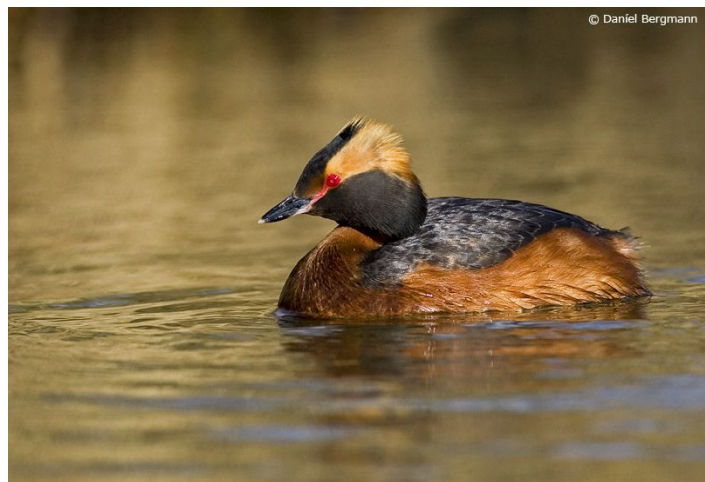


Horned Grebe

Podiceps auritus

The only grebe that breeds in Iceland. Resembles a small duck but is more similar to divers in both appearance and behaviour. They are easily identified by their triangular head, slender neck and short tail. The sexes are similar. In summer they have a glossy dark back, large yellow brushes behind their eyes which grow smaller in the course of summer. Neck and flanks are reddish-brown, back and hindneck blackish and the belly white. In winter they are dark above, pale below, with a black triangular cap, dark back and dark-blotched hindneck and flanks.

They fly rarely but when they do they take flight with difficulty. They are agile swimmers and good divers. Breed at vegetated lakes and ponds, often in dispersed colonies. In winter they are mainly seen in sheltered bays and inlets.



Jóhann Óli Hilmarsson. (2005). *Icelandic bird guide*. Reykjavík: Íðunn.

Image: Daniel Bergmann, taken from <https://www.ni.is/search/biota/Flórgoði>