



# PARADISE SHELDUCK

*Tadorna variegata*

## SPECIES QUICK FACTS

### WINGSPAN

The average wingspan of a paradise shelduck is 25 inches.

### WEIGHT

The paradise shelduck averages between two and three pounds.

### FOOD HABITS

The paradise shelduck feeds on grasses and weeds. They can also be found feasting on standing crops of peas and grain.

### HABITAT

The paradise shelduck is found in a variety of habitats from grasslands to crop fields, gravel riverbeds, lakes, and farm ponds.

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The paradise shelduck is found throughout New Zealand.

### FUN FACT

The paradise shelduck is only found in New Zealand!



The paradise shelduck is a prized game bird that originates from New Zealand. They are also known as the Putangi-tangi. The male has a white head and medium brown breast with darker wings, while the female has a black head and black body with a white wing patch. Paradise shelducks are always seen in pairs except during the molting season. These pairs will stay together year after year, returning to the same nesting grounds. Most will begin breeding when they are two years old. They feed mainly on grass and weeds, but they also like standing crops of peas or grain.

