

Long-tailed Bat (Pekapeka)

The long-tailed bat is one of only two native New Zealand land mammals. It is a small dark brown bat with short rounded ears and a tail that is as long as its body.



Life Span

11–30 years

Size

5–6 centimetres

Weight

8–12 grams

Wing Span

25–28 centimetres

The long-tailed bat eats flying insects such as moths and mosquitoes, which it catches in mid-air.

Long-tailed bats live in native forests throughout New Zealand. They use hollow trees and caves as roosting sites, where they usually have only one baby a year.



Did you know?

Long-tailed bats can fly up to 60km per hour. That's how fast we drive on a highway!



Lesser Short-tailed Bat (Pekapeka)

The lesser short-tailed bat is a native New Zealand mammal. It has pale grey-brown fur and long, pointy ears and a short tail.



These bats eat almost anything - insects, fruit, pollen, seeds and nectar. They are the only bat species that find food on the ground. They scurry around like mice using the elbow part of their wings as front legs.

Lesser short-tailed bats are found in native forests in only a few places in New Zealand. They roost in hollow trees either individually or in groups.

Did you know?

There were two species of short-tailed bats. The greater short-tailed bat disappeared after the arrival of rats to New Zealand. It was last sighted in 1967 and is now probably extinct.

Life Span

11-30 years

Size

5-6 centimetres

Weight

11-15 grams

Wing Span

28-30 centimetres

