

TAG [Southern Rockhopper](#) , [Emperor Penuin](#) , [Monogamy](#) , [Long Distance Relationships](#)

# Penguin Mates Often Have Long Distance Relationships Scientists Say

By [Jill Arce](#), Tech Times | September 10, 7:02 AM

Like
Follow
Share(154)
Tweet(10)
Reddit
0 Comments
...
SUBSCRIBE



The southern rockhopper, the smallest, yellow-crested black-and-white penguin is a monogamous specie, going back home to the same partner after a long time and distance apart to build a family.  
(Photo : Matt Kieffer | Flickr)

For penguins, absence does make the heart grow fonder.

Latest study on southern rockhopper penguins found that the smallest yellow-crested, black-and-white penguin in the genus *Eudyptes* actually engages in long distance relationships with its mate, spending most of the year away and going back to the same mate to make babies.

"In these extremely faithful animals - the pair bonds for breeding may last all life long in this species - the partners may actually be separated by hundreds to thousands of kilometers at sea," said researcher Jean-Baptiste Thiebot.

For their study, Thiebot's team followed and tracked the activity of ten couples by clipping lightweight sensors onto the 20 birds. The penguin couples were apart for about six months. Findings of the research were published online Sept. 9 in the journal *Biology Letters*.

The sensors clipped onto the penguins showed that each pair was approximately a hundred kilometers apart while feasting at sea during separation. Out of the 20 tracked penguins, seen pairs made it back home for breeding and to rekindle their relationships. Two individual birds came back without their mates, while the remaining four either moved away or died at sea.

When the penguins returned home off the coast of Argentina to New Island, they actually managed to find each other and mate. Their reunions were, however, short - in just less than a quarter of the year.

After six months apart, when the penguins returned home in October, mating was first among their to-do list. Then for a whole month, the birds busied themselves with egg-laying and incubation. The researchers did not find any "lingering over the kids." Rearing of the chicks would take up approximately 70 days just before the penguin moms and dads split up again in April.

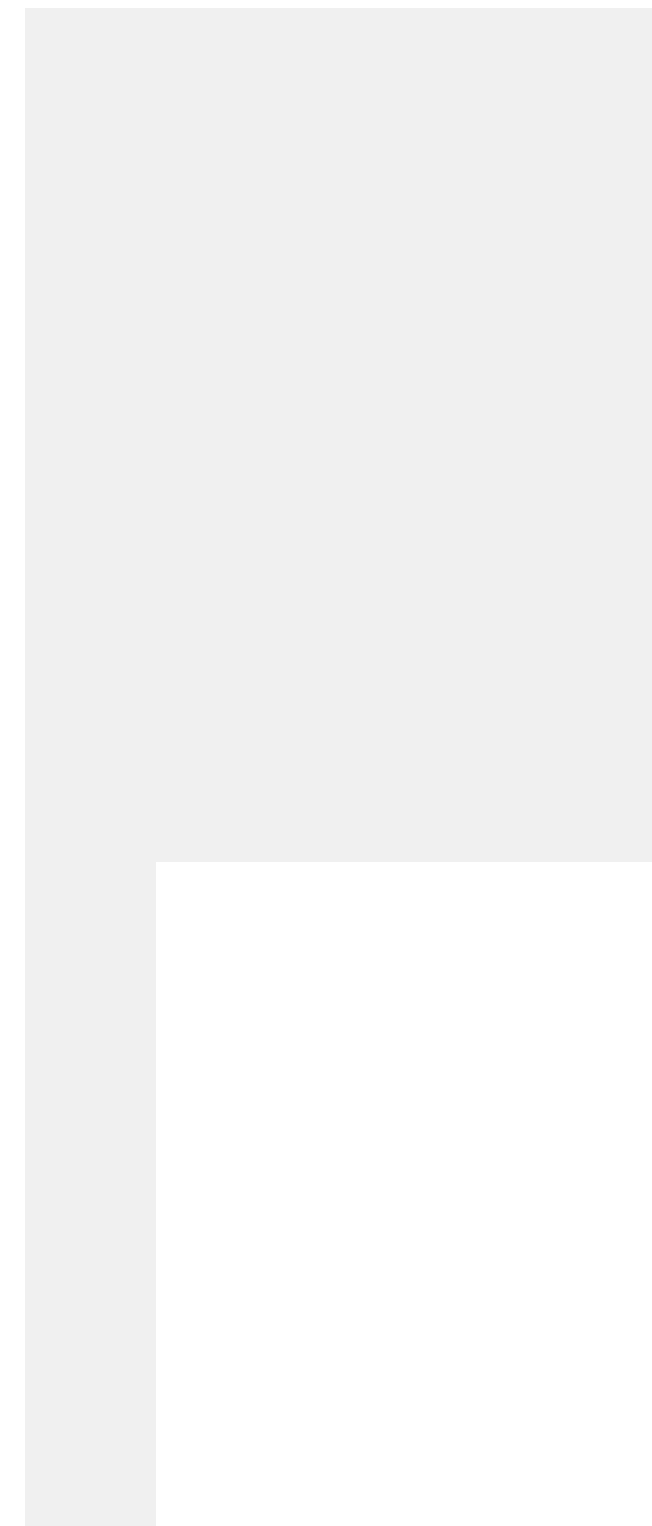
Hundreds of kilometers away from their mates, and for roughly six months, made the penguins either stay close together, or end up "divorcing." According to Thiebot, divorce is not uncommon among penguins, but majority make it back home together as a couple after a long period of separation to build a family.

There was also an instance where the researchers found that a penguin couple that was farther apart from each other during separation showed different behavior. After being almost 2,500 kilometers apart, the birds did return home, but became homebodies, spending most of their time at the nest. Because of this, the researchers noted that penguins that do not build a home together, such as the Emperor penguin, are least likely to be as monogamous as the southern rockhopper which, even after a long period of separation from its mate, comes back to build a home, usually with the same partner.

Photo: Matt Kieffer | [Flickr](#)

Une Mère Parisienne Gagne 6.850 € Par Mois En Travaillant À Domicile [A Seduction Technique Women Can't Resist](#)

[This Shocking Method Will 'Reverse' Diabetes](#) [Shocking Weight Loss Formula To Lose 59lbs in 9 Weeks](#)



Une Mère Parisienne Gagne 6.850 € Par Mois En Travaillant À Domicile

- [A Seduction Technique Women Can't Resist](#)
- [How To Make Any Woman Obsess Over You](#)
- [Shocking Weight Loss Formula To Lose 59lbs in 9 Weeks](#)
- [The Way To Capture His Heart And Keep It](#)
- [This Shocking Method Will 'Reverse' Diabetes](#)

Most Popular
Most Commented

15 SEPTEMBER '15  
LG Nexus 5X/(2015) Black Model And Final Specs Leak From Internal Presentation Ahead Of Release

14 SEPTEMBER '15  
All-New 2016 Honda Civic Parked In Ann Arbor Leaked In Photos



15 SEPTEMBER '15  
Microsoft Surface Pro 4 Will Feature 12.3" Display, Increased Battery Life, New Processor, 3D Camera And More

Like
Follow
Share(154)
Tweet(10)
Reddit
0 Comments
...
SUBSCRIBE

### Related Articles

[Africa's Only Penguin Species Facing Risk Of Extinction, Experts Warn](#)

[Glacial Melting In Antarctica May Be Boon For Penguins](#)

[Batman #44 Review: Scott Snyder Tackles Some Serious Topics In A Powerful One-Shot](#)

© 2015 Tech Times, All rights reserved. Do not reproduce without permission.

### Sponsored From Around the Web



France: €1 Apple iPhone 6 Starts Mobile War



2 Veggies That "Destroy" Stomach Fat



Rich People Do Everything to Ban This - This Is Unbelievable



1 Fruit That "Destroys" Diabetes

15 SEPTEMBER '15

Jony Ive Shares Difficulties Of Working On Hermes Apple Watch

15 SEPTEMBER '15

XPS 12 vs. Surface Pro 3 vs. iPad Pro: Dell Reportedly Plans On Unleashing Its Own Large-Screen Tablet



Email Newsletter

Enter your email and get it now

A DAY AGO

Sony Xperia Z5 Compact Pre-Headphones In Select Countries

13 SEPTEMBER '15

Truvada Brings HIV Cure Closer To Work

14 SEPTEMBER '15

AMD Shares Soar As Rumors Intel Want To Take Over

14 SEPTEMBER '15

Google's iPhone 6s Plus Rival Phablet Specs Revealed In Beijing

14 SEPTEMBER '15

12-Year-Old Girl Beats Einstein Test Scores On Mensa IQ Test



16 Celeb Photo Re-creations That Put the Original to Shame



Que le spectacle commence... Stormfall: Age of War



The Top 10 Countries with the Most Beautiful Women



Hottest Teen Celebrities



Amazing Perfectly Timed Photos



Surprise! 10 Celebs You Didn't Know Were Gay

MONO

LA REN  
QUI A TOUT C



T  
LOUNGE

Sponsored From Around the Web



France: €1 Apple iPhone 6 Starts Mobile War



2 Veggies That "Destroy" Stomach Fat



Rich People Do Everything to Ban This - This Is Unbelievable



1 Fruit That "Destroys" Diabetes



16 Celeb Photo Re-creations That Put the Original to Shame



Que le spectacle commence... Stormfall: Age of War

Here Is An Awesome Look At Men: Apocalypse'

'Halo 5: Guardians': First Look Chief's Campaign And The Re

CD Projekt Red, Developer Be Witcher' Games, Denies EA A

New Promo For 'South Park' S Premiere Teases Caitlyn Jenne Deflategate Controversy

Nintendo's Updated Legendar Could Be Hinting At A New Ga

X-Men's Apocalypse: More Vil Ooze In Leaked Photo

Jon Snow Actor Says He Will Thrones' For Years To Come

Grab This Awesome 'Shiny' Ev From Nintendo Quickly

Latest 'Destiny: The Taken Kin Customized Just For You

READ MORE

Assistez vos de

BOMGAR™



The Top 10 Countries with the Most Beautiful Women



Hottest Teen Celebrities



Amazing Perfectly Timed Photos

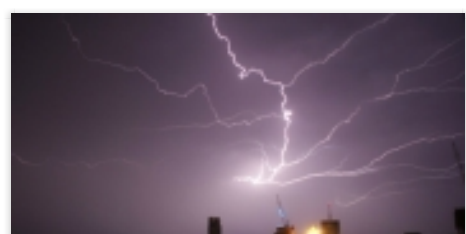


Surprise! 10 Celebs You Didn't Know Were Gay



**DON'T MISS**

**TRENDING**



**ENVIRONMENT**  
Survey Reveals Americans See Global Warming as Critical Threat, Call for Action



**ENVIRONMENT**  
What a Rising Iceland Can Tell Us About Glacier Melt



**ENVIRONMENT**  
Urban Areas Subject To More Frequent Heat Waves, Says Study

Despite Stalled Front, Lava Flow in Pahoia Still Active

What a Rising Iceland Can Tell Us About Glacier Melt

Urban Areas Subject To More Frequent Heat Waves, Says Study

Stunning Bioluminescent Algae Lights Up Hong Kong Waters:

Recommended for You