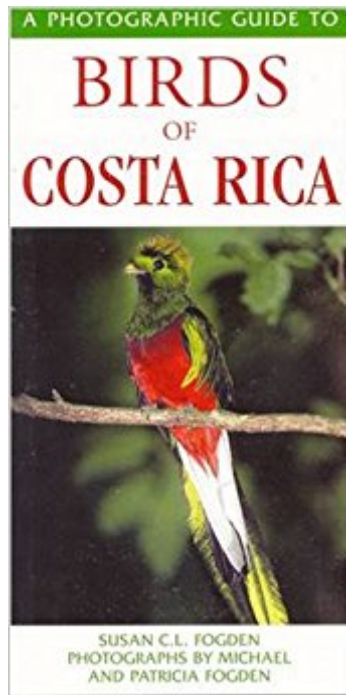




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Photographic Guide To The Birds Of Costa Rica



Synopsis

An excellent pocket-size reference and field identification aid to the 252 species of birds found in Costa Rica. Over 250 full-color photographs.

Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Ralph Curtis Pub (December 30, 2005)

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Basics: 2005, 144 pp, softcover; 299 color photos of 252 species; brief overview of 12 birding locations; map with habitats and 15 birding sites; no range maps. Of the many photo-guides in the series, this book has one of the better selections of good photographs. The birds are slightly larger in this book than in most of the other guides; and, nearly every photo is in focus and well lit with the bird unobscured by foliage or suffering from a bad pose. In all, there are 299 color photographs of 252 (28%) of the 890+ species found in Costa Rica. There is a good sampling of families shown in these photos. The most prominent family is the flycatchers with 25 species. Keeping in mind the difficulty of many of the flycatchers, these photos will be helpful when the shown bird is seen in the field. Since most birds are shown with only one photo, there will be many plumages encountered that are not in this book. There are also 26 species from the combined groups of trogons, motmots, jacamars, toucans, and woodpeckers. My one knock against the selection of photos is more a personal preference. Of the 252 species shown, 55 (22%) are birds expected to be seen in the US. Yes, these birds are typical of Costa Rica, but there are other notable birds of Costa Rica that aren't featured as frequently. There are already so many books with these birds illustrated. How many more photos of the Great Egret, Turkey Vulture, Red-winged Blackbird, or Summer Tanager are needed? Of course, this viewpoint is biased by my familiarity with US birds. For non-US birders, this

book would be very useful because these in-common birds are common in Costa Rica and will be seen. The text given with each photograph consists of a single short paragraph.

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