

Juveniles undergo a partial moult to first immature plumage soon after fledging; First Immatures retain all juvenile remiges, greater primary coverts, alula and rectrices. Note that outer primaries and tail feathers differ in shape from adults – see illustration below; First immatures commence moult to second immature plumage, which is indistinguishable from adult plumage, at approximately one year old;

Second immatures, identified by subtle differences in bare parts, attain full adult colouring in a complete moult commencing at the end of their second year. Thus adults aged (3+);

Sexing:

There is no plumage dimorphism, though adult males average larger than adult females; Incubation is by the female only.



