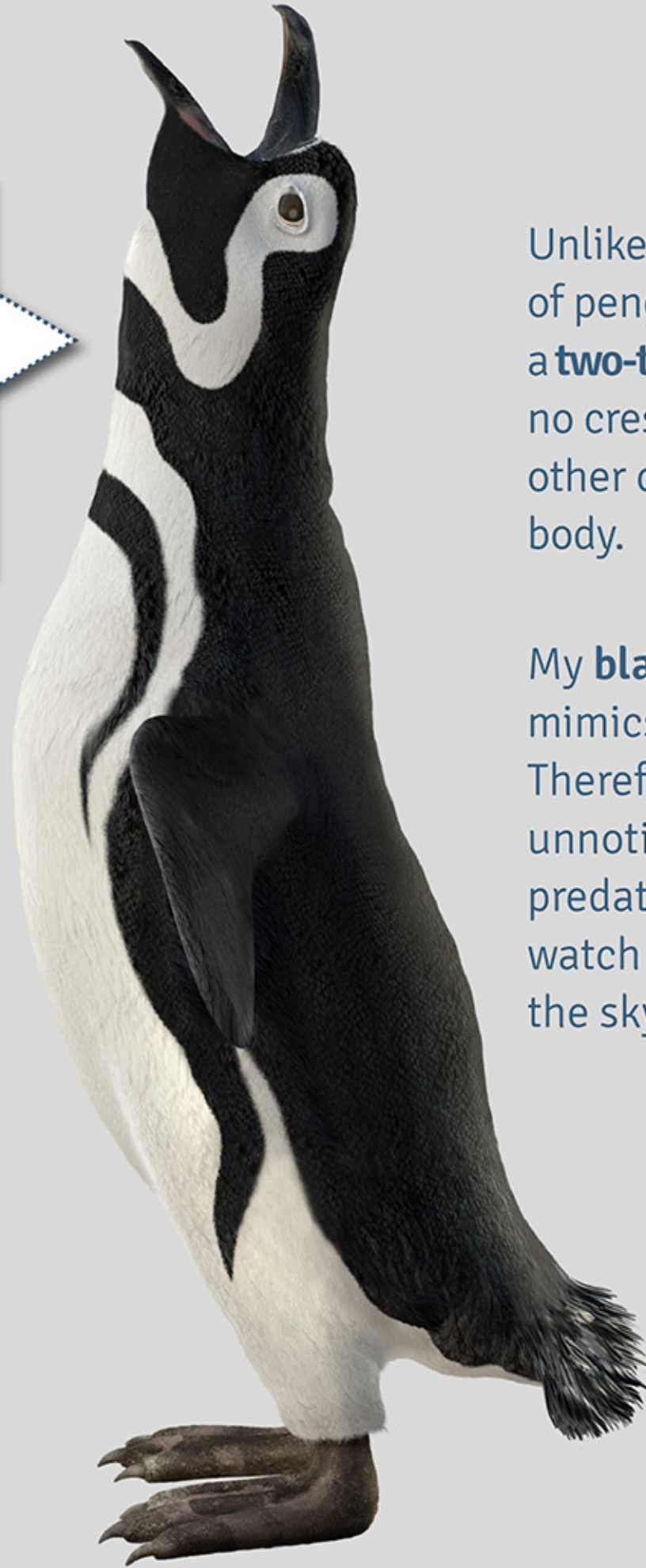


KEYS TO RECOGNISE A MAGELLANIC PENGUIN

I have two **black stripes** between my head and breast in the shape of a reversed horseshoe, which makes me different from other species.



My **white breast** blends with the brightness of the sea surface. In this way, I am less visible to predators which watch me from the underwater.



Unlike other species of penguins, I have a **two-toned plumage**, no crest feathers or other colours in my body.

My **black back** mimics the sea. Therefore, I go unnoticed by predators which watch me from the sky

The colours of my plumage help me to camouflage myself in the sea and hunt.

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

You could know if I'm male or female by the width and length of my **beak**.

My flippers are just a few millimeters longer than those of the female.

Width and length of beaks:


Male: 2.4 cm and 5.8 cm

Female: 2.1 cm and 5.3 cm

Unlike birds that can fly, my **bones** are solid and heavy to dive better.

My **sternum** and strong breast muscles allow me to swim for a long time at a steady rhythm.

My barely flexible '**wing-flipper**', together with the robustness of my bones, gives me the necessary strength to propel myself easily through the water.



My beak is bony-based covered by **keratin**, the same material of human nails.

My **plumage** makes me water-resistant. When I dive into the water I do not feel cold, because my feather and a **layer of air** between them isolate my skin from the frigid water.

My feet are my **rudder** when I swim and dive.

I walk upright because my **feet** are set far back on the body. People say I waddle like a duck.

IN THE SEA...

I **propel** myself in three different ways:



SWIMMING

My body floats naturally at the surface of the water. I use my flippers as paddles to move forward.

JUMPING (PURPOISE-LIKE)

To speed up I use the same technique as dolphins: I swim underwater and then I jump.

I can reach a speed of 12 km/h and swim up to 174 km per day.

DIVING

When I dive to migrate or feed, I look like a bird flying.

I can dive up to 97 m deep and stay 4 min underwater.

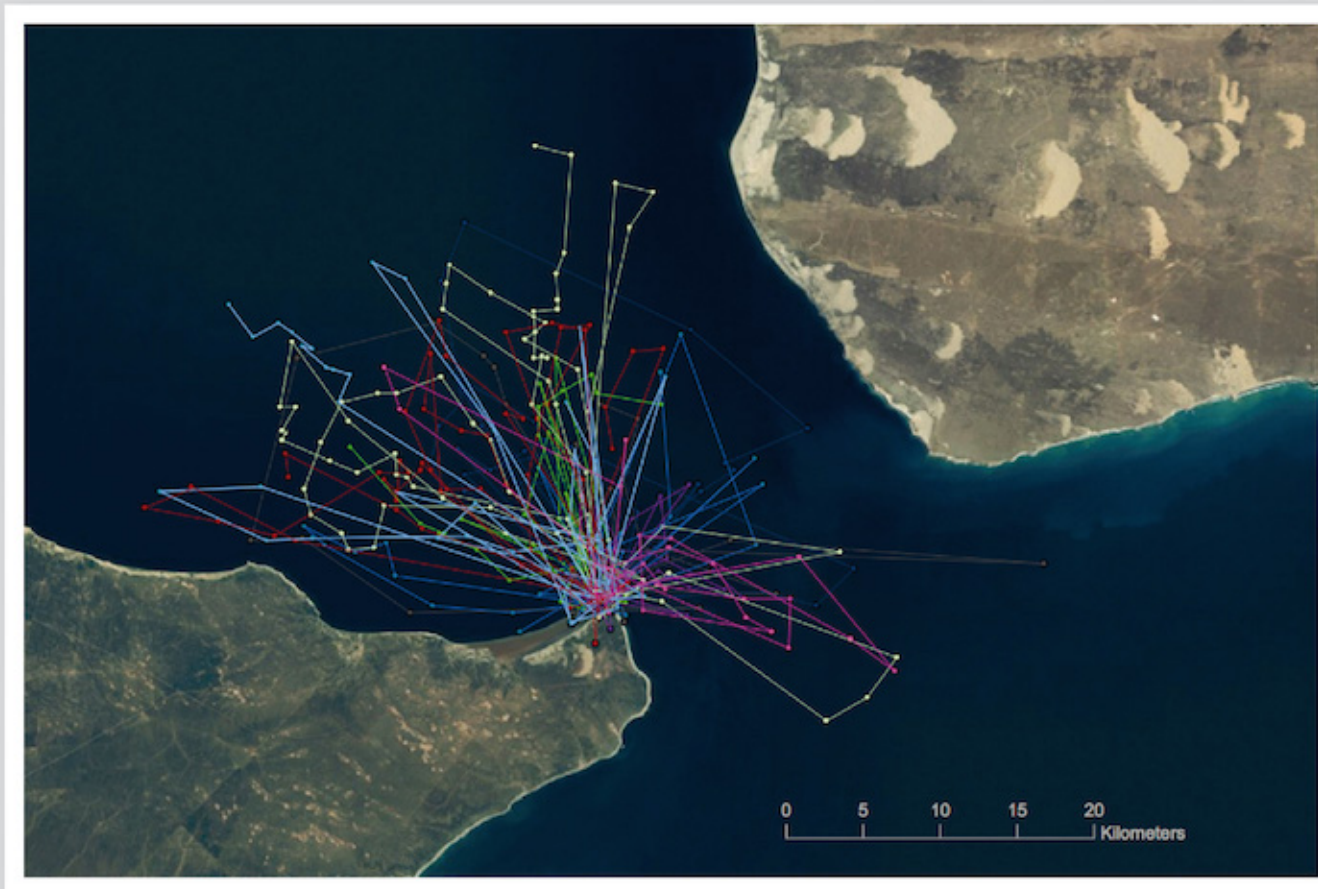
WHEN YOU COULD VISIT US?

Every year, at the beginning of **September**, we arrive at El Pedral to start our breeding season, where we stay until autumn.

WHY DO I CHOOSE EL PEDRAL?

Because the **soil type** and **vegetation** are ideal to build my nest and protect my chicks from the sun and predators.

But, above all, because **food is very close** to the colony: 16 km in average, as opposed to 150 km of other colonies, such as Punta Tombo.



Monitoring feeding journeys carried out by adult penguins of the El Pedral's colony, during the period of raising their chicks.

WHERE DO WE MIGRATE?

In the months of March and April, we start our winter migration towards the south of **Brazil**, swimming around 6,000 km in full.

WHO FOUND OUR COLONY AND TRACED ITS DEVELOPMENT SCIENTIFICALLY?

The first person who discovered us was Humberto, an inhabitant of El Pedral, in the year 2008.

Pablo García Borboroglu visited us thanks to Humberto. He works for the Global Penguin Society coalition and for the CONICET . Since he began to study us when we were just 13 couples, we feel protected!

In 2013, we reached 1,300 couples and our colony is still growing!



Pablo García Borboroglu
Researcher of CONICET
President of GPS

THE GLOBAL PENGUIN SOCIETY IS AN INTERNATIONAL COALITION COMMITTED TO THE SURVIVAL AND PROTECTION OF ALL THE PENGUINS' SPECIES IN THE WORLD AND THEIR HABITATS, THROUGH SCIENCE, MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION. 60% OF THE 18 PENGUINS' SPECIES IN THE WORLD ARE CONSIDERED TO BE THREATENED OR VULNERABLE. THIS FACT SHOWS THE MAIN THREATS FOR THE OCEAN: POLLUTION, FISHING AND GLOBAL WARMING.

www.globalpenguinsociety.org

¹ The acronym CONICET stands for Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas [National Counsel for Scientific Research], which is the main institution devoted to the promotion of science and technology in Argentina.

WE ARE EXPERTS AT

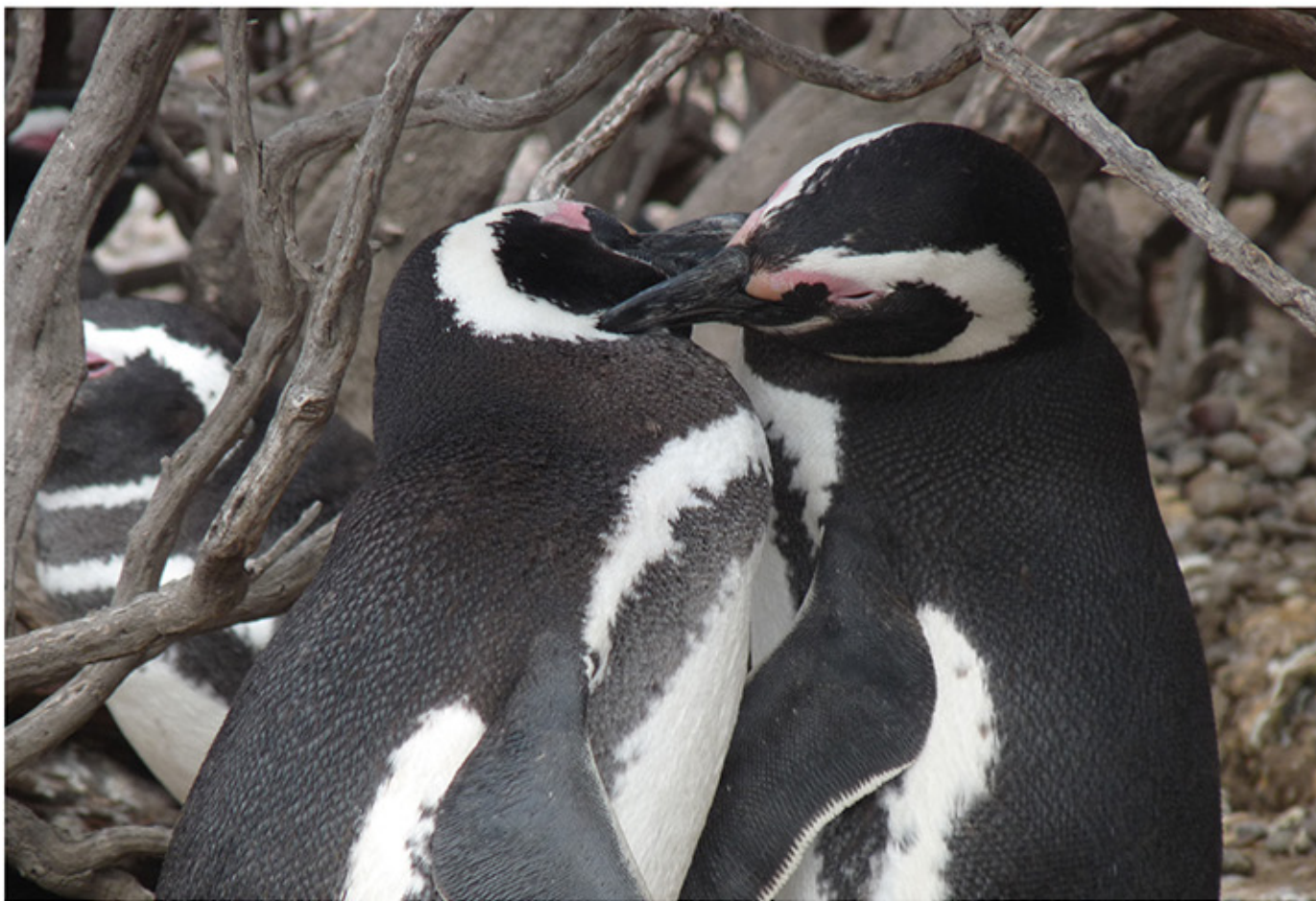
Expulsion of salt: We expel the excess of salt that we ingest, by means of a gland located above the eyes.

Heat regulation: Under our skin, we have a layer of fat, the thickness of which varies according to the time of the year. It is a reserve of energy for the mating season and an excellent thermal insulator.

Swimming: we swim up to 16,000 km per year (same as a car).

Diving: we dive up to 100 m deep.

Fidelity: we are faithful to our couple. Some of us have been coupled with the same female for 16 years (we live up to 35 years).



OUR PRIORITY: FAMILY!

We are monogamous and we make a unique mating couple each season. We feed our chicks only and we recognise them by their sound.

The stages of courtship



We dig caves in the soil or under bushes to build the best nest. Some nests have roofs, others don't.

1) Prepare the nest and attract the attention of the female dancing and making noises, similar to brays.

2) If the female is interested in me, she will enter into the nest to verify that it is proper to bring the future chicks.

3) It may happen that other male attracts the attention of the female and starts a competition with me.

4) If reproduction is successful, my couple and I will go back to the same nest every year. If not, we may break up.

Reproduction and chicks

SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Mating	Incubation Eggs laying	Hatching	Assistance of chicks			Migration
				Moulting	Learning	