

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

Are streamlined and have long legs. They are greyish-brown with light feather margins above, on breast and down to belly, otherwise they are light on belly and underwings, with dark brown crown. Their white rump and lower back are noticeable in flight. Their bill is long greyish-brown bill and downward curved, which is an identifying feature for them. The legs are long and blue-grey, and eyes are dark with a light eye ring.

Often fly in groups in late summer, before migrating.

Otherwise they are not gregarious.

Their breeding habitat is both in dry and marshy land. Nest is lined with dry grass. Breed in the circumpolar region. Outside the breeding season the bird is often observed on farmland, but rarely on sea shore.



Are common in lowland all over Iceland, rare in highlands. They winter in West Africa south of the Sahara.

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

Image: Daniel Bergmann, taken from <https://www.ni.is/node/27162>