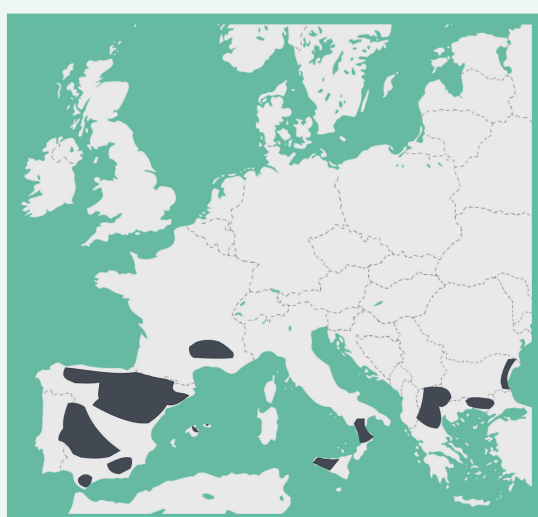# Egyptian Vulture

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Neophron percnopterus

GLOBAL RANGE
Africa, southern Europe, the Caucasus and Middle East, Central Asia and the Indian Subcontinent

EUROPEAN RANGE

GLOBAL STATUS
Endangered

GLOBAL POPULATION
12,000-38,000 mature individuals

HABITAT
Dry savannah, shrubland and grassland; breeds on cliffs

SIZE
58-70 cm

WEIGHT
1,6-2,2 kg

WINGSPAN
155-170 cm

LIFE EXPECTANCY
Up to 37 years in captivity

BREEDING CYCLE

It starts breeding when it reaches 4-5 years old. It begins mating in spring, much later than other European vulture species because it migrates back from Africa.
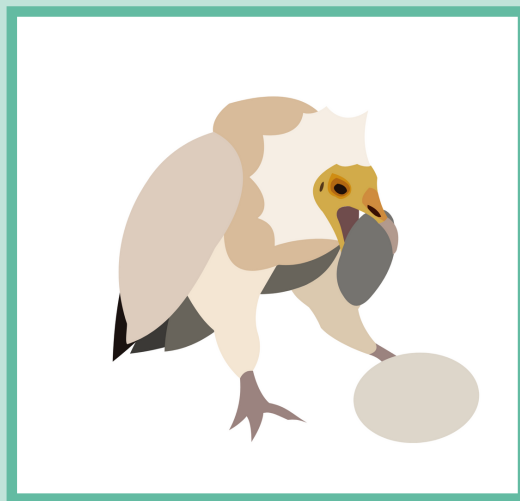
If successful, it lays 2 eggs on average in April or May. Both parents incubate the clutch. The first egg hatches after about 42 days, and the second 3-5 days later.

Young chicks usually take their first flights 90-110 days after hatching. Even after fledging, the birds are still dependent on their parents for at least a month.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Egyptian Vulture is the world's only tool-using vulture. It utilizes sharp rocks to crack open eggs for a tasty snack. It has a very varied diet. Its diet consists mainly of carrion, but also small mammals, young birds, fish, eggs, animal faeces and even rotting fruit.
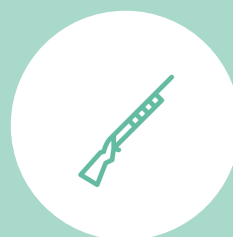
THREATS & CONSERVATION

Due to its varied diet, the species is particularly vulnerable to consuming poisoned or contaminated food. Illegal wildlife poisoning remains the biggest threat to vultures.

To minimize electrocutions, hazardous cables should be insulated. However, selecting less dangerous pole designs, or burrowing lines in high-biodiversity areas seem better options.

As a long distance migratory vulture, travelling from Europe to Africa, it faces many threats across its flyway, including poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

WHY ARE VULTURES IMPORTANT?

As nature's cleanup crew, vultures provide important environmental services that benefit nature, wildlife and society as a whole.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN VULTURE AND ITS CONSERVATION

Visit:
www.4vultures.org/vultures/egyptian-vulture

VCF VULTURE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION