

## Black-crowned Night-Heron

## Bihoreau gris



*Nycticorax nycticorax*

The Black-crowned Night-Heron is a small heron with a stocky body and a large head. L. 58-65 cm; W. 90-100 cm..

Breeding adult: is grey with black back. The top of the head is black, extended by 2 to 4 long white feathers. The bill is black and the legs are yellowish.

Non-breeding adult: like the nuptial adult without the fine feathers on the head.

Juveniles: at birth, the chick is brown. Larger and flying juveniles are earthy brown with light elongated spots on the mantle. Its legs are green.

Voice: short "houak" emitted in flight by the adult. The little chick's repeated "tic-tic-tic".

Eggs: laying of 3-4 (more rarely 5) eggs. Pale greenish-blue colour

Nests: platform larger and thicker than that of the Little Egret. Generally more wedge-shaped,.

Habitat: the Black-crowned Night-Heron is arboreal and breeds mostly with other heron species, such as the Little Egret in mixed colonies.

Similar species: the chick can be distinguished from the Cattle Egret and the Little Egret by its brown colouring and thicker bill.

**Breeding adult**



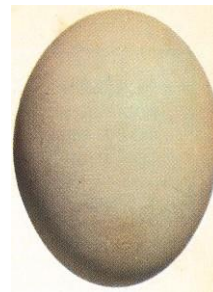
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**Flying juvenile**



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**Egg**



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**Poussins de 3 semaines**



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**Poussin de 4 semaines**



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