



ROUTE HIGHLIGHTS

- » Haight Ashbury, Hayes Valley, Buena Vista Park, Golden Gate Park, Page Street Community Garden, Koshland Community Park



Credit: Wikimedia Commons

CEDAR WAXWING – *Bombycilla cedrorum*

So stylish!

Maybe you've noticed flocks of these social birds converging on the bay each year, around local orchards, woodlands, forests, even taking over your own backyard! Cedar Waxwings are a touch smaller than robins, but easy to spot with their chic style – a smooth, silky outfit of tan and gray, accessorized with a snazzy black mask, brilliant red drips on their wings, and yellow tail tips. They gather in large numbers to eat ripe berries from shrubs and trees each fall. In fact, these chatty fashionistas are capable of living on fruit alone for months at a time! You can find them just as easily around rivers in pursuit of flying insects, or eating worms, ants, beetles, and weevils.

RESIDENT OR MIGRATORY

Resident and Migratory

KEY HABITAT FEATURES

One of the only birds in North America that specializes in eating fruits.

DIET

Berries and sugary fruit year-round, especially in winter with insects becoming an important part of the diet in the breeding season.

ASSOCIATED PLANTS & ANIMALS

Toyon – *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, *Twinberry Honeysuckle* – *Lonicera involucrata*, *Islais Cherry* – *Prunus ilicifolia*, *Red Elderberry* – *Sambucus racemosa* var. *racemosa*.

NESTING INFORMATION

Summer to fall, nest is cup-shaped and made of bark, twigs, moss, and grass nests in mixed woodlands, nearby streams in deciduous trees including *Maple* – *Acer macrophyllum* and *London Planetree* – *Platanus × acerifolia*.

ADDITIONAL HABITAT PLANTS

Small Crabapples, *wild grape*, *juniper berries*, *arctostaphylos species*, *honeysuckle*, *dogwood*, *Toyon*, *ceanothus*, *Islais Cherry*, *serviceberry*.