Summer in Maine: From Acadia to the Northwoods Species List | May 21 – 28, 2025 With Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide James Petersen. Our clients included Chuck, Barbara, Nancy and Robert.

We started the tour in the grasslands in southern Maine, and we slowly worked our way up the state. Some of the highlights in southern Maine included hearing Grasshopper Sparrows and seeing several Prairie Warblers, 2 species that are at the northern limit of their range here. From here, we worked our way up to Acadia National Park; with stops at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and Weskeag Marsh. After 2 days of exploring Acadia National Park which included a trip out to the Gulf of Maine on the Bar Harbor Whale Watch where we observed Fin Whales and Atlantic White-sided Dolphins, we traveled north to Baxter State Park. The highlights in the North Woods included seeing 6 Moose, a Cape May Warbler and two Philadelphia Vireos along with fantastic views of Mt. Katahdin. We finished the trip with 131 species of birds and 11 species of mammals.

BIRDS: 131 species were recorded of which 18 were heard only and 2 were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 131 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.

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Following is a list of the mammals we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS (11):

Snowshoe Hare *Lepus americanus*— Only one seen while driving the Golden Road after exploring Baxter State Park. **Eastern Chipmunk** *Tamias striatus*— Common, seen most days except while in the north Maine Woods.

American Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*— Only seen while birding from Bangor on northwards. Our best look came while in Baxter State Park, where one sat on a log in front of us.

Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*— Seen the first two days and the 6th day while birding southern and central Maine.

Bobcat *Lynx rufus*— Towards the end of the moose tour, we had a Bobcat run across the road in front of the van. **American Beaver** *Castor canadensis*— We only saw this mammal on the first afternoon, while birding Scarborough Beach State Park

Muskrat *Ondatra zibethicus*— Only seen once, while driving from the Maine Botanical Garden to Mount Desert Island.

White-tailed Deer Odocoileus virginianus— We saw the majority of these deer while birding on Mount Desert island; we also saw one while on the moose cruise as well.

Moose Alces alces— We had an amazing 6 total moose while in the Northwoods. Our best looks came on the last full day, where we had one swimming at Sandy Stream Pond and a 2nd one walking across the road while we were at the Nesowadnehunk field campground.

Fin Whale *Balaenoptera physalus*— We had a fantastic time watching two of these whales surface and dive while on the Bar Harbor Whale Watch.

Atlantic White-sided Dolphin Lagenorhynchus acutus— We observed a small group of these gray dolphins with white sides surfacing while on the way back to land on the Bar Harbor Whale Watch.