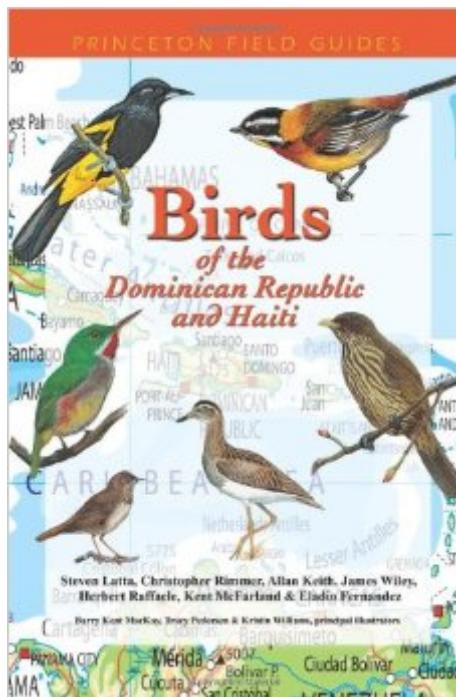


The book was found

Birds Of The Dominican Republic And Haiti (Princeton Field Guides)



Synopsis

Birds of the Dominican Republic and Haiti fills a large void in the literature on birdwatching and the environment in these tropical countries. The first comprehensive field guide devoted to Hispaniola's birds, it provides detailed accounts for more than 300 species, including thirty-one endemic species. Included in the species descriptions are details on key field marks, similar species, voice, habitats, geographic distribution on Hispaniola, status, nesting, range, and local names used in both the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The authors also comment on ecology, behavior, and taxonomic status. The book provides color illustrations and range maps based on the most recent data available. But the authors' intent is to provide more than just a means of identifying birds. The guide also underscores the importance of promoting the conservation of migratory and resident birds, and building support for environmental measures.

Book Information

Series: Princeton Field Guides

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Princeton University Press (November 26, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0691118914

ISBN-13: 978-0691118918

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #929,417 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 inÂ Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Dominican Republic #85 inÂ Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Haiti #432 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Ornithology

Customer Reviews

Basics: 2006, 1st edition, softcover, 258 pages, 57 color plates, 300+ species, range mapsThis is a good field guide - and the only one - to focus on the birds of this 2-country island, Hispaniola. All the known species are illustrated and described. Most have multiple illustrations.The authors take a few progressive liberties with the taxonomy, such as splitting out the Hispaniolan Oriole from the still-recognized Greater Antillean Oriole; or, the Hispaniolan Palm Crow from the combined Palm Crow.The artistry is good, but with inconsistent styles between plates. The styles of the various

illustrators are quite different. I find this slightly distracting. Plate 50 seems more like a mural for a wall or calendar versus the cleaner look of Plate 48 versus the cartoonish style of plate 34 versus a more meticulous plate 20 or 21. The two different Flat-billed Vireos (plates 38 and 43) look like two different species. Again, the plates are good and the accuracy of the field marks are well done; although, the sandpipers could use a bit more distinguishing detail and the beaks of the warblers appear too thin and pointed. Many of the illustrations will look familiar because they are taken directly from the earlier work "Birds of the West Indies" by Raffaele et.al (1998). Two of the primary illustrators worked on both books. The text is thorough, focusing on descriptions, similar species, and range. Given the high degree of speciation and subspecies in the surrounding islands, it would have been nice to see a little more - or even any -- reference given to the sister species only an island-hop away. The range maps show good detail.

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