



# BIRDING GUIDE TO ABBOTSFORD



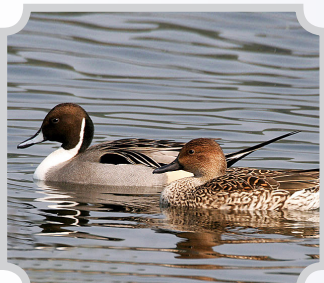
## American Coot *Fulica americana*

Dark-bodied, red-eyed, white-billed water birds commonly found mixing with ducks on ponds and lakes. They have long yellow/green legs with skin lobes on the toes for paddling. On land, they walk much like a chicken.



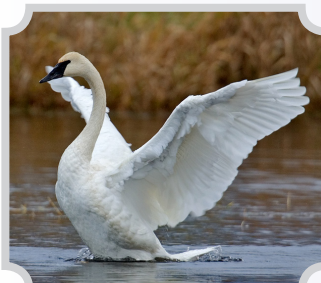
## Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

Look for the signature white 'chinstrap' on this large black-necked goose, and listen for loud honking flocks flying in V-formations. These geese enjoy large open grass spaces, even in urban environments.



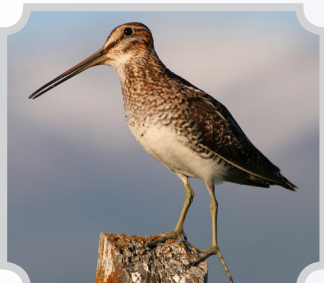
## Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*

Look for these elegant waterfowl standing taller than other ducks, the males with a distinctive white chest and neck stripe, and long pointed tail. In flight, their wings are long and narrow, with males flashing green inner wing feathers.



## Trumpeter Swan *Cygnus buccinator*

North America's heaviest flying bird, with males averaging 26lbs and up to 6ft in length. Look for all-white bodies with black bill and legs. Found in wetlands or agricultural fields with shallow standing water.



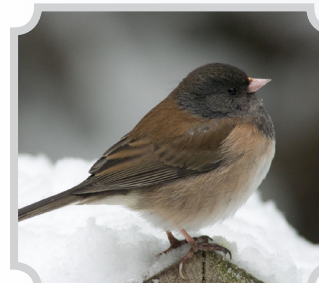
## Wilson's Snipe *Gallinago delicata*

These plump-looking, long-billed, mottled brown shore birds can be hard to spot in their marsh habitats. Watch for their heads bobbing up and down as they probe sand or wet soil for small aquatic invertebrates.



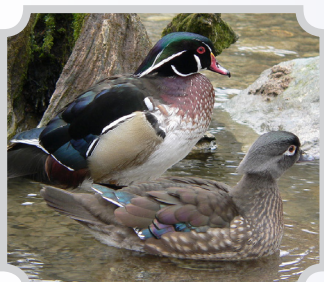
## Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*

Largest of North American herons, look for these long-legged, majestic birds flying with slow wing beats, low near coastlines or poised like statues on a river edge, while stalking their prey of small fish.



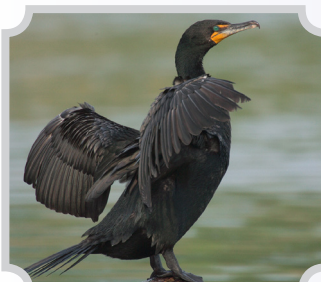
## Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*

Medium sparrow-sized bird with dark head and back, and a light pink bill. Watch for the white outer tail feathers flashing distinctively in flight. Listen for tick sounds and very high-pitched tinkling and trills.



## Wood Duck *Poliophtila caerulea*

A strikingly beautiful waterfowl, the female with delicate white ring around the eyes and the males with iridescent green, chestnut and patterned plumage over its entire body. Found in wooded swamp areas.

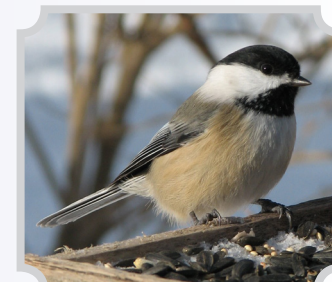


## Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus*

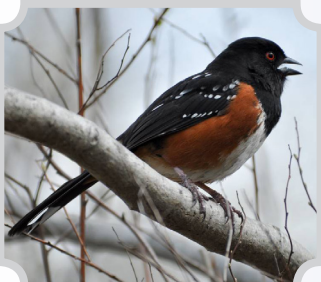
Large black fishing birds with yellow face, long kinked neck and strong, hooked bill. Look for their distinctive habit of standing with wings spread to dry off by the river's edge or coastline.

## Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapillus*

'Cute' oversized head, small dark bill, black cap and bib, white cheeks, grey back and tail feathers, and light belly with buff colour under the wings. Listen for a 2 or 3 note "fee-bee" whistle.







**Spotted Towhee**  
*Pipilo maculatus*

These striking birds can be found hopping about in scrubby undergrowth in search of food. Listen for a cat-like “mew, mew” call, and look for the dark head, rust-colored flanks, and dark wings and back with white spots.



**Anna's Hummingbird**  
*Calypte anna*

Like flying jewels these iridescent green birds are attracted to colourful blossoms. Males courting, with their dazzling red/pink ‘gorget’ flashing, will climb to 130ft before swooping down amid a burst of sound.



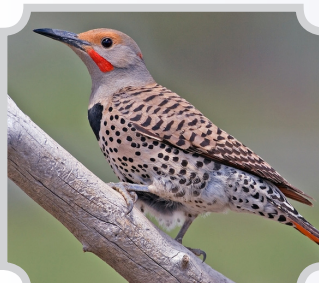
**Western Screech-Owl**  
*Megascops kennicottii*

These small stocky owls are exceptionally well camouflaged in their forest homes, with little brown grey plumage flecked with dark streaks. Listen at night for their high tooting notes following the rhythm of a bouncing ball.



**Red-winged Blackbird**  
*Agelaius phoeniceus*

Males of this species are stocky, glossy black birds with red and orange shoulder patches, sitting in marshes atop cattails, often with tails flared. They will be attention seekers, belting out their “conk la reeee” call.



**Northern Flicker**  
*Colaptes auratus*

Although able to grasp tree trunks, these woodpeckers prefer ground foraging in open woods and forest edges. Their plumage is brownish overall, featuring black scallops and bright red feathers under the wings and tail.



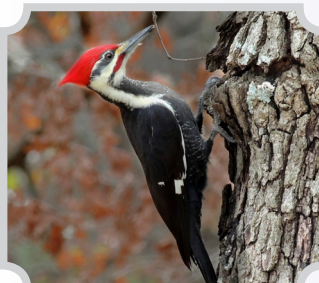
**Cooper's Hawk**  
*Accipiter cooperii*

These medium-sized hawks will have dark grey across the back and wings, reddish bars on its undercarriage, a dark grey cap and reddish eyes. You may see them flying in a flap-flap-glide manner across fields near forest.



**Stellar's Jay**  
*Cyanocitta stelleri*

Look for these large blue and black songbirds with their prominent black crests in evergreen forests of mountainous regions. They are bold, noisy, inquisitive, and brightly plumed; so fairly easy to spot!



**Pileated Woodpecker**  
*Dryocopus pileatus*

One of the largest forest birds in North America, you will likely hear the loud drumming of this woodpecker before you see its bright red crest flash in the trees. In addition to the red crest males sport a red ‘mustache’.



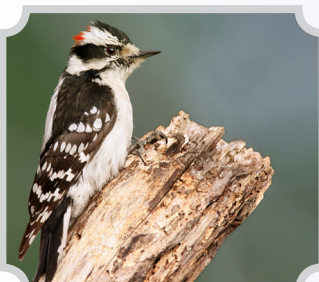
**Turkey Vulture**  
*Cathartes aura*

These scavengers can be seen tracing circles in clear skies as they thermal high above open areas. They use their keen sense of smell to find carrion. They are large dark birds with broad wingspans and featherless red head.



**American Robin**  
*Turdus migratorius*

These quintessential early birds are a common sight hopping about stalking earthworms on lawns. They are grey-brown songbirds with rust-colored underparts, and a musical song of “cheerily, cheer up, cheer up”.



**Downy Woodpecker**  
*Picoides pubescens*

These smaller, black and white woodpeckers are frequently seen in backyards, mixing with other small birds. Males have a small red patch on the backs of their heads. Listen for “pik pik” and descending whinnying calls.



**Bald Eagle**  
*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

These spiritually revered raptors have gleaming white head and tail feathers, dark brown wings and body, and large, hooked yellow bills. Find them perched in treetops along rivers or hear their high-pitched whinnying.

