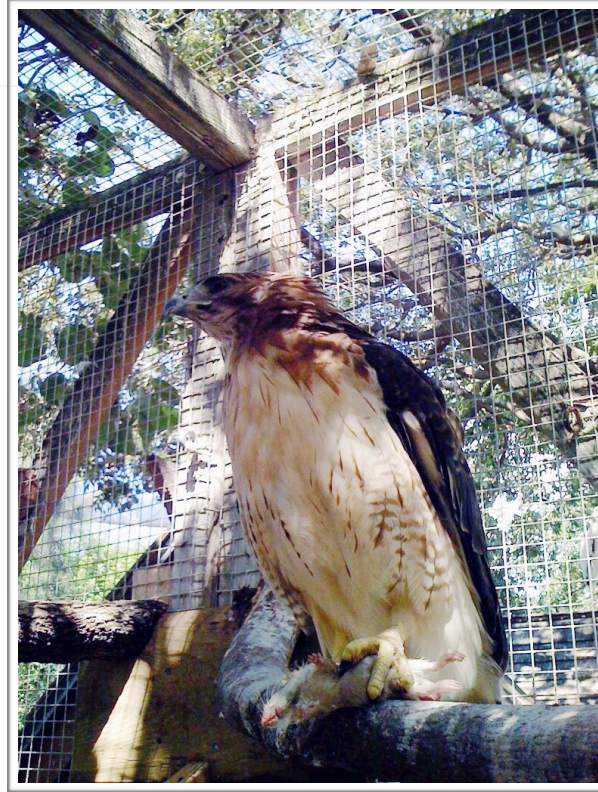


# Red-tailed Hawk

## *Buteo jamaicensis*



Range: North America  
Size: ♂: 36.9-47.6 cm (14-19 in)  
♀: 45-58 cm (17.7-23 in)  
Wingspan: 107-141cm  
(42-55.5 in)  
Weight: ♂: 1.2-1.8 kg (2.6-4 lb)  
♀: 1.2-1.8kg (2.6-4 lb)  
Diet: rodents, rabbits, birds  
Habitat: Grassland and urban  
Eggs: 2-3  
Incubation : 28-32 days  
Fledging: 42-46 days  
Sexual maturity: 2 yrs  
Social: solitary  
Movement: Migratory  
Breeding: singly in air  
Subspecies: 12  
Longevity: Captivity: 27 yrs  
Wild: N/A

### Order: Accipitriformes Family: Accipitridae

With its broad wings and tail and strong talons and hooked bill the Red-tailed Hawk is the prototypical Buteo. This genus is what most people envision when thinking about a hawk. Ranging from Alaska to Panama plus many Caribbean islands it also one of the most widespread hawk.

Small to medium sized mammals make up the bulk of the Red-tails diet throughout its range. The large raptor will take hares up to 2 kg. Red-tail hawks hunt most often from a perch gliding to the ground to take its prey. Occasional red-tails hawks can be observed soaring above open fields looking for rodents or other prey.

With twelve subspecies the Red-tailed hawk is the most variable bird of prey not only is there a large variety in plumage but also in size. The largest weighs up to 1.26 kg (2.8 lb) and is found in Alaska and northern Canada. There are two color morphs which are known by different common name. The Krider's Hawk is a light color morph found among all subspecies while the Harlen's Hawk is a extremely dark subspecies.

