

Green Woodhoopoe

Scientific Name: *Phoeniculus Purpureus*

Class: Aves

Order: Coraciiformes

Family: Phoeniculidae



The Green Woodhoopoe is the largest of the Woodhoopoe. Two striking features of the Green Woodhoopoe are its almost straight red bill and long green tinged tail. They are social birds that protect their territory with group displays of fanning wings and tails. They are cavity nesters who will hang upside down on tree bark looking for food. Sometimes several birds will start bowing to each other and cackling in chorus.

Range

Africa: Senegal and Gambia, East to Ethiopia, Northwest Somalia, Botswana and South Africa.

Habitat

Green Woodhoopoe live in woodlands, forests and the arid savannah with trees.

Gestation

Incubation is 18 days.

Litter

Average clutch size is 3-5 eggs. The average weight is 2 5/8 oz and length up to 17 inches.

Behavior

Green Woodhoopoe live in territorial groups consisting of 2-16 family members.

Reproduction

They give off a strong musty smell during breeding season. Chicks are raised and fed by both parents and helpers (non-breeding females).

Wild Diet

They eat insects and other invertebrates.