

'Ducks, Geese & Gulls'
Winter on the Outer Banks, NC
January 13 – 16, 2023

Itinerary

Day 1 – Friday, February 13

Today is a driving day and we will plan to meet at the Hotel in Manteo before taking a van out to Alligator River NWR. At Alligator River NWR to enjoy wintering waterfowl, as well as any raptors, such as Rough-legged Hawk or Golden Eagle that may be in the area. We will then continue back to Manteo where we will spend the night. *Night in Nags Head*

Day 2 – Saturday, February 14

This morning we will head to Hatteras Island and will make a number of stops on our way south. The sheltered marsh behind Bodie Island Lighthouse is always worth a stop and should contain a good waterfowl diversity as well as, Greater & Lesser Yellowlegs, and Tricolored Heron. The boardwalk here can also be a great place for getting up close and personal views of Sora and Marsh wren. The beaches could be good for gulls and wintering shorebirds and who knows what could be wintering in the dunes near the Old Coastguard station. We will also head down to Cape Point to check out the gulls- always a perennial favorite. *Night in Nags Head*

Day 3 – Sunday, February 15

Today will be a long day afield, spending the morning at Lake Mattamuskeet and the evening at Pocosin lakes NWR. Lake We should see a great variety of waterfowl, including Northern Pintail, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal, and Ring-necked Duck among others. At the Pungo Unit of Pocosin lakes NWR we will see tens of thousands of Snow geese and Tundra Swans as they feed on agricultural fields near Pungo Lake. We will look for any Sandhill cranes that may be hanging out as well. *Night in Nags Head*

Day 4 – Monday, February 16

Today is our last morning and we will spend the morning on Pea Island NWR. Here we'll have ample time to study raft upon raft of ducks and learn to distinguish between similar-looking females. Eurasian Wigeon have been seen here in years past, 'hiding' in flocks of American Wigeon, so we'll be sure to scan everything carefully. We will then head home after our winter break on the Outer Banks.

Itinerary could change depending on the weather and birds!