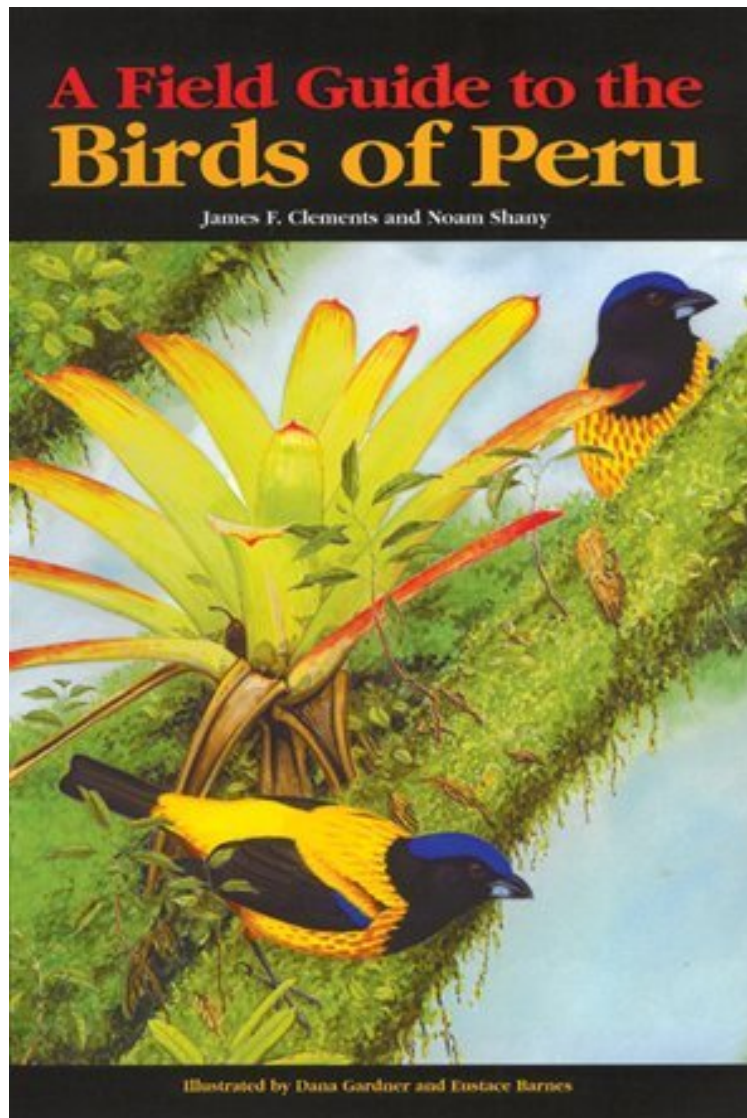


[Download] A Field Guide to the Birds of Peru

A Field Guide to the Birds of Peru

James F. Clements, Noam Shany
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James F. Clements, Noam Shany : A Field Guide to the Birds of Peru before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Field Guide to the Birds of Peru:

28 of 29 people found the following review helpful. Despite a few problems, a generally Excellent GuideBy CustomerThose expecting a Sibley's style field guide with pictures, maps, and bird descriptions all conveniently located on the same page will be disappointed with this guide. Having to go back and forth between picture plates, located in the middle of the volume, and text descriptions at the front or rear of the volume was Herculean pain in the you know what. I got so frustrated with lugging this heavy tomb around the mountains and jungles of Peru that I began

to leave it in my lodge and rely more on guides, who also carried the book, for identification. It was easier to focus on the birds for as long as possible and then argue with the guides later over lunch about what we saw. With that being said, this is the only comprehensive field guide for Peru's 1,800+ species of birds. With it, I saw about 188 different species on 12-day, October 2005 trip to that country. The artwork in the book is generally excellent, and while the descriptions tend to be a bit sparse compared to Sibley's Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America, they contain all the key identification features. In defense of Clements and Shany, they had to design a guide for 1,800+ birds whereas Sibley's Eastern North America pocket field guide only covers 650 species. Trying to compare the two, in short, is like comparing apples to oranges. Clements and Shany had to somehow create a guide to one of the ecologically diverse countries in the planet and still keep the production costs low enough for to offer it for just \$60.00 (hint: buy it at or pay much more for it in Peru if you can even find it). Compromises had to be made, but this is still the only birding book to buy for Peru. All others only focus on small regions of the country such as the Machu Picchu area and are not useful for birders hitting multiple venues. Furthermore, the art in the Clements and Shany guide is much, much better than the art found in the regional publications.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.
Useful book for my needs
By Janet R. Lloyd
The new Peru birds book is much better and up to date, but too heavy to carry to South America. I removed the plates from this earlier book and had them spiral bound separate from the text to use in the field. I will transfer my data and notes to the new book when I return.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Amateur Birder
By Erika B. Kraus
I recently travelled to Peru with a group of biologists. I try to be a bird watcher everywhere I go. This book was very useful, with illustrations and descriptions for the birds I saw. The guides on the tour were very familiar with this edition, so it was easy for them to help me find what I was looking for, and for them to confirm what they saw. Without maps or fuller descriptions, though, it is lacking a bit that I usually appreciate having. Overall, a thorough presentation of the birds of Peru.

The first field guide ever published on the world's most important birding country, and fills a huge gap in our knowledge of South American ornithology. Peru harbors almost 1,800 species of birds, including 118 endemics, in every habitat ranging from coast and deserts to 23,000-foot snow-capped Andean peaks, intermontane valleys, lush cloud forests and tropical rainforests. Almost all 1,800 of the species are illustrated on the 127 color plates included in this extensive guide. The text describes the main identification features of each species, plus its range in Peru, preferred habitat, and worldwide range.