

Snowy Owl

Scientific name: *Bubo scandiacus*



Facts:

Height	20" - 28"
Wingspan	Up to 5'
Weight	3.5 - 6.5 lbs (males are smaller)
Color	Males: mostly white, Females: black flecks
Lifespan	Wild: 8+ years Captive: 25+ years

Diet: *Carnivore*

The Snowy owl's preferred meal is lemmings. An adult can eat up to 1,600 each year - that's 3 to 5 each day! They will also eat other rodents, rabbits, birds, and fish.



Behavior:

Unlike most other owl species, Snowy owls hunt mainly in the daytime. Snowy owls are highly nomadic and their movements are correlated to lemming populations. They aggressively defend their nests and will attack anything that disturbs them.

Did you know?

Snowy owls breed on the Arctic tundra, where females nest on the ground and lay 3 - 11 eggs.

Habitat:

Treeless, open spaces. They often sit on the ground to hunt, so they prefer terrain where they can easily search for prey.

Range:

During the breeding season, Snowy owls nest in Alaska and Canada. In the winter, they travel into northern U.S.

