

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

13 cm

INTRODUCED TO NEW ZEALAND

Goldfinches are small brown, black and white birds with gold bars on their wings, and bright red, white and black faces. Their natural range is Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and western Asia. About 500 goldfinches were liberated in mainland New Zealand in the late 1800s, from where they colonised the Chatham Islands about 1910. They are common on Chatham and Pitt Islands, and straggle to other islands in the group.



Goldfinch at nest.
Photo: (DOC).