

Woodpigeon

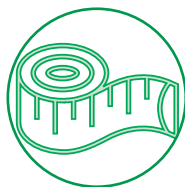
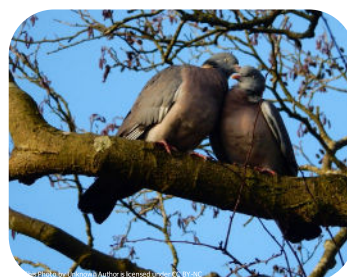
Habitat Hero



Common Name: Woodpigeon
Irish Name: Colm coille
Scientific Name: Columba palumbus

Seen in Ireland:

Year-round



The Woodpigeon is the largest of the pigeons in Ireland. Approximately 40cm in length and weighs 300g.



It was originally a woodland bird, but it is very adaptable, so now is found in parks, gardens, and even in town centres too.



It feeds on seeds, leaves, fruit including Ivy berries in particular, but also Haws, as well as buds and root crops.



They live around 3-5 years but have been known to live longer than that.

Woodpigeon Life Cycle



Woodpigeon



Some more Facts:

- It is mostly grey in colour and has a relatively long tail and small head.
- Overall, it is a rather stocky looking bird. It has white and green patches on the neck.
- When in flight, large white wing bands across the upper wing are visible.
- In the breeding season the males can be seen in upward-soaring display flights which end with a loud wing-clap.
- There is a resident population of Irish Woodpigeons who live in Ireland year-round.
- This population is added to by birds who migrate to Ireland from mainland Europe when the weather gets cold there.
- This means very large flocks of can be seen here in the Winter-time.
- Some vegetable farmers are not big fans of Woodpigeons, as the birds can cause a lot of crop damage; they love to eat cabbages, sprouts, peas and grain!

