

# NICOBAR PEGION



## Introduce

The Nicoba pigeon ( ***Caloenas nicobarica*** ) is a species of pigeon found from the small islands and coasts of the Nicobar Islands , east to the Malay Archipelago , and to the Solomons and Palau . It is currently the only member of the genus ***Caloenas*** , and the closest living relative of the dodo bird .

## Description

This is a large pigeon, measuring 40 cm (16 in) in length. The head is gray, like the upper neck feathers. The tail is very short and pure white. The rest of the plumage is iridescent green. Dark pupils.

The female pigeon is slightly smaller than the male pigeon. Nicoba pigeons often go alone, in pairs or in small groups. Group nesting on the same tree. The nest is simple, 3 - 10m away from the ground. Lay 1 egg. The incubation period is about 20-24 days. The age of sexual maturity of Nicoba pigeons is usually about 1-1.3 years.

## Habitat and behavior

This species usually lives in dense colonies on extremely small wooded offshore islets and feeds locally or on adjacent land areas (or larger islands) up to at least 500 m.

It prefers small uninhabited and remote islands with native forest vegetation, although they must be close enough to the large areas of lowland rainforest it needs to feed.

Nests in trees and bushes and is about the size of a clutch.