

Endemic, native, alien

The wildlife of the Galápagos

Like everywhere, the Galápagos Islands have three kinds of species: native, endemic and alien. A troublesome alien is the hill raspberry or mora – see the article on pp19-21.



*The **Nazca booby** is a native species, one which lives on the Galápagos but also elsewhere.*

All photographs by Gary Skinner.



*One of the very important features of the Galápagos is the high number of endemic species, those which are found only there. The **Galápagos large ground finch** is an example, one of the species sometimes called Darwin's finches.*

*The Islands have many endemic bird species, including the **Galápagos penguin, hawk and albatross**.*



*The **swallowtail gull** is an example of a 'near endemic' species, almost entirely confined to the Galápagos Islands. It is also the only nocturnal seabird in the world. It specialises in feeding on squid which come to the surface at night.*



*The **Galápagos sea lion** is one of several endemic animal species.*