

# Humboldt Penguin

Humboldt Penguin (in Japanese pronunciation)

## Scientific name

*Spheniscus humboldti*

## Classification

Sphenisciformes, Spheniscidae

## Distribution

Coast and coastal islands of Peru and Chile in South America.

## Feeding Habits

It mostly eats small fish such as anchovies.

## Characteristics

The whole body is covered with fine feathers, and the wings (called flippers) has plate-like bones, so they are very stiff and act like a boat oar. The beak is thick and the tip is bent like a hook to catch fish easily.

## Behavior and ecology

It digs to create its burrow on the base of a shrub or sometimes a cactus in dry seashore, and also on the Guano formation which is formed by the dungs of seabirds such as penguins, pelicans, seagulls for tens of thousands years. Currently, it is afraid that the population of this species extremely decreases and goes extinct due to the drastic decreasing of its food by the overfishing such as anchovies, and due to the El Nino, habitat destruction by the overharvesting of the Guano for using as fertilizers.

