

RED PANDA

 **DOMAIN**
Eukaryota

 **KINGDOM**
Animalia

 **PHYLUM**
Chordata

 **CLASS**
Mammalia

 **ORDER**
Carnivora

 **FAMILY**
Ailuridae

 **GENUS**
Ailurus

 **SPECIES**
A. fulgens

WHERE DO THEY HANG OUT?

Red Pandas can be found in temperate mountain forests of Nepal, India, Bhutan, China, and Myanmar (Burma) with lots of Bamboo. They prefer altitudes of 7,200 - 15,700ft.



A LOOK THAT STEALS THE SHOW!



Red Pandas are known for their thick reddish-brown fur, and adorable, round faces. Their bear-like body and white patches in their face even make them resemble a raccoon! The bushy tail can grow up to 18in long, and not only helps them balance, but also provides warmth in the cold mountain habitats as a pseudo blanket. Semi-retractable claws and furry paws are an excellent aid in climbing trees and gripping onto slippery, mossy branches!



WHAT'S ON THE MENU?



95% of their diet consists of bamboo. They can eat up to an astonishing 20,000 leaves every day. In addition to bamboo, they also eat fruits, eggs, insects, berries, acorns and sometimes small mammals. They have a very slow metabolism due to a low-calorie diet, so they spend significant amounts of time resting to conserve their energy.



Extinct
EX EW CR EN VU NT LC
Threatened
Least Concern



LIVING THE SOLO LIFE

Red pandas are as cute as they are elusive, and generally live a solitary life up in the trees. If they do come together, they communicate using a variety of body languages and noises, such as head bobbing, tail arching, and a so-called "Huff-Quack", as well as a warning whistle. Each individual maintains its own territory. They are crepuscular, which means they are most active in the early morning and late afternoon. The remainder of the day (about 55%) they spend sleeping.

RED PANDA FAMILIES

Red Pandas mate from January to March. Females give birth to one to four cubs after 135 days of gestation. The cubs are born blind and helpless, and remain in the nest for three months after birth. Full maturity is reached around 18 months. Red Pandas can live up to 8-10 years in the wild, and up to 15 years in captivity.



THREATS TO THEIR SURVIVAL



Unfortunately, the Red Panda is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List. It is estimated that there are fewer than 10,000 individuals remaining in the wild. Significant Threats are:



Habitat loss



Illegal pet trade



Poaching



decrease in genetic diversity



Climate change



Did you know?

5 FUN FACTS ABOUT RED PANDAS



Their fur perfectly camouflages them from predators. The red color matches the moss on the trees they live in and the darker, black on their stomach makes it difficult to be seen when looking up!



They are the Real-Life "Firefox": Mozilla Firefox's logo was inspired by Red Pandas, not by a fox!



Red Pandas communicate by scent! They leave scent markings on trees and rocks using scent glands near the base of their tails to mark their territory.



They have a false thumb! This is an extended wrist bone that functions like a thumb and allows them to grasp and manipulate bamboo stalks



Red Pandas are mostly vegetarian carnivores! Even though they are classified as carnivores, they only rarely eat meat.

