

Fun Facts about John Audubon

- John Audubon was born Jean Jacques Fougère Audubon. He changed his name to John James Audubon when he traveled to America at the age of 18.
- *Birds of America* was published as a series of 435 prints of 497 species of birds. The first print in the book is the turkey vulture and the last print is the American dipper. The original book measured 2 by 3 feet.
- John Audubon was the first known user of “bird-banding.” He tied strings around the leg of a bird for identification and learned that it returned to the same nesting place each season.
- Born a French citizen, Audubon became a citizen of the United States when he was 21.
- John Audubon came to Pennsylvania to live on his father’s farm, Mill Grove, in 1803. Mill Grove still exists today and is open to the public.
- Early in Audubon’s career, he left drawings of nearly 1000 birds stored in a wooden box. Upon opening the box later, he discovered only bits of paper--rats had destroyed every one.
- The Audubon Museum, located in John James Audubon State Park in Henderson, KY, has the largest display of Audubon works and memorabilia in the United States.