

# Greenland White-fronted Goose

*anser albifrons flavirostris*

One of Europe's rarest geese, the Greenland White-front breeds in west Greenland and winters in Ireland and Scotland with Wexford getting about 40% of the population every year. During migration they can fly about 6000km and reach speeds up to 70km per hour.



## Where do they live?

Whilst in Greenland they live on wide open, boggy land called Tundra which is far away from people. No trees grow there and the geese are safe from predators. In Ireland, the soft ground at the Wildfowl Reserve is ideal for them in winter and they can roost on the sandbanks in the harbour at night where they're safe from disturbance.

## What do they eat?



The geese feed on land, eating grass and plants. In Wexford they'll eat the roots of buttercups and clover as well as the root crops which have been grown and managed for them.



## Goose or Duck?

- Geese spend more time on land than ducks.
- Geese are generally larger than ducks with a longer neck, taller body and longer legs. Geese also have a shorter bill and lower positioned nostrils.
- Geese live in couples and raise their goslings together, whereas female ducks raise their ducklings alone.
- Male ducks are more colourful than their female counterparts but male and female geese are the same colour.

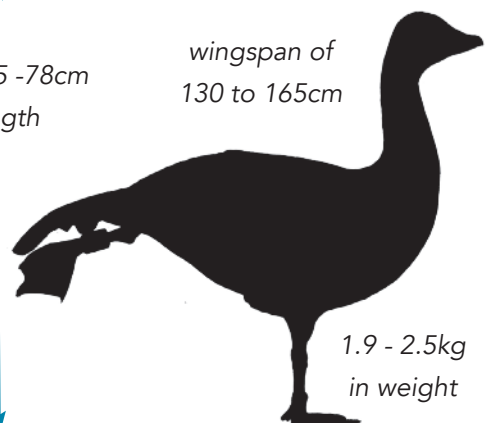


## Did you know?

The 'white-front' refers to the white on the forehead. The geese can reduce the size of their body organs to make room for the fat they need to make the migration.

↑  
approx 65 -78cm  
in length

wingspan of  
130 to 165cm



1.9 - 2.5kg  
in weight

# The Greenland White-fronted Goose wordsearch

Can you find all the words? The answers go in all directions!

R	N	E	G	R	E	E	N	L	A	N	D	B	R
O	A	O	E	V	F	P	L	A	N	T	S	R	E
A	D	D	O	I	O	F	P	F	P	B	O	G	V
N	I	H	N	I	C	C	U	U	A	P	P	S	O
E	C	N	A	B	R	U	T	S	I	D	M	K	L
P	R	E	D	A	T	O	R	P	Z	K	T	N	C
E	S	Z	A	P	A	R	G	R	A	R	E	A	A
P	M	I	G	R	A	T	I	O	N	B	E	B	R
R	B	O	F	Z	B	D	T	D	O	H	N	D	D
R	M	Z	U	D	I	I	L	N	T	S	O	N	N
H	Y	Y	U	A	Z	I	L	R	G	G	E	A	U
I	T	Z	R	S	A	K	O	L	L	R	N	S	T
Z	E	D	W	I	L	D	F	O	W	L	Q	I	G

plants wildfowl predator migration tundra  
sandbanks disturbance Greenland Goose  
clover bill bog rare



Anaclann Éan Fian Loch Garman  
Wexford Wildfowl Reserve

web: [wexfordwildfowlreserve.ie](http://wexfordwildfowlreserve.ie)

email: [wwreducation@chg.gov.ie](mailto:wwreducation@chg.gov.ie)

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