

Birds



**Captain John Smith
Chesapeake National
Historic Trail**



Birds

The marshes, rivers, and open waters of the Chesapeake Bay support bird species of all shapes and sizes.

Ospreys hover high above the open water and dive dramatically for fish.

Great blue herons wade silently through marshes, waiting to strike.

Ruby-throated hummingbirds dart through forests and swamps in search of flowers. Many migratory birds stop over to feed on the bay's wild rice and other plentiful food sources. Migratory ducks, geese, and the now-extinct passenger pigeon were a valuable source of food in the autumn and winter.