

Tough birds

fragile homes



Fantastic flamingo features...

Flamingos, like all birds, have a third eyelid that wipes the eye to keep it clean when feeding and flying.

Long, flexible neck to collect food, whilst keeping plumage out of salty water.

Long, powerful wings to transport birds over the distances between suitable feeding wetlands.

Glands in a flamingo's head to allow the flamingo remove salt and ensure drinking water is fresh.

Dense plumage to protect from intense cold and direct exposure to sunlight in open, unsheltered habitats.

Filtering material (called lamellae) in the flamingo's bill sieves out food and expels caustic, undrinkable water.

Scales on legs give an extra layer of protection against caustic (highly alkaline) water chemistry that can burn human skin.

Long legs to allow wading in caustic water (keeping body and feathers away from salt).

Webbed feet that spreads weight on soft, sticky mud and stops the bird from sinking.

