

Snowy Crowned Robin Chat

**Scientific Name:**

Cossypha niveicapilla

Range:

Nigeria, Senegambia, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, s. Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Kenya and Tanzania

Habitat:

Dry to moist tropical/subtropical forest and savannah

Average Size:

Length: between 6 and 8 inches
Weight: average unknown

Lifespan:

About 10 years

Diet:

Wild: mostly insects, fruits and seeds and berries

Zoo: Dog food, fruit and vegetables, vitamins

Reproduction:

Incubation: unknown

Clutch size: unknown

Appearance:

This small bird is brilliant orange in color with a black 'mask-cap' on the head. It gets the appellation 'snowy crowned' from the streak on white feathers found on the very top of the head.

Predators:

Unknown in wild

Population Status:

Stable

**About the Animal**

Originally grouped in the same family as thrushes, new molecular evidence puts the Snowy-crowned Robin Chat to in with the Old World Flycatchers. As the name implies, this enormous family group are insect-eaters, preferring to catch their food on the wing.

Common throughout its range, this small, noisy bird prefers to hide in woodland habitats, but adapt well to human habitation when necessary.

Mating and Reproduction

Both female and male Robin Chats are involved in building the nest, but only the female incubates the eggs. Both parents care for hatchlings.

Amazing Information

Despite being commonly found throughout their native range, very little is known about the wild habits of this species.



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