



In flight, Ospreys wings are angled slightly backwards. They have drooping "hands", giving them a gull-like appearance.



- White chin, throat, breast and belly
- Brown tail with a series of white bands
- Wings taper to a rounded tip
- Short hooked beak
- Life Span is 20-30 years

Facts

- White cap
- Dark brown eye line broadening behind eye
- Dark brown nape, back and top wings
- Bottom wing white barred with black
- Rectangular black mark at wrist

Ospreys collect sticks to build large nests in high trees and on rocky outcrops and poles.



Ospreys usually lay 2-3 eggs. Both parents incubate the eggs. The eggs hatch within 32-43 days and the young normally leave the nest in 48-59 days.

Osprey

(Pandion haliaetus)



Ospreys have dense, oily feathers to repel water and quickly regain flight. Ospreys locate fish from the air, often hovering up to 100 feet above the water, prior to plunging feet-first, 3 feet into the water. The Osprey turns the head of the fish forward to reduce wind resistance.

Board of Port Commissioners and their Environmental Advisory Committee funded construction of this nesting platform for the Osprey. Please help protect the Osprey by preventing debris from entering stormdrains and the bay.

Measurements
Length: 20-24 in (52-60 cm)
Wingspan: 5-5.5 ft (150-180 cm)
Weight: 49.4-70.6 oz (1400-2000 g)



Ospreys are year-round residents of San Diego Bay. This medium-large raptor is particularly well adapted to diving for fish, with reversible outer toes, closable nostrils to keep out water during dives, and backwards facing scales on the talons which act as barbs to help hold its catch.



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