8 Great Fall Birding Trails

Great Washington State Birding Trail
Each trail focuses on a different ecological region. Multiple loops connect the mighty Cascades, guiding you to Northern Pygmy-Owls and Pine Grosbeaks. At some ports you can find offshore boat trips to pursue albatrosses and shearwaters.
wa.audubon.org/great-washington-state-birding-trail

Great Salt Lake Birding Trails
These birding trails, created by the Wasatch Audubon Society, feature 49 destinations. In the fall, a staggering number of birds use this area as an essential migratory stopover. Find squadrons of American Avocets, Marbled Godwits, and other shorebird species striding across the flats.
wasatchaudubon.org/mapn_birding_trails.htm

Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail
Divided into five ecological regions, this trail spotlights 368 sites. Both the Lake Michigan and Mississippi-Chippewa rivers sections offer choices for seeing migration movements. Warblers and shorebirds peak in early fall. Sandhill Cranes and Bald Eagles make Wisconsin unforgettable in late fall.
wisconsinbirds.org/trail/index.htm

New Jersey Birding and Wildlife Trails
These trails, created by New Jersey Audubon, focus on four distinct regions. The Meadowlands Trails provide views of Great Blue Herons and Green-winged Teal. The Delaware Bayshore Trails culminate at Cape May Point, the famous birding hotspot where thousands of migrating raptors pass by.
jwildlifetrails.org

California Redwoods Birding Trail
This trail leads to 43 choice destinations in Del Norte County. Along the coast, find seabirds such as Rhinoceros Auklets and Marbled Murrelets. On the shoreline, revel at sandpipers marching across the sand. In the groves of iconic coast redwoods, Pileated Woodpeckers hammer on tree trunks.
californiaredwoodbirdingtrail.org

Southwest New Mexico Birding Trail
This carefully crafted trail hosts more than 40 of the best birding sites in the state, from quiet desert canyons haunted by Crissal Thrashers and Rock Wrens to mountain forests where summer resident Olive Warblers and Hepatic Tanagers mix with migratory birds from farther north in early fall.
wildlife.state.nm.us/recreation/birding

America’s Wetland Birding Trail (Louisiana)
John James Audubon was profoundly influenced by his time in southern Louisiana in the early 1800s. Travel this trail and you will begin to understand why. Interior marshes teem with herons, egrets, and ibises. Along the coast, tidal flats and beaches host migratory sandpipers and plovers.
louisianatravel.com/louisiana-birding-trails

Georgia’s Colonial Coast Birding Trail
Practically anywhere in this region can be good for birding, but to find the best of the best, binocular-clad travelers can focus on the 18 sites featured on this birding trail. Most of these locations are also designated Important Bird Areas. During fall migration, find Piping Plovers and varied songbird flocks.
georgiawildlife.com/node/1356

Looking for more great routes? Check out Audubon’s Field Guide to Birding Trails. audubon.org/fall-trails