

# Birds of Puerto Rico Handout

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## 1. Complete guide to binoculars for birding

<https://www.audubon.org/gear/binocular-guide>

This is an incredible resource for finding a pair of binoculars that best fit your needs and budget.

## 2. Best budget superzoom cameras for birding

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/best-superzoom-camera/amp/>

These articles will help you select the best quality superzoom camera you can get on a budget. Note that the cameras are not cheap, but by having a built in zoom lens, you won't need to shell out more money for a telephoto lens. My personal combination is not a superzoom all-in-one, I use the Canon R5 with a Canon 600mm lens.

## 3. Discover Puerto Rico: Best Spots for Birdwatching in Puerto Rico

<https://www.discoverpuertorico.com/article/best-spots-birdwatching-puerto-rico>

A brief article highlighting some accessible areas for birding in Puerto Rico as well as potential tours and guides for your trip.

## 4. Steve Baskauf's Blog: Birding in Puerto Rico

<https://baskauf.blogspot.com/2022/03/birding-in-puerto-rico.html>

A useful in depth blog post by Steve Baskauf covering sights, sounds, and detailed strategy for birding in Puerto Rico.

## 3. USFWS: "A New Step Forward in the Recovery of the Puerto Rican Parrot"

<https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2022-03/new-step-forward-future-recovery-puerto-rican-parrot>

This article highlights recovery efforts for the endangered Puerto Rican Parrot and how populations were impacted by the devastating Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017.

## 4. Sounds like Puerto Rico Episode 4: Birds in Paradise

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uql7XgC\\_Vw8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uql7XgC_Vw8)

A short video highlighting the endemic bird species in Puerto Rico. Learn the Spanish names of these feathered friends and how they are intertwined with local culture and lore.

5. Nat Geo Wild: “Extraordinary Birder” TV series- Puerto Rico episode

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6DDvpx0Md8>

Join writer and birder Christian Cooper as he discovers bird life in Puerto Rico, including some insightful interviews with biologists and native Puerto Ricans. "Christian Cooper treks into the lush rainforest to meet the bright, boisterous and iconic Puerto Rican Parrot before helping to release seven of them into the wild. Along the way, he kayaks through a bat-filled cave to find the adorable Puerto Rican Tody, climbs into the jungle to lay eyes on one of the worlds most mysterious birds behind a waterfall, and meets a young, deaf pelican on the ocean."

6. Quick guide to saving observations on the Merlin app

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/save-list-of-birds-merlin-app/>

While eBird is the most recommended method to keeping track of your observations in the field, the free Merlin app is the go-to for assisting you with identifying species in the field you are not familiar with. This article instructs you on how to get the most out of Merlin when it comes to saving your observations.

7. Intro to using field marks to ID birds

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/building-skills-the-4-keys-to-bird-identification/>

This article is an excellent place to start when it comes to learning how to identify birds using field marks: physical characteristics of the bird's anatomy (plumage, bill shape, leg color, etc.). This skill is especially useful when dealing with birds that look very similar to other species.

8. Trip report with details of locations and bird checklists from my trip to Puerto Rico

<https://ebird.org/tripreport/33606>