



Owls of Nevada



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Quick Facts

Activity

Owls can be Nocturnal or Diurnal.
Nocturnal means that they are active at night and rest in the day.
Diurnal means that they are active in the day and rest at night.

Eyes and Ears

Owls have binocular vision. They are unable to move their eyes, so they have to move their head to look around. Owls make up for this by being able to turn their head 270 degrees.

Many owls have asymmetrical ears. They're placed lower and higher on their head. This gives them an advantage for detecting sounds.

Silent hunters

Owls are almost silent when they're flying. They have specialized feathers that reduce noise as they flap their wings. This makes them almost undetectable while hunting.



Encountering Owls

If you see an owl in the wild just observe with your eyes.

Don't try to handle or capture the owl.

Be mindful of its home and environment.

Be calm and quiet when you observe the owl.



Species

The Western Screech Owl

These small owls are brown with black feathers on their belly.

They have distinct feather tufts that they can lift or lower.





Barn Owl

This owl is easily recognizable by its heart shaped face and brown and white feathers. They usually roost in caves, crevices, or in old buildings.

Many people believe that the screech of a Barn Owl started the legend of the Banshee. Their screech can sound similar to a human scream.





Burrowing owl

These small owls are covered with brown feathers with white spots.

They're usually found near the entrance of their burrows where they nest. Burrowing Owls are active in the day and at night.





Great Horned Owl

As one of the larger owls in the valley, they can hunt larger prey including other owls.

They are well known for the large feather tufts on the top of their head that look like horns.

Their call sounds like the signature "hoot" and they can fly up to 40 MPH.



Other Resources

Bird and Hike



Nature
Conservatory



Deep Look Video



Nevada Department of
Wildlife Video

