

Fabulous facts about...

Auckland's native birds



Photo: andrewwalmsleyphotography.com

Paired kiwi live their entire lives as a monogamous couple – a relationship that can last for 20 years. At night they perform duets, calling to each other.



Photo: Janice McKenna

The tui is one bird that's benefitted from the introduction of exotic flowering and fruiting plants. A reliable year-round supply of nectar and fruit means they are flourishing.

If tīeke/saddleback are lost from New Zealand, they're lost to the world for good. Luckily, a successful relocation programme is increasing numbers to more than 5,000.



Photo: David Cook Wildlife Photography

Takahē were thought to be extinct until rediscovered in 1948. They are very inquisitive so if you see one keep an eye on your lunch!



Photo: ©Jonathan Astin

Photo: David Cook Wildlife Photography



Unlike most crows, kōkako have a beautiful clear organ-like song that can carry for kilometres. They feature on the back of the \$50 note.

Photo: ©Jonathan Astin



Captain Cook said the korimako/bellbird's song sounded 'like small bells exquisitely tuned'. Just like people, bellbirds from different areas sing with regional 'dialects'.

Hihi/stitchbirds build their nests in tree cavities. A base of sticks is topped with a nest cup of finer twigs and lined with fern scales, lichen and spider webs.



Photo: David Cook Wildlife Photography

Many of our native trees depend on kererū/New Zealand pigeon to eat their fruit and spread seeds. The bird's loss would be a disaster for our forests.

Photo: David Cook Wildlife Photography



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New Zealand Government

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai