

Okay, so by this point you're "in." You've been to <http://eBird.org/globalbigday> and learned how to take part. You've cleared your calendar for 5 May 2018. You've joined the team. Congratulations!

Global Big Day has something for everyone: fun with friends, local competition, the challenge of finding unusual species in your area, or the simple enjoyment of a day afield that is part of this larger global celebration of birds.

Regardless of your avenue of appreciation, people around the world are continually inspired by the simple idea of joining together in a one-day, global effort to find birds. It's easy to understand, and to participate. One of our favorite parts of Global Big Day is sharing it with others—and that sharing drives the global totals that make GBD so fun and exciting to follow.



Get people excited about Global Big Day!

Share GBD with your friends. Talk to two friends about GBD. If everyone who took part in Global Big Day last year could get two more people on board, more than 60,000 people would enter sightings this year. A good thing to share with any potential GBDer is the How-to-GBD document: <http://tinyurl.com/takepartgbd>.

Create a local event. Local engagement, global reach. That is what GBD is all about. Email your local birding list. Talk to the local bird club. Tweet about #GlobalBigDay. Organize a group outing to introduce people to Global Big Day and eBird. We've had good luck with Facebook Events—see the eBird GBD2018 Facebook event here: <https://tinyurl.com/gbd2018>.

Get your competition on. On 5 May, we're all working together to compete against last year's total. How many species can we coax out of the corners of our planet in one day? The numbers to beat: 6635 species; 54700 checklists; 20589 eBirders. Can we do it? Apart from the global goal, consider some friendly competition: county vs. county, state vs. state, or even country vs. country! In 2017, Colombia went above and beyond to find the most species. Their friendly competition with countries like Peru and Brazil drove the species total through the roof, got people incredibly excited about birds, and resulted in 1000s of eBird checklists. Can you create a similar competition? If you're searching for ideas for competitions, write to us at ebird@cornell.edu. We're here to help.

Target endemic or unusual birds. One goal of GBD is to see how many species we, the world's birders, can record in a single day. Every region has its own set of specialties; this is what makes the planet's bird diversity so amazing. Birders in some regions have organized to try to find all their locally endemic species, like 2015's Endemic Bird Day (right) in India. Can you and your friends contribute your region's rarest birds on 5 May?

Global Big Day is now in your hands. Through our united passion for birds, and with your help, we'll do amazing things on 5 May. Join us there!

