

THE VIRGINIA COAST RESERVE: A BIRDER'S DELIGHT



Portrait of a whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) © Barry Truitt / TNC

Virginia's barrier islands shelter more than 250 species of raptors, songbirds, and shorebirds which find food in the adjacent bays and salt marshes.

Explore the list below of some of the species commonly seen at VCR, and then visit our [Brownsville Preserve](#) page to plan a trip to our [William B. Cummings Birding and Wildlife Trail](#).

American bald eagle	field sparrow	purple finch
American black duck	fish crow	purple martin
American crow	Forster's tern	red-bellied woodpecker
American goldfinch	fox sparrow	red-breasted merganser
American kestrel	gadwall	red-eyed vireo
American oystercatcher	glossy ibis	red-headed woodpecker
American robin	golden-crowned kinglet	red knot
American woodcock	grasshopper sparrow	red-shouldered hawk
Baltimore oriole	gray catbird	red-tailed hawk
barn swallow	great blue heron	red-winged blackbird
belted kingfisher	great egret	ring-billed gull
black and white warbler	great horned owl	rock pigeon
black-crowned night-heron	great crested flycatcher	royal tern
black skimmer	great black-backed gull	ruby-crowned kinglet
black vulture	greater yellowlegs	ruby-throated hummingbird
black-bellied plover	green heron	ruddy duck
blue grosbeak	gull-billed tern	ruddy turnstone
blue jay	hairy woodpecker	sanderling
blue-gray gnatcatcher	herring gull	scarlet tanager
boat-tailed grackle	hooded merganser	seaside sparrow

brant
brown pelican
brown thrasher
brown-headed cowbird
brown-headed nuthatch
buffelhead
Canada goose
Carolina chickadee
Carolina wren
cedar waxwing
chimney swift
chipping sparrow
chuck-will's-widow
clapper rail
common grackle
common loon
common nighthawk
common tern
common yellowthroat
Cooper's hawk
dark-eyed junco
double-crested cormorant
eastern bluebird
eastern kingbird
eastern meadowlark
eastern phoebe
eastern screech owl
eastern towhee
European starling

horned lark
house finch
house wren
indigo bunting
killdeer
laughing gull
least sandpiper
least tern
lesser scaup
lesser yellowlegs
long-tailed duck
magnolia warbler
mallard duck
mourning dove
northern bobwhite quail
northern cardinal
northern flicker
northern harrier
northern mockingbird
orchard oriole
osprey
ovenbird
palm warbler
peregrine falcon
pie-billed grebe
pileated woodpecker
pine warbler
piping plover
prairie warble

semipalmated plover
semipalmated sandpiper
sharp-shinned hawk
short-billed dowicher
snowy egret
solitary sandpiper
song sparrow
spotted sandpiper
stilt sandpiper
summer tanager
swamp sparrow
tree swallow
tricolored heron
tufted titmouse
turkey vulture
white ibis
white-eyed vireo
white-throated sparrow
white-crowned sparrow
whimbrel
wild turkey
willet
Wilson's plover
wood duck
yellow warbler
yellow-bellied sapsucker
yellow-billed cuckoo
yellow-breasted chat
yellow-rumped warbler