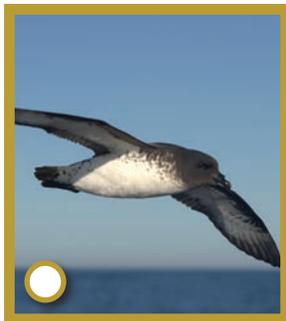


Sometimes seen



CAPE PIGEON

White belly and breast. Underwing white with a black border. Back and upperwings are speckled black and white. Tail white with black speckles and a terminal band of black.

PIED STILT

Black and white with long red legs and long fine pointed black bill.



WHITE FACED HERON

Blue grey with white face. Long dark grey bill. Pale yellow legs.

SOUTHERN GIANT PETREL (WHITE MORPH)

Known as the white morph. White with black flecking and dark brown eyes. Huge yellowish horn bill with pale green tip and grey brown legs.



Rarely seen



BLACK BROWED ALBATROSS

Medium sized black and white albatross. White head and body contrasting dark grey to black upperwings, back and tail. Black eyebrow and iris. Large long yellow orange hooked bill with pinkish red tip. Broad black markings on underwings, wider on leading edge with wedge midway along protruding into white central underwing.

AUSTRALASIAN GANNET

Large slender body with mainly white plumage. Buff yellow head and neck. Wedge shaped bluish grey bill. Blue skin around eyes. Long pointed wings with trailing edges and varying proportion of central tail feathers being black.



YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN

Named due to its yellow iris and distinctive yellow head band. Slate grey in colour, with a white belly and flesh-coloured feet.

A GUIDE TO MARINE BIRDS OF Akaroa HARBOUR



New Zealand has over 86 types of breeding seabirds.

This has given us the title of 'Seabird capital of the world', and a number of these birds can be found in and around Banks Peninsula. Featured in this guide are a selection of seabirds found around Akaroa Harbour.

Use this as a guide and tick off the boxes as you spot them.



Images supplied with thanks to Coast up Close, Pohatu Penguins, Keystone Ecology & Kaitlyn Leeds



Often seen



SPOTTED SHAG

Long slender bill and yellow-orange feet. Distinctive curved broad white stripe runs from above the eye down both sides of the neck, separating the black lines of the throat. Brown back with pale blue-grey belly (often appearing white). Bare facial skin between the eye and bill turns green-blue before the breeding season.



WHITE FRONTED TERN

Pale grey above and white below. Long forked tail. Black cap separated from long pointed black bill by a white band.



NORTHERN GIANT PETREL

Dark grey brown body. Pale grey face with pale whitish eyes. Pinkish yellow horn bill with red brown tip. Dark grey legs.

BLACK BACKED GULL

A large black and white gull with a white head and underparts, black back, yellow bill with a red spot near the tip and pale green legs.



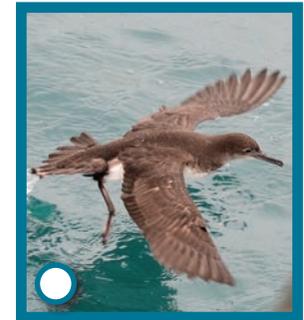
NORTHERN ROYAL ALBATROSS

Large white body with black wings and robust light pink bill with cream tip and black cutting edge to upper mandible.



FLUTTERING SHEARWATER

Dark cap extending below eye line to partial collar. Dark grey brown upperparts, dark thigh patches and white underparts from the chin to under-tail. Dusky underwings with variable dark markings on inner wing. Dark long thin bill. Pinkish brown legs and feet with dark webs.



VARIABLE OYSTERCATCHER

Black underparts that may vary from all black through to intermediate states of white. Bright orange long straight bill, stout coral pink legs. Red eyes with orange eye ring.



WHITE FLIPPED BLUE PENGUIN

Overall blue-grey appearance with white underbelly. Broad white trailing on leading edge of flipper.



PARADISE SHELL DUCK

Female body is dark or light chestnut (depending on age and state of moult). Male is uniformly dark grey or black, and head is black with occasional green iridescence. Both male and the female's head and upper neck is white. Chestnut under tail, black primary wing feathers, green secondary wing feathers and a conspicuously white upper wing surface.

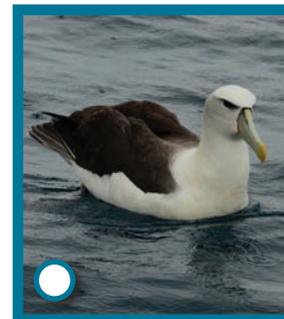
LITTLE SHAG

Short yellow bill, black feet, and relatively long tail and multiple plumage variations. Either black with white cheeks and throat, or black with completely white underparts, or intermediate.



WHITE-CAPPED MOLLYMAWK

Black across upper wings. White lower back and rump and black tip to the tail. White underparts with narrow black borders under wing and small black notch in the "armpit" at the base of the leading edge of the wing. Head and neck are white, with a small dark patch in front of the eyes and a light wash of grey on the cheeks. Blue-grey bill on the sides with yellowish tip, especially at the base and tip.



SOOTY SHEARWATER

Long narrow wings, long slender black bill, narrow short tail and dark grey legs and feet. Sooty brown upperparts. Slightly greyer underparts with silver grey flash on outer area of underwings.

