

Teen Birding

Teen Birding for ages 13-16 is done through our Junior Naturalist program. Email JuniorNaturalists@seaandsage.org.

About the Site

About The Site: The San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary is a 300-acre freshwater wetland owned by the Irvine Ranch Water District. This wetland provides many opportunities for campers to discover nature up-close as they hike the easy trails around the ponds and riparian areas while guided with experienced volunteer Camp Naturalists.



Quotes

Campers said they had fun watching birds in natural environments. Camp parents reported that this camp gives their children confidence, friendship, and a higher interest in biology. What parents said in 2025:

- *"Thank you for being so caring and helpful."*
- *"Well run, beautiful location, inclusive."*
- *"This camp gets them connected to nature in a unique way."*

Enrollment Opens February 1 on Eventbrite.

For Current Pricing and Dates, see Camp Flyer starting in mid-January on our website
<http://seaandsageaudubon.org>

FAQ's

Dates and Times: Camps are Monday through Friday in June and July. For exact dates, see Camp Flyer in January on our website under Education. Camps fill quickly so enroll early.

Camp Staff and Group Sizes: Each camp is led by experienced volunteer Camp Naturalists assisted by Camp Junior Naturalist teens. Our small group size (1:4 ratio) helps children develop friendships.

Agenda: A typical day includes a nature walk with nature journaling, Mystery Bird posters, lesson, and art project. Some camps include off-site trips (parents provide transportation).

Lunch and Snack: Campers provide their own lunch and snacks. Peanut-free or gluten-free lunch area provided on request.

Special Offers and Scholarships: We give a discount for Audubon members. Scholarships available & confidential; ask camp coordinator.

Expectations: Everyone attending camp will treat all children, naturalists, wildlife, and property with kindness at all times.



Nature Day Camps

General Information

at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine, California.



If you have a child who loves birds and nature, then come learn from Orange County's bird experts!

Sea and Sage Audubon Society has offered exciting nature camp programs for children since 1992. Enrolling in our camp will begin a life-long friendship with nature for your child!

"My daughter loves this camp because she learns so much about local birds and the staff are so knowledgeable and kind." Camp parent, 2021.

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Sea and Sage Audubon Society
5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612
Website: <http://seaandsageaudubon.org>
Camp coordinator Deborah Brin:
camp@seaandsage.org

Updated 1/2026

Fledgling Bird Camp

Fledgling Camp for ages 7-8 introduces youngsters to backyard birds. Children learn how to use binoculars and field guides, record their observations in a nature journal, and keep a bird checklist. On daily walks, they discover diversity and daily lives of birds. Activities include daily walks, creating bird art, outdoor games, read-alouds and more.



Marsh Bird Camp

Marsh Bird Camp for ages 9-10 covers all aspects of marsh bird life. Children learn about bird groups, identification, nests, migration, and adaptations. This camp includes a visit by a wildlife rehabilitator with live hawks and owls (families are invited for this presentation).



Coastal Bird Camp

Coastal Bird Camp for ages 11-12 explores the variety of birds that use our coastal areas. Children will learn about shorebird behaviors, identification, and challenges of migration, nesting on the ground, and ocean pollution. Camp includes off-site trip to the coast such as Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve in Huntington Beach or Crystal Cove in Laguna Beach (parents provide transportation).

