

Scarlet Ibis

Eudocimus ruber



Possibly one of the most conspicuous birds in the world, the Scarlet Ibis is found in Columbia, Ecuador, Venezuela, the Guianas and Brazil.

The Scarlet Ibis is by far one of the most incredibly coloured birds in South America. Living in Mangrove Swamps, Muddy Estuaries, Marshes, Shallow Lakes, Sewerage Ponds, Lagoons and Flooded Areas, they are striking as they are seen flying over these areas. They form large colonies of between 50 to 5000 pairs in some areas and even more in others. Their nest is a small platform of sticks between 1 and 5 m up in trees. The young leave the nest at around 35 to 42 days of age.

While still relatively common in most of their range, their numbers are starting to drop alarmingly – in one area by more than 20 000 pairs in just a couple years! Our original birds came to us from Disney's Animal Kingdom where they were captive bred.



Lifespan: 20 Years

Weight: 715 – 785g

Size: 56 - 71 cm

Breeding Season: April - August

Incubation Period: 21 – 23 Days

Number of Chicks: 1 - 3

Diet: Mainly Crustaceans, especially Crabs, Molluscs, Insects and Small Fish

Problems They Face: Alteration of habitat, Pesticides, Hunting and Human Disturbance

Conservation Status: Not Globally Threatened - CITES App. 2