



STINAPA INFORMATION

REPEATERS

Bonaire has a high percentage of repeat visitors. These are tourists who come back again and again. Our island holds such an attraction for them that they don't have to think long about their holiday destination. Our tourist office recognizes that and awards gold, silver and bronze medals to visitors who come back year after year. Bonaire has so many "repeaters" that you'd almost think that the boomerang shape of our island has something to do with this. There are also many people who come and "hibernate" on Bonaire. In the realm of the birds, we know the phenomenon of 'repeaters' too. We just don't name it that way. Of the more than 200 species of birds that live on our island only 55 are brooding here. The rest are migratory, hibernators and passersby. Most migratory birds and hibernators landing on here are originally from North America. But on our island we also see bird species that actually live mainly in South America. And also you can also find typical Caribbean birds on Bonaire. This mix makes our island an interesting destination for birdwatchers. In the year of biodiversity it's nice to give a few "repeaters" a closer look. We all know the Ruddy Turnstone, a visitor from North America, This beach comber has a loud plumage: predominantly brown and black with a white belly and it has red legs. They usually dribble back and forth in groups and roam along the water looking for food. This bird broods in the far north. But Ruddy Turnstones that do not brood often can be found in tropical areas in summer. Hence we do see them throughout the year. If you look closely, you regularly see Turnstones missing one or more toes. How can that be? Another bather from North America is the Laughing Gull. This gull is mainly distinguished by its black head and cackling laugh. They have a white belly, gray back and gray wings. Around March, April, they arrive on our island and they stay here all summer. In September, they will disappear. And with their piercing laughter, you'll notice it immediately when they are back. It is the only gull species that nest in the Caribbean, including Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. Our beautiful island not only attracts tourists back again and again, but also dozens of bird species.

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For more information or comments: STINAPA, telephone 717 - 8444, info@stinapa.org

NOS TA BIBA DI NATURELESA



Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Bonelru