



# Jersey Zoo Bird Internship

## The Bird Department

In this department students will gain valuable insight into the husbandry of a wide variety of bird taxa. They will get to see first-hand how a busy bird department is run and get the chance to work within a motivated, experienced team in a conservation-oriented organisation. As well as the following table of skills, you will also improve your team working skills, and get opportunity to grow and improve your techniques and show your own initiative whilst making your contribution to helping save species. You will also learn how the bird collection contributes to Durrell's efforts in the wild for some very important and threatened species.

### What will I be doing? (Variable according to season and time spent in department)

Activity	Understanding/Knowledge gained
Cleaning bird enclosures and public areas and changing substrates, washing food and drink bowls	Understanding husbandry needs of many species, improve cleaning technique and attention to detail. Understanding importance of good hygiene and techniques for preventing spread of disease and zoonosis.
Food preparation – fruit and insect feeds	Understanding nutritional requirements of various species. How to prepare captive feeds for different animals. Knowledge of insect breeding and care.
Feeding animals	Knowledge of how to feed different species and groups etc. preventing aggression, monitoring animals as they feed, understanding feeding behaviour
Gardening of enclosures	Improving landscaping skills. Understanding requirements of animals and how to create appropriate enclosure for viewing public
Maintain enclosure (e.g., new perching)	Understanding individual requirements of species, enclosure design and providing safe environments for species. Improving use of tools and practical skills.
Providing nesting opportunities/materials, finding nests	Understanding reproductive behaviour and needs of different species
Monitoring behaviour	Understanding how to observe and interpret behaviours. (Reproductive, aggression during mixes, medical problems)
Answering queries from the public	Communication skills
Collection of samples for laboratory testing	How to collect samples and submit them for testing
Assist with bird capture and observe bird tagging	Capture, restraint and tagging techniques
Observation of veterinary procedures	Various
Observing use of egg incubators and care of hatchling/fledglings	Dependent on season but opportunity to observe avian incubation techniques and hand rearing of chicks

## Would I make a good intern?

Students should be studying/ or have studied a relevant animal degree/ diploma or have previous knowledge of working with exotic animals in captive or field-based settings. Candidate must have good English, both verbal and written communication skills

You will need a high level of health and fitness in order to be able to carry heavy loads and work in extreme outdoor weather conditions. Zoo work is hard, dirty and smelly but for those with a passion for animals it is extremely rewarding.



Below is a list of the species that we currently work with in the Bird Department. More information on the work we carry out with these species in the wild is on our website [www.durrell.org](http://www.durrell.org). Perhaps look up a few of them on the IUCN Red Data List and found out how threatened they are <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Species latin name	Species Common name	Male:female:unknown	Total
<i>Margaroperdix madagarensis</i>	Madagascar partridge	0.2.0	2
<i>Arborophila gingica</i>	Collared partridge	1.2.0	3
<i>Lophura edwardsi</i>	Vietnam pheasant	5.4.0	9
<i>Polyplectron napoleonis</i>	Palawan peacock-pheasant	4.4.0	8
<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	White-faced whistling-duck	2.1.0	3
<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	White-backed duck	5.6.0	11
<i>Branta ruficollis</i>	Red-breasted goose	21.19.0	40
<i>Anas bernieri</i>	Madagascar teal	7.5. 0	12
<i>Anas melleri</i>	Meller's duck	6.8.2	16
<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	Ferruginous duck	9.5.3	17
<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	Marbled teal	3.2.0	5
<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	African pygmy goose	1.0.0	1
<i>Spatula hottentota</i>	Hottentot teal	6.5.0	11
<i>Asarcornis scutulata</i>	White-winged duck	3.1.0	4
<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	Chilean flamingo	38.41.0	79
<i>Caloenas nicobarica</i>	Nicobar pigeon	8.6.0	14
<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	Emerald dove	5.12.0	17
<i>Gallicolumba crinigera</i>	Mindanao bleeding-heart	4.3.0	7
<i>Antigone vipio</i>	White-naped crane	2.1.0	3



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<i>Streptopelia risoria</i>	Ringed turtle dove	10.7.0	17
<i>Nesoenas mayeri</i>	Pink pigeon	19.13.2	34
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	Grey crowned-crane	1.0.0	1
<i>Grus paradiseus</i>	Blue crane	1.1.0	2
<i>Geronticus eremita</i>	Northern bald ibis	17.13.2	32
<i>Lophotibis cristata</i>	Madagascar crested ibis	4.0.0	4
<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Hamerkop	1.1.0	2
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Black-winged stilt	1.1.0	2
<i>Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus</i>	Wrinkled hornbill	3.4.0	7
<i>Cissa thalassina</i>	Javan Green Magpie	1.2.0	3
<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> **	Red-billed chough	11.19.13	43
<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	Black bulbul	8.3.0	11
<i>Irena puella</i>	Asian fairy-bluebird	2.2.0	4
<i>Garrulax bicolor</i>	Sumatran laughing thrush	2.2.0	4
<i>Leucopsar rothschildi</i>	Bali starling	4.4.0	8
<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	White-rumped shama	4.4.0	8
<i>Cossypha albicapilla</i>	White-crowned robin chat	2.1.0	3
<i>Dryonastes courtoisi</i>	Blue-crowned laughingthrush	6.8.0	14
<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	Philippine glossy starling	7.0.0	7
<i>Leiothrix argentea</i>	Silver-eared mesia	1.1.0	2
<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>	Pekin robin	2.2.0	4
<i>Liocichla omeiensis</i>	Omei Shan liocichla	3.3.0	6
<i>Trochalopteron milnei</i>	Red-tailed laughingthrush	5.4.0	9
<i>Niltava sundara</i>	Rufus-bellied niltava	1.0.0	1
<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	Madagascar fody	36.19.0	55
<i>Lonchura oryzivora</i>	Java sparrow	10.0.1	11
<i>Icterus oberi</i>	Montserrat oriole	6.3.0	9
<i>Geokichla dohertyi</i>	Chestnut-backed thrush	2.2.0	4