



Heracles Inexpectatus: Giant Extinct Parrot

The fossils of the largest ever parrot named **Heracles Inexpectatus** have been discovered in **New Zealand**.

- The **19 million years** old fossils were unearthed near **St. Bathans** (known for its rich source of



fossils from the Miocene period) in southern New Zealand.

- Heracles Inexpectatus was among the **flightless birds** and were at least **one metre tall** with a weight of up to **seven kilograms**.
- The fossil is approximately the size of the giant **dodo pigeon** and twice the size of the critically endangered flightless **New Zealand kakapo** (which until now was the largest known parrot).
- Newzealand is known for its rich diversity of extinct giant birds like flightless bird Moa (3.6 metres tall).

[Source:TH](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiiias.com/printpdf/heracles-inexpectatus-giant-extinct-parrot>