

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill

Bycanistes brevis



The Silvery-cheeked Hornbill is found in patches from Ethiopia, through Kenya and Tanzania to Northern and Central Mozambique.

The Silvery-cheeked Hornbill is one of the more common Hornbill species in parts of their range. They tend to be found living in montane and coastal forest patches as well as tall woodland and gallery forest. They move around their range according to fruiting trees and spend most of their day foraging in the forest canopy for fruits.

The nest is a natural cavity in a trunk or large branch of a tree, and is often reused for many years. The entrance is sealed with mud pellets with the female inside, leaving just a thin slot through which the male can pass food. At one observed nest, it was estimated that the male delivered 24 000 fruits in the course of the 120 day breeding cycle – about 200 a day!



Lifespan: 20 Years

Weight: 900 - 1200 g

Size: 75 cm

Breeding Season: September - December

Incubation Period: 40 Days

Number of Chicks: 1 - 3

Diet: Mostly Fruits but also Insects, Frogs, Small Reptiles, Birds Eggs and even Bats

Problems They Face: Habitat destruction, trapping for trade.

Conservation Status: Not Globally Threatened