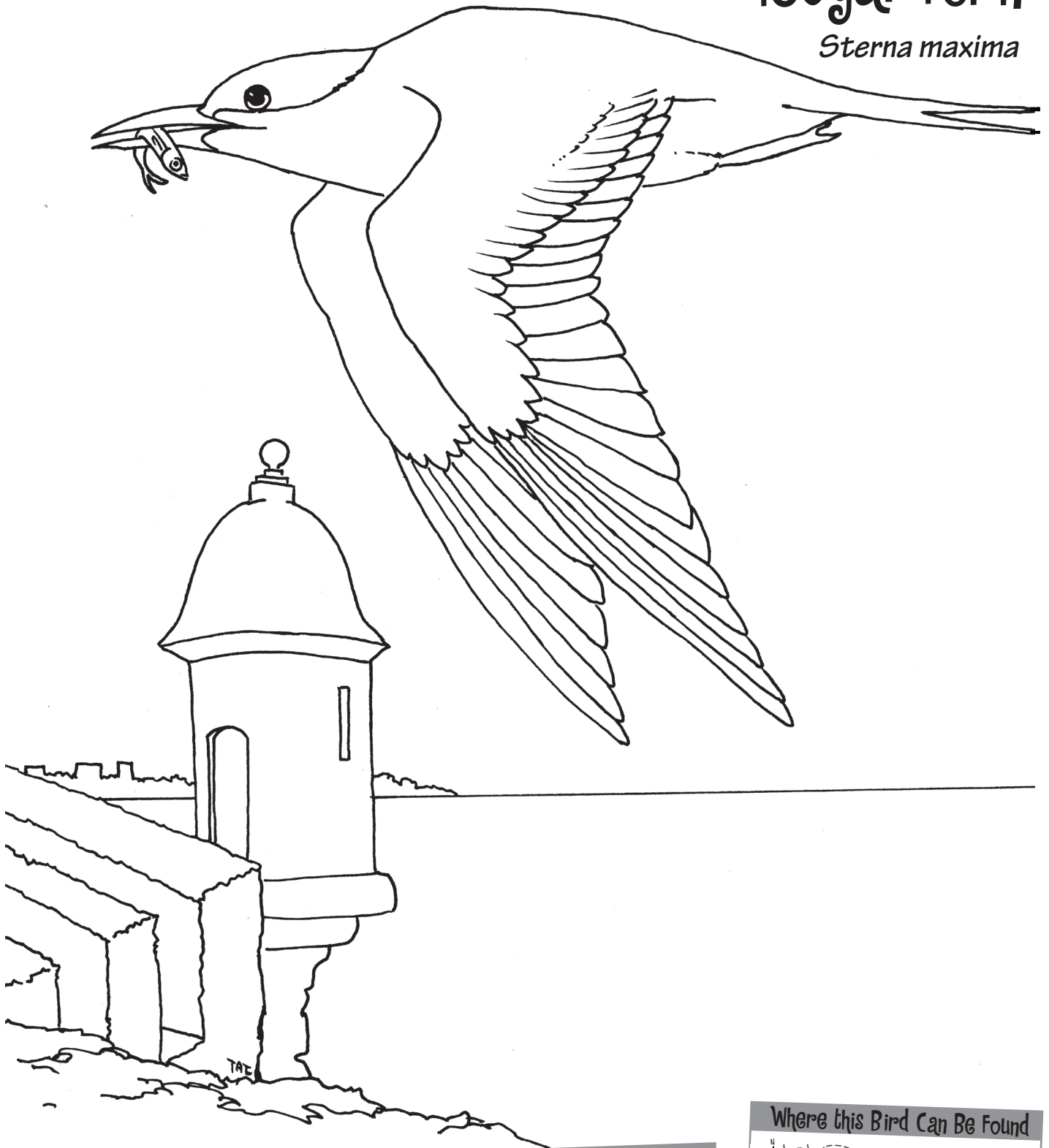


# Royal Tern

*Sterna maxima*



## About this Bird

Royal Terns are one of the most common seabirds on Caribbean coasts. This large white bird has a bright carrot-orange bill, shaggy black crest and fork-shaped tail. Royal Terns are expert hunters, hovering and then diving for fish. They like to rest on sandy flats near shallow water and on top of posts around docks. Some Royal Terns live year-round in the Caribbean, breeding on isolated cays and islands. Others migrate from the eastern coast of North America to spend the winter here. They arrive in October and leave by May. *Bird Size 51 cm, 20 in.*

## Where this Bird Can Be Found

