

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

October 17, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About Buff-breasted Sandpiper:

- It is one of the most delicately **beautiful of the shorebirds**.
- It **breeds in the open arctic tundra of North America** and winters usually in South America.
- **Habitat:** Shortgrass prairies; in summer, tundra ridges. Migrants in North America mostly on dry open ground, such as prairies, pastures,
- The male Buff-breasted Sandpipers gather in groups on **display territories called leks**, where they flash their eye-catching underwings to compete for females' attention.
- It is a **champion long-distance migrant**, leaving high-Arctic dry tundra nesting grounds and migrating thousands of miles to winter on the grasslands of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay.
- **Conservation status**
 - **IUCN:** Near Threatened

Key facts about Arctic tundra

- It is the northernmost biome which is a vast, dry, rocky place, with few trees.
- It covers the lands north of the **Arctic Circle up to the polar ice cap**.
- It reaches as far **south as the Hudson Bay area of Canada** and the northern part of Iceland.

- The word “tundra” comes from the Finnish word tunturi. This word means ‘treeless plain’.
 - One important characteristic of the **tundra is the permafrost**. The word “permafrost” is short-form for the words “permanently frozen”.
 - The ground in the arctic tundra tends to be rocky and the soil has few nutrients. This is because the organic matter there breaks down very slowly.
 - Despite the lack of trees, this biome is **still considered a major carbon sink**.
 - This is due to the large amounts of organic matter found in deposits of peat and humus.
 - **Temperature:** Temperatures range from **15.5 °C in summer to -60 °C** in winter. Mean temperatures are below 0°C for six to 10 months of the year.
 - **Annual precipitation:** The annual **precipitation is around 150 to 250mm**. Most of this precipitation does not evaporate due to the low temperatures.
-

Q1) What are Sandpipers?

Sandpipers are a large and varied group, with over 90 different species found around the world. They are part of the wider order Charadriiformes, which includes plovers, curlews, and other diverse group of small to medium-sized shorebirds

Source: [Rare bird from arctic tundra brings cheer to top birders](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/buff-breasted-sandpiper/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.