

Cape May: Fall Migration Species List | October 1-7, 2024 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Greg Butcher. Our Kentucky-based birders included Steve and Janet, Jeff and Carol, and Muz.

We visited Cape May at the height of the fall raptor migration for Ospreys, Merlins, and Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. Although songbird migration was slow due to the lack of Northwest winds, the variety of birds was good, and the birding weather was excellent. Brigantine/Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge was very productive.

BIRDS: 130 species were recorded, including 10 species of ducks, 17 species of shorebirds, 5 species of gulls, 4 species of terns, 10 species of herons/egrets, 10 species of raptors, 10 species of sparrows (including towhee), and 11 species of warblers. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 130 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.

[Cape May: Fall Migration | October 1-7, 2024 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammals, reptile, and crabs we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS: (7)

Eastern Cottontail *Sylvilagus floridanus*

Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*

Muskrat *Ondatra zibethicus*

Common Bottlenose Dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* — **Three individuals on the Whale Watch**

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae* – **We were close to one individual for about 30 minutes on the Whale Watch**

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus*

Striped Skunk *Mephitis mephitis* — **We didn't see one, but we smelled it as we drove by.**

REPTILES: (1)

Diamondback Terrapin *Malaclemys terrapin*

CRABS: (3)

Ghost Crab

Fiddler Crab

Blue Crab