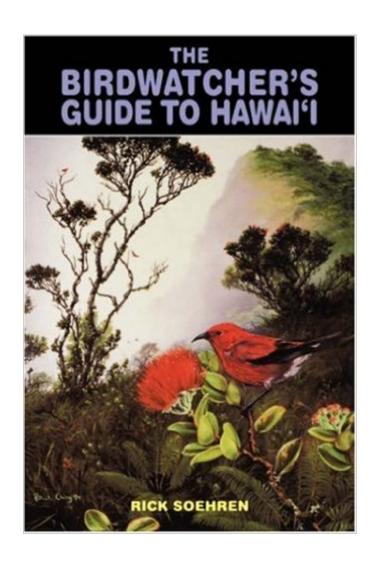
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The Birdwatcher's Guide To Hawai'i (Kolowalu Books) (Kolowalu Books (Paperback))





Synopsis

This guide has been written especially for the casual or novice birdwatcher. It covers more than 60 birding sites in the Hawaiian islands, gives particular attention to the most common birds and also details facilities, access for the disabled and directions to the sites.

Book Information

Series: Kolowalu Books (Paperback)

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (15 customer reviews)

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Adventure

Customer Reviews

This is an excellent guide to birding LOCATIONS in Hawai'i. If you would like a field guide to identify birds, I recommend Jim Denny's "A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Hawai'i: The Main Islands and Offshore Waters," which is an identification guide that is well-illustrated with color photos and provides more useful descriptions than the more compact guides (although those are decent). "The Birdwatcher's Guide to Hawai'i" is more useful for planning a trip. On a recent trip to the Big Island, we managed to visit most of the sites mentioned (except those closed due to fire danger). The book was useful in giving us ideas as well as a guess as to which bird species we would see. The only problems I had with the book were some areas where it was out of date or did not provide much information. For example, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park was NOT crowded with nude sunbathers--this has apparently been cracked down on in recent years. During the week, it is not crowded at all--we went five times during a week, at different times of day, and saw only a handful of people, but an excellent assortment of indigenous shore and wetlands birds (Pacific Golden-Plover, Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone, Wandering Tattler, Black-crowned Night Heron,

Hawaiian Stilt, Hawaiian Coot, ducks, and I believe a tern) as well as spectacular scenery. In the section on Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, a wonderful site, but indeed difficult to access, Rick Soehren does not mention their annual open house--the only opportunity to see certain areas of the park, and for free with knowledgeable guides. It's true that this will probably not be something the casual birder plans their vacation around, but it would be good information to include.

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