



BLACK SWAN

Cygnus atratus

SPECIES QUICK FACTS

WINGSPAN

The average wingspan of a black swan is 70 inches.

WEIGHT

An adult black swan ranges in weight from eight to 14 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The black swan consumes a wide variety of aquatic vegetation. On occasion, they will eat insects.

HABITAT

Black swans can be found in a variety of rivers, lakes, and marshes. They can be found in fresh, brackish, and salt water.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The black swan is native to Australia and Tasmania, but they have also been introduced into Europe and New Zealand.

FUN FACT

Since they have been introduced into Europe, there are now wild populations of the black swan there.



The black swan of Australia has dark curly feathers, bright red bills that sport a white band, gray feet and legs, and white wing feathers that are only seen when the bird is in flight. Black swans are large, graceful birds. Their necks are the longest of any swan, making up more than half of the total length of the bird in flight. Black swans are fairly hardy birds and do well in most climates. Like most swans, they are very large and need a large source of water. They like to eat large amounts of vegetation. Black swans are the most social of the swans and often gather in flocks of thousands.

