

Laughing Kookaburra

Dacelo novaeguinea

Best known of the Kookaburras, the Laughing Kookaburra is also the largest of the Kingfisher Family. They are found throughout most of Australia.

The most famous feature of the Kookaburra is its loud, boisterous “laugh”, a repeated “kook-kook-kook-ka-ka-ka” call that rises and falls in volume as family members join in to form a raucous chorus. Aboriginal legend says that the kookaburra’s call is a signal to the sky people to start the daily fire that lights the earth. They are found in forest edges and clearings and savannah woodlands.

They are cooperative breeders and nest high in trees. They are very successful breeders and the last estimate of their population put their numbers in excess of 2 million individuals! We have been keeping and breeding the Laughing Kookaburras here at the park since 1984 and our oldest bird is now 25 years old and still breeding.



Lifespan: 20 Years

Weight: 368 - 455 g

Size: 39 – 45 cm

Breeding Season: October - March

Incubation Period: 26 Days

Number of Chicks: 3 - 4

Diet: Snakes, Lizards, Frogs, Small Birds, Insects, Mammals, Scorpions, Reptiles and Fish

Problems They Face: Habitat destruction, Natural and Introduced Predators.

Conservation Status: Not Globally Threatened