



# ENDEMIC BIRDS OF CUBA

CUBA is a perfect place to indulge in watching and photographing birds. The island country has seven biosphere reserves, eight national parks, and two nature reserves, and is home to 368 avian species. Here are a few of the top species to look for:

BEE HUMMINGBIRD

WORLD'S SMALLEST BIRD

Cuba's endemic hummingbird is the world's smallest bird, weighing around 1.8 grams and measuring up to 2.3 inches.



BEE HUMMINGBIRD

CUBAN BARE-LEGGED SCREECH OWL

This small owl inhabits many of Cuba's woodland areas; although nocturnal, your best bet for finding them during the day is looking for holes in the trees.



CUBAN BARE-LEGGED SCREECH OWL

CUBAN GRASSQUIT

This is one of Cuba's most exotic birds. Although its numbers are in decline, they can be found all across Cuba, especially in the dry regions in the east.

CUBAN ORIOLE

Growing up to 8 inches long, adults are mostly black with bright yellow patches on the neck and at the base of its tail. They are a fairly common sighting.



CUBAN ORIOLE

CUBAN PARAKEET

The only endemic parakeet found in Cuba boasts a brilliant green color, with red feathers on its wings. Sadly, its numbers are in decline, estimated to be less than 5,000

CUBAN TODY

This tiny bird (which grows to about four inches) boasts bright colors, is an avid hunter, and can often be seen burrowing for insects during the day.



CUBAN TODY

CUBAN TROGON

Cuba's national bird can be found in the country's forests. It is known by Cubans as Toco-ro-ro because of its distinctive "toco-toco-tocoro-tocoro" call.

FERNANDINA'S FLICKER

One of Cuba's two endemic woodpeckers, this species is much more scarce than the Cuban green woodpecker.



FERNANDINA'S FLICKER

GUNDLACH'S HAWK

ENDANGERED

This is one of Cuba's most endangered endemic bird species, with around 150-200 pairs remaining. If you see one, consider yourself lucky, as sightings are rare.

YELLOW-HEADED WARBLER

This endemic bird is found in forests and semi-arid landscapes. In addition to a yellow head, the warbler has gray and white feathers.

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## BIRDWATCHING BY THE NUMBERS

\$107 billion is spent on birdwatching equipment and travel in the US.

665,000 jobs are created from birdwatching.

\$13 billion in local, state, and federal tax revenue is generated from birdwatching.

17.8 million Americans travel to see birds, contributing millions of dollars to local economies.



According to a story in USA Today, some 85 million Americans enjoy watching and/or photographing birds, ranking it 15th on the list of most popular activities.