

Interesting facts about birds (Flamingo flying)

1. Do you know why flamingos prefer flying at nighttime and at high altitude?

Flamingo birds are able to travel about miles away to search for food and migrate to a new place. Flamingo birds travel high in the sky, about 10000–20000 feet. Flamingos do fly at high altitudes to preserve their energy and to save themselves from predators. Flamingos are able to travel 35 mph to 60 mph. They always fly in groups that form a V shape.

2. Who are the predators of the flamingo?

The flamingo bird lives in different environmental conditions and geographical regions. Their predators vary according to the region in which they live. Flamingo predators are terrestrial animals such as jackals, foxes, baboons, and wild cats, which include lions, leopards, cheetahs, and hyenas. Besides these, the Andean fox, Geoffrey's cat, and python can also hunt flamingos.

Some bird species, like African fish eagles, martial eagles, Marabou storks, yellow-legged gulls, lappet-faced vultures, and white-headed vultures, eat flamingo eggs and chicks.

3. Do you know why a flamingo migrates?

There is a change in environmental conditions and water level in the region where the flamingo lives; there is a need for migration. The lakes freeze in the winter at high altitudes, so flamingos move from cold to warmer regions. In some of the regions, drought conditions and rising water levels are reasons for the migration of flamingos. Although they migrate to other places due to various causes, they return to their native places.

4. Do you know about the landing pattern of a flamingo?

Flamingo birds land on the sea level just like an airplane lands on the ground. When flamingo birds have to land, they slow down their speed, and their leg comes into a vertical position as they arrive near sea level. Flamingos' feet help to create drag and provide stability to the flamingo's body when touching the water surface. Finally, before reaching the standing position, they run on water just like airplanes do on the ground after landing.

References

- <https://abcbirds.org/blog/flamingo-flight/>
- <https://birdfact.com/articles/flamingo-flight>