

The Bald Eagle



America's National Symbol

It isn't hard to understand why, in 1782, America's early leaders selected the majestic bald eagle, with its imposing size, strength, and power, as the national symbol of the United States. Ranging from Alaska to northern Mexico, this regal bird is found only on the North American continent and is protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Be especially alert for bald eagles soaring over water in search of fish, waterfowl, and carrion (animal carcasses), or look for them perched in trees near the water's edge.

Bald eagles mate for life and have been known to live as long as 40 years in the wild. Their huge nests, which can be six feet or more in diameter, are built near the tops of pine trees and close to bodies of water. Nesting bald eagles may abandon their nests if disturbed by people. Please respect their sensitivity to your presence by observing them only from afar.

