

# White-Crested Laughingthrush

*Garrulax leucophus*



**Class:** *Aves*

**Order:** *Passiformes*

**Family:** *Timaliidae*

## Characteristics:

White-crested laughingthrush have a narrow-black strip of plumage starting at the base of the top beak that ends close to the skull-vertebrae junction. The rest of their head, head crest and chest have white plumage. The lower part of the body is covered in a reddish brown plumage. Their tail feathers are black.

## Behavior:

These birds are social animals. In these groups, thrushes produce a variety of calls and subsongs used to create cohesion, show excitement, sound the alarm for danger or to instigate mobbing (Cinkansadran 2011).

## Reproduction:

There has been no visible courtship ritual; however, it has been observed that formed pairs will often have synchronized calls (Vencl et al 1976). When pairs are formed, they will often raise more than one group of offspring per season. Each group of offspring usually has about 3 to 5 eggs which have an unusually short incubation time of 15 days. The hatchings are then attended to by both parents and by other individuals from the flock in the wild with older offspring possibly playing a role in the rearing as observed in a zoological setting (Round 2006, Young et al 1978). Chicks will fledge after two weeks.

## Diet:

Wild: Insects and Fruit

Zoo: softbill pellets, fruits, mealworms, insectivore food and mice.

## Conservation:

Possible population decline due to habitat loss.

## FYI:

- Most sociable of the laughingthrush family
- Excited calls make them sound like they're laughing.



## **Range & Habitat:**

Himalayan foothill forests



**Lifespan:** up to 20 years in captivity, 15 years in the wild.

## **Special Adaptations:**

Varying vocalizations  
Group rearing of young

## **IUCN Conservation Status:**

Least Concern

