

PURPLE MARTINS

MIGRATION

Purple Martins are songbirds in the swallow family. They are **migratory** birds, traveling up to 10,000 miles each year!

Martins spend the summer months in North America where they lay eggs, raise young, and prepare for travel.

In late summer, before migrating Purple Martins gather in large flocks to feed, socialize and rest.

This activity, known as roosting can attract thousands of birds in one small area.

In winter, the birds can be found feasting on insects in Brazil and other warm South American countries.

Each spring, the birds travel back to their homes throughout the United States and Canada. The map shows the typical dates in which the adult martins called scouts first arrive in each region. Special tracking devices placed on the birds show that some martins can fly 600 miles in one day!





The Purple Martin Conservation Association (PMCA) is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of Purple Martins through scientific research and public education.

With a team of people that includes biologists, educators, public members and bird enthusiasts the PMCA works to carry on the thousand year old traditional of caring for Purple Martins and enjoying the birds' presence in their lives.

You too can become involved with the conservation of Purple Martins in a variety of ways:

- Learn to identify the Purple Martin
- Visit a colony in your neighborhood
- Join the PMCA
- Become a Purple Martin landlord
- Participate in research projects
- Volunteer with the PMCA
- Attend events and workshops

Contact us today and together we will make a difference!

Purple Martin Conservation Association

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