



White-necked Jacobin.

What words come to mind when you gaze upon a hummingbird in flight? When the Spanish first arrived in the Americas, they described these lightning-fast, intelligent, and tiny acrobatic creatures as “Joyas Voladoras,” or “Flying Jewels.”

We invite you to get lost in our gallery of hauntingly beautiful hummingbird photos, which offers an incredible look at a unique shimmering feature: the gorget, a cluster of feathers found around the necks of some male hummingbirds.

You have to see these photos to believe them.

See More

And if you're feeling inspired after you view these jaw-dropping photos, consider creating a [hummingbird-friendly yard](#) or setting up a bird feeder with [homemade nectar](#) on your balcony to help support your local hummers.

Photo: Sean Graesser



National Audubon Society
[225 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014 USA](#)
(844) 428-3826 [audubon.org](#)

© 2018 National Audubon Society, Inc.

[Update your email address or unsubscribe](#)

Jewels of the Sky

Glittering feathers on the throats of many male hummingbirds, called "gorgets," help these birds attract mates and defend territory. Text by Benji Jones; Photography by Sean Graesser