

# Saddle-bill Stork

## *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*



**Range:** Sub-Saharan Africa  
**Size:** ♂:150 cm(59 in)  
♀:150 (59 in)  
**Weight:** ♂:5.1-7 kg (11-17 lbs)  
♀ :5.1-6.8(11-15 lbs)  
**Wing:** 240-270 cm (96-108 in)  
**Habitat:** forested lowlands  
**Incubation:** 30-35 days  
**Eggs:** 1-2  
**Fledge:** 10-14 weeks  
**Sexual maturity:** 36 months  
**Nest:** platform  
**Social:** solitary  
**Breeding:** monogamous  
**Movement:** generally sedentary  
**Food:** fish, frogs and crabs  
**IUCN:** least concern  
**Subspecies:** monotypic  
**Longevity:** captive: 36 yrs  
**Wild:**



Order:Ciconiiformes Family:Ciconiidae

The most colorful of the storks, the Saddle-billed stork has a striking appearance. It is spectacularly plumaged, identical in male and female when perched but the female shows much more white in the primaries in flight. The head, neck, back, wings, and tail are iridescent black, with the rest of the body and the primary flight feathers being white. Juveniles are browner grey in plumage. The massive bill is red with a black band and a yellow frontal shield (the “saddle”). The legs and feet are black with pink knees. On the chest is a bare red patch of skin, whose

color darkens during breeding season. The sexes can be readily distinguished by the golden yellow irises of the female and the brown irises and dangling yellow wattles of the male.