

Birds Around Alberta (Summer)

American White Pelican



The largest bird to see in Alberta. It boasts a wingspan well over 2 metres and a long, pouched orange bill.

Pelicans can be seen in many areas of Alberta outside of the mountains and far northwest.

Cedar Waxwing



Smaller and sleeker than a Robin, look for silky browns, crested head, black mask and a bright yellow band at the end of the tail.

These are our summer waxwings, come autumn they will head further south and Bohemian Waxwings will move in from the north.

Northern Flicker



A large woodpecker with distinctive, bold patterns and a long, slightly downcurved bill.

Our only predominantly brown woodpecker. It also sports a speckled or spotted front and yellow or pinkish orange underwing colours.

Great Horned Owl



A large owl with broad ear tufts and an overall barred front. Colours vary from pale greys to dark browns.

Alberta's provincial bird, this owl is very widespread, found in a wide range of habitats.

Black — capped Chickadee



A small songbird with a black cap and throat, white cheeks and cheery calls. DeeDeeDee DeeDeeDee

Common across Alberta in any wooded habitat and a regular at backyard birdfeeders.

Eastern Kingbird



Plain dark grey back and white front with a white tip on its black tail. Often seen perching in the open watching for insects.

Tyrannus tyrannus the perfect Latin name as this bird can be a real little tyrant. Territorial, loud, but fun to watch.

Red — winged Blackbird



All black except for the bold red and yellow patches on the wings. Widespread in wetland areas across Alberta.

Unlike the showy males females are streaky brown for camouflage. These are some of the most abundant of all North American birds.

Mallard — Male & Female



Common across Alberta, males have the distinctive iridescent green head and females are streaky brown.

Like many birds mallards are sexually dimorphic meaning males and females have a different appearance from each other.

American Robin



With its red orange breast and grey head and back the robin is recognized by most of us.

For many robins are a sign of spring, but there are always a few that overwinter in some urban areas of Alberta.