

Purple Sandpiper

Calidris maritima

The Purple Sandpiper is stocky with short legs, short neck and a rather short bill. In summer they are grey- and brown-speckled above, on head and breast, lighter on belly. In winter they are greyer. Their bill is dark, yellow at the base and slightly downward-curved bill. Feet are yellowish, dark-brown eyes and light rings around them.

Breed mostly in the barren interior, also in coastal areas and rugged lowland. Their habitats are of many kinds, like barre ground, mossy areas, heathland and gravel, normally close to water. Outside breeding season, they are mainly found on stony shores and mudflats. Some of the Icelandic population winter in the British Isles.



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

Image: Daníel Bergmann, taken from

<https://www.ni.is/biota/animalia/chordata/aves/charadriiformes/sendlingur-calidris-maritima>