

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Rock pigeon: pp 202-203.



### ROCK PIGEON

**Family** Columbidae

**Species** *Columba livia*

**Common name** Homing Pigeon

**Status** Introduced

**Abundance** Common

**Size** 330 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm)

**Habitat** Cities, parks, pastureland and mudflats.

**Worldwide range** A bird of Europe, North Africa, Western Asia and India.

**New Zealand range** Introduced by pigeon fanciers, this bird is common in most New Zealand cities where it breeds on building ledges or under bridges. It has also established populations on cliff faces in places as Orewa, Napier, Rangitikei

and inland Canterbury.

### **Description**

**Head and upperparts** Variations of dark grey and blue-grey with some purple iridescence on neck. **Wings** Usually blue-grey with two black bars on primaries.

**Rump** White.

### **Where to find**

**North and South Islands** – Common in many cities and towns.