

Black-footed Albatross

Phoebastria nigripes

The only dark albatross of the northern Pacific Ocean, the Black-footed Albatross nests primarily on the Hawaiian Islands. It wanders widely across the northern Pacific for most of the year, and is regularly seen off the west coast of North America.

Keys to Identification

Adult Description

- Large seabird; small albatross.
- Very long, narrow wings.
- Mostly dusky brown.
- White at base of bill and under eye.
- Large bill.

Immature Description

Similar to adult, but usually with less white at bill base.

Cool Facts

- The Black-footed Albatross has a keen sense of smell, which it uses to locate food across vast expanses of ocean.

- The Black-footed Albatross drinks seawater and excretes excess salt through glands above the eyes.

Measurements

Both Sexes

- Length - 25.2 - 29.1 inches
- Wingspan - 76 - 85 inches
- Weight - 77.6 - 151.7 ounces

