



Birds of Tims Ford State Park

570 Tims Ford Drive, Winchester, Tennessee 37398 / 931 962-1183

Tims Ford is comprised of several units totaling 2,200 acres along the shores of 10,700-acre Tims Ford Lake. Set in the southern Eastern Highland Rim, rolling open fields are interspersed with mixed hardwoods embracing the lakeshore. Over 27 miles of trails traverse uplands and coves or parallel the shoreline. The lake affords observation of Canada goose, mallard, pied-billed grebe, ring-billed gulls and wintering bay ducks such as lesser scaup and bufflehead. Barred and great horned owl may be heard near wooded areas. Trails atop ridges offer good canopy views of warblers and vireos. Conversion of some fields to native grasses and wildflowers attracts song and field sparrows, indigo bunting, American goldfinch and chuck-will's-widow. Over 135 species have been recorded within the park.



Brown Thrasher

Responsible Birding

- Do not endanger the welfare of birds.
- Tread lightly and respect bird habitat.
- Silence is golden.
- Do not use electronic sound devices to attract birds during nesting season, May-July.
- Take extra care when in a nesting area.
- Always respect the law and the rights of others, violators subject to prosecution.
- Do not trespass on private property.
- Avoid pointing your binoculars at other people or their homes.
- Limit group sizes in areas that are not conducive to large crowds.

Helpful Links

Tennessee Birding Trails
www.tnbirdingtrail.org
Field Checklist of Tennessee Birds
www.tnwatchablewildlife.org
eBird Hotspots and Sightings
www.ebird.org
Tennessee Ornithological Society
www.tnbirds.org
Tennessee State Parks Birding
www.tnstateparks.com/activities/birding



T E N N E S S E E
State Parks
www.tnstateparks.com

Additional Nearby State Park Birding Opportunities

Old Stone Fort – Visitor Center, Campground, Trails, Picnicking / Manchester, TN 37355 / 931-723-5073
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/old-stone-fort

South Cumberland – Visitor Center, Trails, Backcountry Camping / Monteagle, TN 37356 / 931-924-2980
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/south-cumberland

Henry Horton – Inn, Cabins, Restaurant, Trails, Campground, Picnicking / Chapel Hill, TN 37034 / 931-364-7724
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/henry-horton

David Crockett – Cabins, Restaurant, Trails, Campground / Lawrenceburg, TN 38464 / 931-762-9408
www.tnstateparks.com/parks/about/david-crockett

Birding Locations In and Around Tims Ford State Park

A hiking trail map is available at the park.

Visitor Center/ADA Paved Trail: 35.22067, -86.25613

1.1 Miles - Paved Surface - Easy - Spring, Summer, Fall

The paved trail north of the visitor center runs between old field/successional and young forest habitats, ending at a platform overlooking the lake.

Featured Birds: eastern bluebird, white-eyed vireo, hermit thrush, cedar waxwing, warblers in migration, brown thrasher, field and song sparrows.

Devilstep Public Use Area: 35.20016, -86.16508

Paved/Natural Surface - Easy - Year-round

The access road running along forest edges, boat ramp and small coves offer views of various shorebirds, waders and winter waterfowl.

Featured Birds: American coot, sandhill crane, great blue heron, purple martin, common yellowthroat, Kentucky and other warblers in migration, chipping sparrow, occasional whooping crane.

Bike Trail: 35.22015, W 86.25542

Paved Surface - Easy - Year-round

This trail from the visitor center to the steel bridge runs alongside open field and through forest habitats.

Featured Birds: American goldfinch, indigo bunting, northern mockingbird, tree swallow, yellow-bellied sapsucker, wood thrush, blue-gray gnatcatcher, yellow-rumped, other warblers in migration.

Boat Ramp: Kitchen Creek Trail: 35.21077, -86.24723

2.0 Miles - Lake Surface - Challenging - Winter, Spring, Fall

This section of the Blueway Paddle Trail goes south, passing Leatherwood Island and into narrow Kitchen Creek, featuring heavily wooded shorelines.

Featured Birds: osprey, great blue and green heron, great egret, wintering terns, gulls and bay ducks, wood duck, northern rough-winged swallow, belted kingfisher.

Nearby Birding Locations

AEDC Wildlife Management Area: Woods Reservoir Refuge: Hwy. 127 Access: 35.39877, -86.09453

www.tnwatchablewildlife.org - Year-round

This large area consists of oak-hickory forest, pine savannah and shrubby grasslands. Woods Reservoir has multiple viewing areas. Over 180 species of birds have been identified.

Featured Birds: common loon, sandhill crane, many other waterbirds, northern bobwhite, brown-headed nuthatch, dickcissel, red-headed woodpecker, wood warblers, Henslow's and rare Bachman's Sparrow.

Walls of Jericho State Natural Area: AL Parking Area: 34.976358, -86.080823

www.tn.gov/environment/natural-areas - Spring, Summer, Fall

This site is a geologic amphitheater within the Bear Hollow Mountain and Skyline WMA's in Alabama. Seventy eight species of birds have been identified.

Featured Birds: common loon, red-shouldered hawk, downy woodpecker, Acadian flycatcher, American woodcock, worm-eating, blue-winged warbler, other warblers in migration, scarlet tanager, orchard oriole.

University of the South Campus: Main Entrance: 35.20812, -85.90125

www.sewanee.edu/student-life/sewanee-outing-program - Spring, Summer, Fall

The Sewanee domain, at the edge of the southern Cumberland Plateau contains the 20-mile Perimeter Trail and several 1-2 mile forest roads traversing oak-hickory and pine forest, field openings and blufftop views.

Featured Birds: turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk, pileated woodpecker, American robin, wood thrush, white-breasted nuthatch, eastern towhee, pine warbler, other warblers in migration, dark-eyed junco, song sparrow.