vulture. Black Vulture. California Condor. Osprey. Hook-billed Kite. Swallow-tailed Kite. White-tailed Kite. Snail Kite. Mississippi Kite. Bald Eagle. Northern Harrier. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Cooper's Hawk. Northern Goshawk. Common Black Hawk. Harris' Hawk. Gray Hawk. Red-shouldered Hawk. Broad-winged Hawk. Short-tailed Hawk. Swainson's Hawk. White-tailed Hawk. Zone-tailed Hawk. Red-tailed Hawk. Ferruginous Hawk. Rough-legged Hawk. Golden Eagle. Crested Caracara. American Kestrel. Merlin. Aplomado Falcon. Gyrfalcon. Peregrine. Prairie Falcon. Crane Hawk. Roadside Hawk. Hawaiian Hawk. Red-backed Hawk. Steller's Sea Eagle. White-tailed Eagle. Collared Forest Falcon. Northern Hobby. Common Kestrel.

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## Customer Reviews

Considered the definitive raptor identification guide for North America, this essential resource for birders includes photos and text for distinguishing between hawks, falcons, eagles, and vultures in the field, paying careful attention to plumage variations in juveniles and adults. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"I highly recommend this useful guide."--Keith L. Bildstein, *Auk*"No one is better at the variabilities of raptor identification than this team of two. . . . The excellent photographs are clear and well chosen. . . . If you take your hawk-watching seriously, buy it."--Charles E. Keller, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*"The 377 colour photographs are without exception truly stunning. . . . The plates are conveniently placed next to the relevant species account and show all plumage, both in flight and perched. . . . The authors are to be applauded for their expertise, while not forgetting the problems of the beginner, making this book ideal for both the novice and the profession: there is something new for everyone."--Neil Hayward, *Ibis*"As a hawk watcher of long standing, I have eagerly awaited this utilitarian partner to . . . *Hawks*. First, because as a reference tool, it will be invaluable to serious hawk watchers. The information it contains is age class and subspecies specific; the format is straight forward; and the material is easily referenced. . . . This new guide, with its employment of photos and integrated concern for the problems presented by lookalike species, will also serve the novice, saving them much time, effort, embarrassment, and . . . Frustration! On a global scale, there are few living human beings who know more about birds of prey than William S. Clark and none, to my mind, who know more about their identification. On the more focused subject of North America's diurnal raptors, he has few peers . . . but one of them is Brian K. Wheeler, whose photos dominate this book. . . . There are many nature photographers who specialize in capturing birds of prey on film. Few are as good as Wheeler and some say none."--Pete Dunn, Director, Natural History Information, New Jersey Audubon Society"Are you having difficulty unraveling the mysteries of identifying birds of prey? If you are baffled by seemingly similar silhouettes of birds of prey, not to mention plumage variations, then *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors* . . . is the perfect field guide for you. With this guide in hand, you will be ahead of other birders at hawkwatching hotspots."--Wildbird"I recommend that you buy two copies, one for home and one for your vehicle."--Canadian Field Naturalist"This book will change your mind about the importance of

photographic guides. You will want to use this guide. Here you are treated to stunning photographs that depicts all the field marks that are mentioned in an informative text. . . . This is one outstanding effort and it is a genuine pleasure to look through this book. Brian Wheeler and Bill Clark are the continent's leading authorities on the field identification of diurnal birds of prey. As such, any work that they produce should be taken seriously. They have consistently produced identification publications that have changed the entire hawkwatching world in a significant and positive manner. This field guide is no exception. It offers a novel approach to the identification of hawks in a wonderfully pleasurable environment. Bravo!"--HMANA Migration Studies"For the raptor enthusiast or North American birder, this is an essential purchase. . . . The authors and publishers have done their work well."--Paul Doherty, *Birding World*"The authors have done raptor aficionados a great service by greatly reducing the problems associated with this often difficult-to-identify group of birds."--Peter H. Bloom, *Journal of Raptor Research*"This excellent book is a must-buy for anyone interested in improving their raptor ID skills. I believe it is well worth the price for the high-quality photos alone, but careful review of the text also reveals a wealth of state-of-the-art raptor ID tips that have been field tested by the authors."--Ned Harris, *Birding*"Never have I seen a photograph better capture the essence of a bird's appearance in flight than the wonderful color photograph of a rough-legged hawk gracing the cover of *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*. . . . This book . . . is filled with such images of birds of prey. The pictures are carefully picked, not just for the aesthetic quality that is virtually inevitable for any good photographs of raptors, but to greatly assist birders in the identification of this sometimes bewildering array of birds. It's a great gift for naturalists."--Barry Kent Mackay, *Toronto Star*

This is an excellent field guide if you want to know what raptors you have in your area. Where I live in the beautiful Iron County of Utah we have a lot of different raptors - from the little American Kestrel hawk to the majestic Bald Eagle. They are difficult to identify sometimes and this guide really helps a lot. The photo quality is excellent, and I especially like that they tell you where and when each photo was taken. This book must have been a real work of love to complete due to its all-inclusive nature. You will learn everything you can about identifying the different raptors in your area. The section on common mis-identifications is especially handy. Very good book.

This book is exactly what it says it is. It is not a book that discusses the habits, migration or interesting tidbits. Would be even better if it did. The photos are good ones especially of eagles and hawks. Gives lots of pointers re differences in levels of maturity and also terminology for stages of

development. I am old so wish the pictures were bigger. The book is a hardback and fairly small maybe 9x7 or so. Somehow I expected it to be a larger format. That said, I would recommend and remember the title says it all "photographic guide."

Being a naturalist from the age of seven or so, I have long been a keen observer of birds with particular attention paid to the raptors and soaring birds. All the books I had previously owned or seen about raptors stop far short of giving the info necessary for identifying the hawks and eagles of various ages and genders, as many of them will resemble another breed at various levels of maturity and in different seasons. This book almost eliminates those problems, giving excellent photos and descriptions that enable positive identification provided the observer gets a good enough look at the bird. It also provides useable field id pointers that will eliminate many questions with only a "sketchy" look at a flying or sitting raptor. A good book that should sit on the front seat of any raptor friend's car; one that will be used time and again in the field.

An amazing guild to have as a reference! Super Cool !!!

This is the definitive guide. You should have it if you have ever been confused about identifying a raptor--ample photos give you certainty about juveniles, difficult identification comparisons, aging and sexing raptors--everything you need in the field. It's an excellent book.

Book was recommended by the instructor for a class about Hawks. Exactly what I needed. Seeing various age/color changes helps greatly with identification. Am sure this will get dog-eared when I take it an identification forays.

helpful for birds in flight.....not as easily to identify from book when the raptor in the book is in flight and the one you are looking at in your back yard is sitting on your fence.

Awesome book for hawk watchers!

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