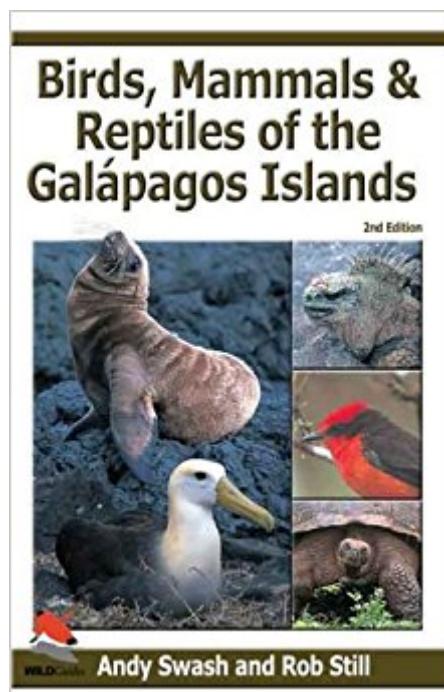


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# **Birds, Mammals, And Reptiles Of The Galápagos Islands: An Identification Guide, 2nd Edition**



## Synopsis

This is the first comprehensive guide to the unique wildlife of the GalÃ¡pagos, encompassing the birds, mammals, and reptiles a visitor to these extraordinary islands might encounter. The innovative, simple-to-use format of the pocket-sized volume will help beginners and experts alike to identify with confidence the striking and charismatic GalÃ¡pagos fauna. Highlighting the differences between similar species, the guide focuses on the key identification features of each. Information on the status, habitat preferences, breeding seasons, and significant behavioral characteristics is provided for each species, along with 78 distribution maps for all resident species. Fifty-three remarkable color plates compiled from a composite of 500 photographic images and 20 illustrations depict virtually every bird, mammal, and reptile ever recorded on the GalÃ¡pagos.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"In classic field guide style, identification text is included opposite the color plates. A checklist of regularly occurring species provides a summary of habitat preferences and island distribution of each species. Nicely done."â "Wildlife Activistâ "This book is highly recommended to anyone from novice to expert naturalist who is planning to visit the Galapagos to observe and study the wildlife of these enchanting islands."â "Wildlife Activistâ "Anyone traveling to the GalÃ¡pagos Islands should have a copy."â "Choiceâ "This book adds to the many Galapagos field guides, but is sufficiently different to make it a significant contribution to the guidebook literature of these islands. . . . The presentation is effective and the images sufficient to help the casual traveler identify most of the birds and reptiles. . . . It should be a very useful guide for the average visitor to these unusual

islands that are suffering from too many tourist visits." "ARBA (American Reference Books Annual 2003) "I am happy to recommend this as the essential field companion for Galapagos visitors with a vertebrate orientation." "The Quarterly Review of Biology "A comprehensive field guide which will certainly aid anyone visiting these charming islands with their identification of any bird, mammal or reptile which they possibly might encounter. . . . Anyone planning a forthcoming trip to the Galipagos Islands, or just having an interest in Charles Darwin and the historical aspect of these unique islands will certainly want this indispensable and valuable treasure with them on their trip." "Harlan D. Walley, Bulletin of the Maryland Herpetological Society "Anyone interested in these unique equatorial islands west of South America will find this a must-have guide to a truly exceptional locale." "Porthole Cruise Magazine "Unique. . . . The text is as up-to-date as one can get. . . . The day [this book] reaches the bookstore shelf, I cannot conceive anyone going to the Galipagos without [it] in hand." "Noble S. Proctor

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As a conservation/wildlife biologist I have used a wide variety of field guides for all different taxa of organisms for both work and recreation across the world. I visited the Galapagos as a tourist and found myself in need of a guide to help ID the different wildlife I encountered. This guide does deliver on its promise and includes plates on birds, mammals, and reptiles however I feel like it does not excel at any of them. The presentation is cluttered and inconsistent, and there is atleast one plate where the labels for the birds on the photo side have been left out (its not terribly hard to figure out which is which but the labels are clearly missing). The photos are also variable in quality, lighting, and angle and do not always clearly show off various identifying characteristics, which can be a bit frustrating when attempting to key out some of the similar species, there is a reason most professional bird guides use high quality illustrations rather than actual photos. This book is a far cry from the professionally done bird/reptile books of the mainland. However the information presented in the book is good and its better than any of the resources I found for sale in the Galapagos islands themselves. The inclusion of a small range map next to every species is an excellent addition and I'm glad they chose to include it to show exactly which islands the species are found on.Final Word: It will likely be more than sufficient for most people, however experienced birders & naturalists will likely find the presentation lacking and at times frustrating. For the price, I'd say its not a bad buy.

A nice, illustrated guide to the wildlife of the Galapagos, including range maps. It uses a

combination of photos and paintings to illustrate the animals. One nice thing is that the publisher of the book will make a donation to the Charles Darwin Research Station for every copy sold. Definitely a book to have with you if you visit the Galapagos, or even if you are just interested in learning about the animals without visiting.

We just got back from an 8 day visit to the Galapagos and found this little book to be the perfect companion on hikes, bay tours, and just sitting around the hotel sighting herons, gulls, etc. Our local naturalists all said this was the book they used, so that seemed like a good recommendation. The overview descriptions, followed by plates of the different types of animals, were very helpful. 1 criticism - seemed like a lot of information on cetaceans which we certainly never saw. I would have appreciated a similar book on the plants of the area - should sell those as a package, if one exists.....

My daughter is there now studying marine biology. The book was perfect for her to take along. Thank you very much

Our nature guide was incredibly well prepared for our trip, and catamaran was well stocked with nature books on the Galapagos, but it never failed that each night at dinner, during the recap of our day's activities and all the wildlife we spotted, our guide would be asking to borrow this book for a better picture. It is a little dated, but definitely worth taking with on your trip.

Took this on our trip, since it's thin with a simple check list in back. Great to have. Also, purchased Wildlife of the Galapagos for pre & post trip, a must.

Unless you are an advanced nature buff, birder, etc. this book should fulfill the need for travelers to recognize habitats and the land and air critters that inhabit them. Lavishly illustrated, good identification information, and even range maps- all very compact, and accurate. The information is next to the photo, so there's no paging back and forth- a good thing when you have a critter right in front of you. There's even a cross-referenced check-list by habitat! I'll definitely be taking this slender book with its strengthened, plasticized covers on my next trip to the "Isla Encantadas". You'll be glad you got this for your trip.

This is a great little manual for bringing to the Galapagos (which I will be doing next January). Light

weight, good photos and enough information for species identification.

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