

# Swallow

## Identification

- Distinctive long, forked tail with tail streamers
- Red throat
- White underside
- Blueish sheen to the head and back
- Swallows have longer wings than martins.

## Flight

Swallows dart and glide, often low to the ground or at treetop height. They often tweet and chirrup from perches.

## Nesting

They like barns, lean-tos and other outbuildings with dark nooks and crannies for nesting. Swallows usually look for a ledge or beam among roof timbers that are sheltered from the elements. There, they'll build a cup-shaped nest of mud that's difficult for predators to spot.

## Where to look

Flying low to the ground over lowland fields and meadows, especially near lakes and rivers where there are lots of insects. Swallows will also perch on telephone wires or wire fencing, and land on wet mud to scoop some up for nest-building.

