



# Trumpeter Hornbill

***Bycanistes bucinator***

FAMILY: Bucerotidae

ORDER: Coraciiformes

AZA MANAGEMENT: Signature

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

- EUROPE
- ASIA
- NORTH AMERICA
- NEOTROPICAL
- AFRICA
- AUSTRALIA
- OTHER

## HABITAT

- FOREST
- DESERT
- GRASSLAND
- COASTAL
- RIVERINE
- MONTANE
- OTHER

## CIRCADIAN CYCLE

- DIURNAL
- CREPUSCULAR
- NOCTURNAL
- OTHER



## TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From 50° F to 110° F



Birds should have access to a heated barn at 50 degrees or below and locked into heated barns at below 40 degrees.

## DIET

- FRUGIVORE
- NECTIVORE
- CARNIVORE
- OMNIVORE
- PISCIVORE
- FOLIVORE
- INSECTIVORE
- OTHER

Trumpeter Hornbills are primarily frugivorous, eating small fruits and berries. They have been known to eat small insects, nestling birds and bird eggs when they can be found.

## LIFE EXPECTANCY

	Median Life Expectancy	Maximum Longevity	
Within AZA	X	29 years	
In the Wild	X	unknown	
Within AZA	X	29 years	
In the Wild	X	unknown	

# BREEDING INFORMATION

## AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY



Males: 3 years



Females: 3 years

**Incubation period:** 28 days

**Fledgling Period:** After approximately 50 days, both the chicks and the female break the seal on the nest and emerge. The male continues to bring food to the chicks until they are strong enough to join the parents in foraging.

## CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION

Clutch size is 2-4 eggs which are laid every 2-3 days and incubation begins with the first egg that is laid. Eggs are laid 10-15 days after the female enters the nest cavity. Chicks hatch over the next several days. The female undergoes molt while in the nest box. The whole nesting cycle lasts 88-117 days.

# CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



## SOCIAL STRUCTURE

**In the wild:** Pairs are monogamous and may stay together in these pairs even past the breeding season, foraging and roosting together at night. They will sometimes stay together in family groups with young from the previous year staying to help at the nest.



## COURTSHIP DISPLAYS

The male's loud wailing call may influence mate-attraction as well as short energetic display flights. The male also courtship-feeds the female before nesting. There may be some nest entrance sealing and allopreening as well.



## NEST SITE DESCRIPTION

Trumpeter Hornbills nest in natural holes in trees as low as 2-3 meters up to 13 meters. In captivity, they will readily nest in wooden boxes. After eggs are laid, the entrance is sealed to a narrow vertical slit by the female with mud brought to her by the male. The female also uses food and droppings for sealing the hole from within.



## CHICK DEVELOPMENT

X



## PARENTAL CARE

Female remains in the nest cavity with the chicks until time to fledge. The male brings food to the female and chicks in the nest cavity.



## MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS

Compatible in mixed species exhibits?

YES

NO

**Comments:** They have been successfully housed with different ibis species, pigeons, turacos, guineas, waterfowl, cranes, Abdim's storks, hamerkop with minimal problems. They can be hard on smaller passerines birds and will steal eggs and nestlings if the opportunity presents itself.



## OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE

X

**Within AZA:** Best kept in pairs, but many are kept single in bird show settings. They have been kept in family groups for longer periods when nesting opportunities are absent.

**Minimum Group Size:** Can be housed single in smaller indoor/outdoor holding cages.

**Maximum Group Size:** Normally kept in pairs only, but offspring can stay with the parents if nesting opportunities are provided.



## MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

X

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

n/a



## REFERENCES

del Hoya, J., Elliott, A., & Sargatal, J. editors 2001. Handbook of the Birds of the World. Volume 6: Mousebirds to Hornbills. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.

Fry, Hilary C., Keith, Stuart. Urban, Emil K. editors 1988. The Birds of Africa: Volume III. Academic Press, California.

Kemp, Alan. 1995. Bird Families of the World: The Hornbills. Illustrated by Martin Woodcock. Oxford University Press, New York.



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