## **Interesting Facts**

- The trick to attracting Orioles is to ensure you have stocked feeders set out when they arrive. Because they fly long distances, they arrive very hungry and will visit another site if yours is not ready for them.
- Orioles are attracted to the color orange.
- Creatures of habit, Orioles return to the same site year after year.
- They are the one of the last birds to arrive in the spring and one of the first to leave in the fall.
- The young, both male and female, take on the appearance of an adult female. The males turn black and orange at about 1 ½ years old.
- Female Orioles build pendulous nests that hang from the ends of branches high in the tops of trees. They can be as long as 8 inches and typically houses 4-5 eggs before they hatch.



### The More You Know

Nearly all Oriole species are tropical migrants. While migrations vary from year to year, Orioles generally arrive in the south in early spring, midwest in early May, and further north soon afterward. By summer's end, they are headed back to their tropical winter homes in Central and South America.

Which areas can expect which Oriole visitors? Use these range maps to learn the migration practices of different Oriole species.





### Want To Know More?

Visit www.SongbirdEssentials.com for information on Orioles and more!



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# **Orioles**

Orioles are loved for their strikingly beautiful black and orange/yellow plumage, their distinctive whistle and spring songs, and their amazing pendulum nests suspended high in the tops of the trees. There are over eight species of Orioles that can regularly be found in the United States, each with their own variation of orange or yellow coloring.

To keep Orioles nesting in your yard, you will want to make sure they are happy and well fed, which isn't hard to do.





### **Food & Feeders**

An Oriole's diet consists of jelly, oranges, nectar, and insects. One of the most simple ways to feed an Oriole is to simply cut an orange in half and present it flesh side out for their enjoyment.

Though, there are many feeders available to make feeding Orioles fun and easy. On the more simple end, you may choose a feeder that attaches to a jar for jelly feeding. Ensure you are choosing an all natural jelly that is low in sugar and free of preservatives and corn sweetener products. Not only is this healthier for our feathered friends, some are proven to attract more birds than sugar-laden, store bought labels. Try Songbird Essentials Bird Berry Jelly. It's combination of blackberry and grape juices has made it America's top selling Oriole jelly - and the best choice for them.

If your desire is to offer a feeder where multiple birds may feed at the same time, consider a feeder that offers one or more deposits for jelly along with the option to



#### Food & Feeders Cont'd

attach orange halves. Some large options even include a way to offer nectar at the same feeder. The benefit of a large feeder is you are able to satiate the appetites of multiple birds, who arrive very hungry, without running out quickly. The Songbird Essentials SE905 Ultimate Oriole Feeder offers the combination of the largest nectar, jelly, and fruit platform of any Oriole feeder. Give it a try. You and your Orioles will love it.



To ward off pesky ants, choose a feeder with a built in ant moat. Filling this with water ensures the ants have not way to invade the food you intend your Orioles to enjoy. If your feeder does not have a built in moat, you may purchase one separately and attach it to just about any feeder you currently own. Put an SE627 Orange Nectar Protector Ant Moat above your fruit, jelly, or nectar feeder. It not only keeps ant out, but it also helps to attract Orioles with its bright orange color.

When considering nectar as an offering, there are a few things you'll want to keep in mind. First, and foremost, is the nectar you put into the feeder. Ensure your mix is all natural and free of artificial sweeteners and dyes. Choose a feeder that is easy to disassemble to fully clean all parts. This is very important to prevent mold and other microorganisms from developing and harming the birds. Additionally, consider choosing one with bee guards to ensure that only your Orioles (not bees) enjoy the nectar.