



Sandwich Tern



Sterne caugek

Thalasseus sandvicensis

Similar in size to a Black-headed Gull but more slender. Long narrow beak. Short legs. Fishes with powerful wing beats. The wings are then held bent and they are long and of the same width. Relatively short tail.

Breeding adult: light grey above and white below. Elongated spot or wing tip diffusely dark above forming a wedge-shaped spot at the wing tip. From below, vague darker border at the tip of the outermost primaries. Black legs. Black beak with yellow tip. White rump and tail contrasting with gray back.

Non breeding adult : like the nuptial adult but the forehead and the cap whiten from June.

Young: short bill without pale tip, dark. Dark cap. Barred upper parts.

Nest : Minimalist, bowl on the ground, without vegetation, laying of 2 eggs.

Voice: Typical shrill "ki-rèèèk".

L. 37-43 cm; W. 85-97 cm.

Similar species: Gull-billed Tern, Lesser Crested Tern.

Nest with eggs



T.Blanchon

Breeding adult



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Non breeding adult



T.Blanchon

Fledgling



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Chicks from 1 to 4 weeks

1st WEEK



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2nd WEEK



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3rd WEEK



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4th WEEK



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