

6 SPECIES YOU'LL SEE

Anna's Hummingbird

Year-round statewide. Never below a third of California bird lists in any week of the year.

RESIDENT

Allen's Hummingbird

Two subspecies: resident and never absent in SoCal, migratory (Feb–Aug) on the north coast.

RESIDENT

Costa's Hummingbird

The desert bird. Breeds March–May, timed to the ocotillo and chuparosa bloom.

DESERT

Black-chinned Hummingbird

Central Valley riparian corridors, April–September. Reported there more than anywhere in the West.

SUMMER

Rufous Hummingbird

Spring passage north up the coast; returns south through the Sierra in late summer.

MIGRANT

Calliope Hummingbird

North America's smallest bird. Breeds high in the Sierra, to 10,000 feet.

MOUNTAIN

Fourteen species are on California's official state list — more than any other state. Six occur regularly.

WHERE YOU ARE CHANGES EVERYTHING

REGION	WHO YOU'LL HAVE
North Coast	Anna's year-round; Allen's Feb–Aug
Bay Area	Anna's (58% of lists); Allen's spring–summer
Central Valley	Anna's (63% — state's highest); Black-chinned Apr–Sept
South Coast	Anna's and Allen's, both year-round
Deserts	Anna's and Costa's; Costa's peaks Mar–Apr
Sierra & Eastern CA	Calliope, Rufous, Broad-tailed — Apr–Sept only

Leave feeders up year-round everywhere except the high Sierra. Taking one down in autumn removes food from birds about to nest.

FEEDER CARE BASICS

Nectar ratio	4 parts water : 1 part sugar
Red dye, honey, substitutes	None — unnecessary or harmful
Above 90°F	Change daily; keep feeder shaded
80–90°F	Every 2–3 days
Below 70°F	Every 5–6 days
Pest control	No insecticide — use HummGuard™ tips

NATIVE PLANTS BY SEASON

WINTER — THE CRITICAL ONE

Manzanita Fuchsia-Flowered Gooseberry Chuparosa

SPRING

Hummingbird Sage Sticky Monkeyflower Ocotillo

LATE SUMMER & FALL

California Fuchsia

Plant two things: manzanita and California fuchsia. Between them they cover the two hardest gaps — midwinter, when Anna's are nesting, and late summer, when the spring bloom has finished.

WIDELY RECOMMENDED — DON'T PLANT

Sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*) — sold everywhere, in countless pollinator mixes, and listed by Cal-IPC as escaping into coastal dunes, scrub and riparian areas.

Tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*) — hummingbirds do use it, which is why it keeps getting recommended. Invasive in California native habitats.

Eucalyptus — genuinely helped Anna's expand, but that's history, not a recommendation.

PERFECT LITTLE SANCTUARY® IN CALIFORNIA

- ✓ Clarkia — *California endemic*
- ✓ Palmer Penstemon — *California native*
- ✓ Scarlet Gilia — *California native*
- ✓ White Yarrow — *California native*

Sow **October–November**, before winter rains. California is the best fit for this blend of any state — and the only one where several varieties are true natives.