

Southern royal albatross | toroa

Diomedea epomophora

Conservation status

Regional | Migrant
National | Threatened: Vulnerable

Main threats

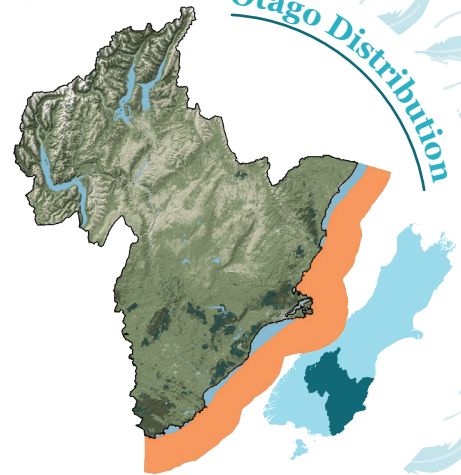
Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, pollution

A bit about me...

Length:
120 cm

Weight:
8–10 kg

Otago Distribution



Migratory range

Range:

Breeds every second year on the subantarctic Motu Ihupuku / Campbell Islands, with smaller numbers on the Maungahuka / Motu Maha / Auckland Islands. Common in waters off southern Aotearoa New Zealand year-round and will migrate around the entire Southern Ocean when not breeding.

Key Otago sites:

- Otago canyons
- Otago coast
- Regularly seen inshore

New Zealand endemic

Largest of the albatrosses. Plumage is white apart from black flight feathers and upperwings that whiten with age. Its long, heavy bill is pale pink with a black cutting edge. Young birds have black marks on the back and tail. Wingspan can reach 3.5 metres. Courtship displays can involve yaps, clucking and screams.

Similar birds:



Gibson's albatross /
toroa



Antipodean albatross /
toroa



Northern royal
albatross / toroa