

Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge



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This coastal refuge sits on the [Fort Morgan](#) peninsula, 10 miles west of the city of [Gulf Shores](#) in [Baldwin County](#). It encompasses 7,000 acres of beaches, dunes, saltwater marshes, freshwater swamps, and scrubland. The refuge was established in 1980 with the goal of preserving coastal habitat for migratory song birds. Bon Secour lies directly on the migration path for many of these birds who use the refuge as a stopping point on their fall migration before they begin the long flight to the Caribbean and Central and South America. Bon Secour is first landfall for birds returning to the United States in the spring. Most of Alabama's coastline along the Gulf of Mexico has been developed, making Bon Secour one of the last remaining natural patches of coastal habitat and thus vital for the survival of migratory birds. Coyotes, red foxes, American alligators, armadillos, and more than 370 species of birds have been sighted at the refuge. Bon Secour is also home

to the endangered Alabama beach mouse, and loggerhead and Kemp's Ridley sea turtles, both endangered species, nest on its beaches.