



PHOTOS
 Top row (left to right): Harry Collins/Audubon Photography Award; Madeline Postel/Audubon Photography Award; Carol Willey/Audubon Photography Award; Tara Tanaka/Audubon Photography Award; Stacie Canth/AgCenter Bird Count; Joseph Mahoney/Audubon Photography Award; Second row (left to right): Lindsay Donald/Audubon Photography Award; Ben Feldman/Audubon Photography Award; Deborah Bifulco/Audubon Photography Award; David Ben Feldman/Audubon Photography Award; Roger Williams/Audubon Photography Award; Jocelyn Anderson/Audubon Photography Award; Mark Egan/Great Backyard Bird Count; Marilyn J. Grubb/Audubon Photography Award; Debrah Bifulco/Great Backyard Bird Count; Hazel Erikson/Great Backyard Bird Count; Third row (left to right): Lynn Harris/Audubon Photography Award; Hazel Erikson/Great Backyard Bird Count; Brian Kustner/Audubon Photography Award; Roger Baker/Audubon Photography Award; Bird Count; Brian Kustner/Audubon Photography Award; Roger Baker/Audubon Photography Award; Bird Count; Sheela Budesell/Great Backyard Bird Count; Wind, Carol Duffrey/Audubon Photography Award; Hakanon/Audubon Photography Award; Paul Reeves Photography Award; Fourth row (left to right): Marta Egan/Audubon Photography Award; Paul Reeves Photography Award; Hakanon/Audubon Photography Award; Duane Angles/Audubon Photography Award.

Our birding loops can be accessed through the Burden Conference Museum Visitor Center. Parking is available at both locations. For more information on Burden's birds, use the QR code on the back of this brochure or visit our birding website at www.lsuagcenter.com/BotanicGardens/Birding.

Getting Started

Burden is an excellent location for both beginning and advanced bird enthusiasts to spread their wings! Over 320 species of birds have been recorded in and around Burden, including common species, such as northern mockingbirds and ruby-throated hummingbirds, seven different woodpeckers, waterfowl and wading birds, and a variety of resident and migratory songbirds. Our birding at Burden trails system consists of five loops so visitors can enjoy the diversity of habitats and abundance of birds that this urban hotspot has to offer. If you have time — more than three hours — walk all the loops. Less time? No problem! Check out one or more of the shorter loops described in this brochure.

Birding at Burden

The 440-acre Burden Museum & Gardens, located in the heart of Baton Rouge, is a premier destination in south Louisiana to experience diverse plants and animals in an urban setting. At Burden, you will find formal and informal gardens, grasslands, vegetable and field crops, orchards, wetlands, and forests dominated by oaks, sweetgums, green ash, winged elms, sycamores, pines, southern magnolias and many more. The facility also has a raised boardwalk, which transverses a permanently wet hardwood swamp with tupelo and red swamp maple trees, as well as several educational trails that encourage adventure and discovery for youth and adults.

Welcome to Burden Museum & Gardens



Indigo Bunting
 Julie Torkomian/Audubon Photography Award

Birding at BURDEN

Museum & Gardens



Great Egret
 Diane Wurzer/Audubon Photography Award

2 - Garden Loop (0.6 miles)



The Garden Loop includes the Pollinator Garden, Children's Garden, and recently planted trees. You can find some of our more vocal and charismatic bird species on this loop, including mockingbirds, chickadees and blue jays. Also keep an eye out for nuthatches, hummingbirds and migrating warblers!

1 - Windrush Loop (0.7 miles)

Majestic live oaks, ancient crape myrtles and towering pines create a shady canopy over azaleas and camellias in Windrush Gardens. This birding loop also includes three ponds and multiple small oxbows of Ward's Creek, where wetland birds and waterfowl frequently gather. Daily admission fee or an annual membership required for access to Windrush Gardens. Visit the LSU Rural Life Museum for details.

4 - Grassland Loop (1.3 miles)



Our managed grasslands include native plants and early successional vegetation and are bounded by both forested edge and live oak galleries. Lucky birders may see kestrels and shrikes hunting for prey, or they could sneak up on some cryptic wintering sparrows!

3 - Trees & Trails Loop (3 miles)

This educational trail features old growth and restored forests and is home to a variety of bird species that prefer woody shrubs and canopy cover, including woodpeckers, wrens and many others. The Black Swamp and the Barton Arboretum are also located along the Trees & Trails loop. There you might see wading birds, owls or cuckoos. And keep your eyes peeled for a bright yellow prothonotary warbler — truly a sight to see against the beautiful green background!

6 - Burden Loop (3.4 miles)



If you'd like to get the complete birding experience that Burden has to offer, the all-encompassing Burden Loop is the one for you. We recommend using Windrush Gardens as your starting point for this loop.

5 - AgCenter Loop (1.4 miles)

This birding loop features agricultural fields and orchards maintained by the LSU AgCenter. Be sure to keep an eye out for activity at the bluebird boxes and scan the power lines for perching birds!

Birding Basics

Look for birds in early morning and late afternoon, when they are most active. For bird identification, note the overall appearance, size and shape of the body, beak and bill type, as well as the bird's color patterns. Also note the habitat in which the bird was found and any distinct behavioral traits or vocalizations. Though they are not required for birding, a pair of binoculars and a field guide could make a big difference in your birding experience!

Ethics of Birding

Promote the welfare of birds and their environment. To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording or filming. Keep back from nests and nesting colonies. Stay on roads, trails and paths where they exist; otherwise, keep habitat disturbance to a minimum. Respect the law and the rights of others, including private property. Practice common courtesies in contacts with other people. For the complete Code of Birding Ethics, visit the American Birding Association website at <http://listing.aba.org/ethics/>.



Baltimore Oriole
 Deborah Bifulco/Audubon Photography Award



Painted Bunting
 Duane Angles/Audubon Photography Award



Cedar Waxwing
 Arni Stinissen/Audubon Photography Award

Bird Identification Apps



For more birding information and resources, please use your smartphone to scan this code, or visit our birding webpage at www.lsuagcenter.com/BotanicGardens/Birding



For scheduled birding activities, visit our website or contact us at BotanicGardens@agcenter.lsu.edu.

Open Daily: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Admission is charged for Windrush Gardens (including Windrush Loop).



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 DiscoverBurden.com



Prepared by LSU AgCenter staff, faculty and students. Photos provided by Katie Percy from the National Audubon Society. Special thanks to citizen scientists whose sightings contributed to the development of this brochure. Thanks also to Kelsi Mahfouz for her work on this birding resource.



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The LSU AgCenter and LSU provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.

