



Penguins of the World



King



Emperor



Adélie



Chinstrap



Gentoo



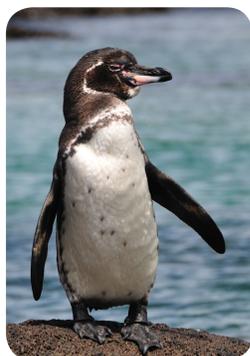
Little Penguin



Magellanic



Humboldt



Galapagos



African



Yellow-eyed



Fiordland



Snares



Erect-crested



Southern Rockhopper



Northern Rockhopper



Royal



Macaroni

There are 18 species of penguins and all of them live in the Southern Hemisphere.

The greatest concentrations are on the Antarctic coast and sub-Antarctic islands. **Adélie** and **emperor** penguins breed on the shores of the Antarctic continent and nearby islands. **Chinstraps** occupy islands in the Scotia Sea, with a minute population at the Balleny Islands. **Gentoo**s are found at the northern end of the Antarctic Peninsula and many sub-Antarctic islands. All **crested** penguins live in the sub-Antarctic, and the **banded** penguins are at home in South America and South Africa. **Little penguins** live around the southern Australian coast and New Zealand and **Yellow-eyed**s occur only in New Zealand and her sub-Antarctic islands.

Penguins are flightless birds that are highly adapted for the marine environment. They are excellent swimmers and can dive to great depths (emperor penguins usually dive to about 250 metres). Their shape ensures they are extremely agile underwater. The feet and tail are like rudders, while the flippers act as propellers. They also have a waterproof plumage of short, overlapping feathers.

Penguins feed on small fish and krill, catching them one at a time. Many penguins also eat cephalopods (squid). In turn, penguins become food for other marine animals, namely leopard seals and killer whales. On land their main predators are skuas and sheathbills (carnivorous birds that take both eggs and chicks). Penguins also fall prey to giant petrels and introduced predators (such as cats, dogs and weasels).

Find out more about penguins and their differences at our website...

