

Louisiana: Birds, Bayous & Beignets Species List | April 17 – 23, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Vernie Aikins with local guide Ken Eyster. Our clients included Kathleen, Eileen, Paul, Jon, Louise, Analice, Deke, Lois, Holly, and Tom.

Louisiana has a rich and expansive amount of amazing habitats. We visited so many from freshwater, brackish, and saltwater marshes, to swamps, bayous, Longleaf Pine forests, all presenting us with a unique array of birds, mammals, and reptiles. Watching the American Alligators lurking in almost every body of water we saw was amazing; seeing their relationship to the rookeries was interesting. The Cheniers coastal oak woodlands that provide a landing point for migrants as they complete their 600-mile journey across the Gulf of Mexico and swarm the trees, like the dozens of Gray Catbirds we saw at Peveto, was one of the most unique habitats that we visited. Our visit to the Longleaf Pines north of Lake Charles to see Red-cocakaded Woodpecker, the only woodpecker that excavates live pines, was a memorable day, as this endangered species was a lifer for almost everyone on the trip. Louisiana is an absolute treasure for bird and nature lovers.

BIRDS 156 species were recorded.

The eBird link below details the 156 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Louisiana: Birds, Bayous & Beignets | April 17-23, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS (4):

Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis* - See often in varies habitats

Fox Squirrel *Sciurus niger* - See often in varies habitats

Swamp Rabbit *Sylvilagus aquaticus* – Best looks were at Peveto Woods while it snacked on gras by water feature

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* – Seen crossing road in the Kisatchie NF with 200+ Cedar Waxwings flying overhead.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (6):

American Green Tree Frog *Hyla cinerea* – Seen hanging out at the Buddha statue at Avery Island.

American Alligator *Alligator mississippiensis* – Seen every day of the trip in every body of water we looked at.

Red-eared Slider *Trachemys scripta elegans* – Seen most days in freshwater locations.

Green Anole *Anolis carolinensis* – Lake Martin was first sighting, also seen at a few other locations. Sometimes brown, sometimes green.

Blue-tailed Skink *Plestiodon fasciatus* – Seen at Palmetto State Park

Banded Water Snake *Nerodia fasciata* – Only quick views but I believe this was snake seen at Palmetto State Park

Others (2):

Apple Snail – Favorite snack of the Limpkin

Abbeville Red Iris – Only endemic plant in Louisiana

Copper Iris

Dixie Iris

Pale Pitcher Plant

Sundew

Horned Bladderwort

Sand-swamp Whitetop Sedge