

COLLECTORS' BULLETIN

Seabirds of Samoa

Samoa enjoys an abundance of bird life on and around its coastline.

The rocky nature of the terrain for nesting together with plentiful food, ensures the seabirds of Samoa can thrive. SamoaTel highlights five of the many species of seabirds found around the coastline:

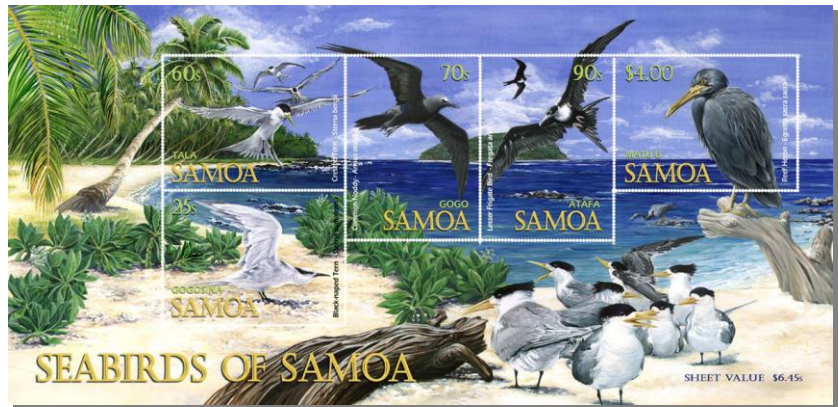
25 sene - Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana* – known as Gogosina, the tern is identified by its forked tail and black nape and head markings. Found near coastal land, the tern is a skimming surface feeder and nests on bare ground or cliff edges. It reaches 30-35cm in length.

60 sene stamp - Crested Tern *Sterna bergii* – the Tala is a colonial breeder and is widespread and a common species. A large bird, this tern dives for fish over shallow coastal waters or lagoons. The hind crown and nape feathers enlarge as a shaggy crest when the bird is alarmed or excited.

70 sene stamp – Common Noddy *Anous stolidus* – Growing to 40cm, the Noddy is a dark tern with a prominent white cap. It usually breeds on offshore islands and is widespread throughout the tropical Pacific. It feeds on small fish, squid and cuttlefish and ventures out to sea in groups. It is known in Samoa as Gogo.

90 sene stamp – Lesser Frigate Bird *Fregata aerial* – although growing to 80cm in length, this is the smallest species in the family. They feed on flying fish and baby turtles, but are best known for their piracy tactics where they rob other birds effectively. Their plumage is not waterproof and therefore they cannot dive for food. The Atafa as it is known is a colonial breeder on offshore islands.

\$4.00 stamp – Reef Heron *Egretta sacra sacra* – known locally as Matu'u, this heron can be found in one of three colour phases with grey predominating in Samoa. Feeding on fish, crustacea and molluscs, the bird builds untidy nests in trees or rock ledges, lays 2-4 eggs and stands around 50cm.



Collectors Notes:

Designer: Karen Odiam, Brisbane, Australia
 Printer: Wyatt & Wilson, Christchurch, New Zealand
 Process: Offset Lithography
 Perforation Gauge: 13 x 2cms
 Stamp Size: 42.27mm x 30.23mm, 3 horizontal, 2 vertical
 Miniature Sheet size: 80mm x 175mm
 Paper: 104gsm, gummed stamp paper
 Denominations: 25s, 60s, 70s, 90s, and \$4.00
 Period of Sale: 16 June, 2004, for a period of one year.

For further information

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ORDER FORM FOR CASUAL ORDERS OR ADDITIONAL ORDERS FOR STANDING ORDER CUSTOMERS

ITEM	PRICE (Tala)	No.	TOTAL
5 stamp set	6.45		
Set CTO	6.45		
Mini sheet	6.45		
Set on First Day Cover	7.45		
MS on cover	7.45		
Reg.Post + Ins			
TOTAL			

Name:..... Phone / Fax.....

Address..... Email.....

..... Signed.....

TICK METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Bank Draft payable to SamoaTel
- Postal Order payable to SamoaTel
- Credit card – Visa or Mastercard – Please enter number and expiry date on back of this form.
- Debit my Standing Order account