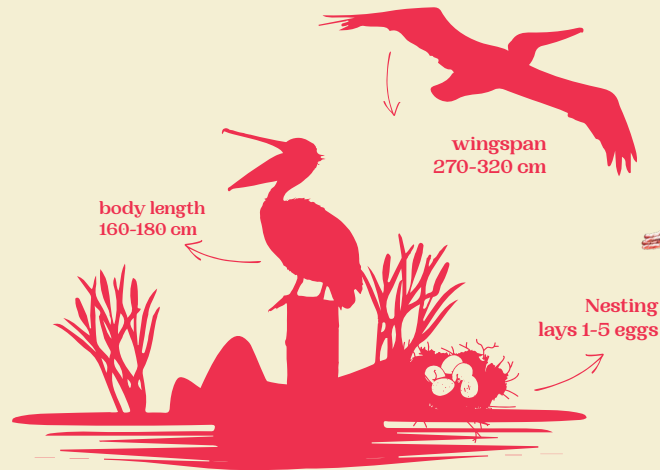


# Dalmatian pelican

The Dalmatian pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) is the largest bird species in Albania. Grown individuals have a gray and white color, curly feathers in the head, as well as a large beak, which during the reproduction period turns orange and even bright red. The Dalmatian pelican nests on flat areas or islands found in lagoons surrounded by reeds.

The only place in Albania where the Dalmatian pelican nests is found in the Divjaka-Karavasta National Park, in one of the small islands within the Karavasta lagoon, where this species has reproduced for hundreds of years.



The colony of Dalmatian pelicans in the Divjaka-Karavasta area was stable until the 60s, with a number between 200-250 breeding pairs. Afterwards, following the socio-economical turmoil in the country, this colony almost faced extinction, reaching a number of only 19 breeding pairs.

## Around 100 breeding pairs are found in the Divjaka-Karavasta National Park.

The Dalmatian pelican is present also in the Vjosa-Narta Protected

Landscape, as well as the transboundary Prespa lakes, where this species feeds and rests.



# Flamingo

Flamingos (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) are one of the most charismatic bird species, loved among the general population. Adult individuals are white with pink accents, which they get from their special diet. Juveniles vary from gray to brown. This species can be seen in large numbers in almost all the wetlands of the country. Thousands of individuals can be observed in just a day of birdwatching in the Vjosa-Narta protected area.

Flamingos have a very unique neck, which is very flexible and takes the shape of the letter S. This structure helps flamingos during the process of feeding, as well as to clean their feathers.



Wetlands are crucial habitats for the survival of pelicans, flamingos, and other waterbirds.

These species use wetlands to breed, feed and rest. A direct threat to wetlands, such as large infrastructure projects, is a direct threat to the many waterbird species, which their survival depends of these habitats.

## The Dalmatian pelican population is threatened by:

- Degradation of swamps
- Disturbances during the reproduction period
- Electrocutation and collision with energy infrastructures, etc.



Be part of our efforts to preserve the population of Dalmatian pelican, flamingo and other waterfowl in Albania.

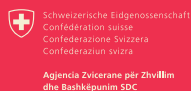
Volunteer for the protection of the wetland habitats in Albania. Scan here.



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# BIRDS OF WETLANDS

The Dalmatian pelican  
and Flamingo



Albania is Biodiversity