

# BUFFALO

**Lifespan:** 18 to 22 years in the wild (up to 30 years in captivity).

**Weight:** 500 to 900 kg (males are significantly larger, heavier, and possess a thicker horn boss than females).

**Body Measures:** 2.1 to 3.4 meters in length with a shoulder height up to 1.7 meters.

**Body temperature:** Between 100.5°F and 102.2°F (38.0°C to 39.0°C), typical for large wild bovids.

## TAXONOMY & ANATOMY

As one of the most powerful herbivores, this massive bovid features a sparse dark coat, oversized drooping ears, and a powerful muscular neck. Adult males display striking black hides with a fused bone shield at the horn base, while females possess dark brownish coats. It is a prominent mammal possessing heavy, curved horns on each side of its head, used as a formidable weapon.

## SC. CLASSIFICATION

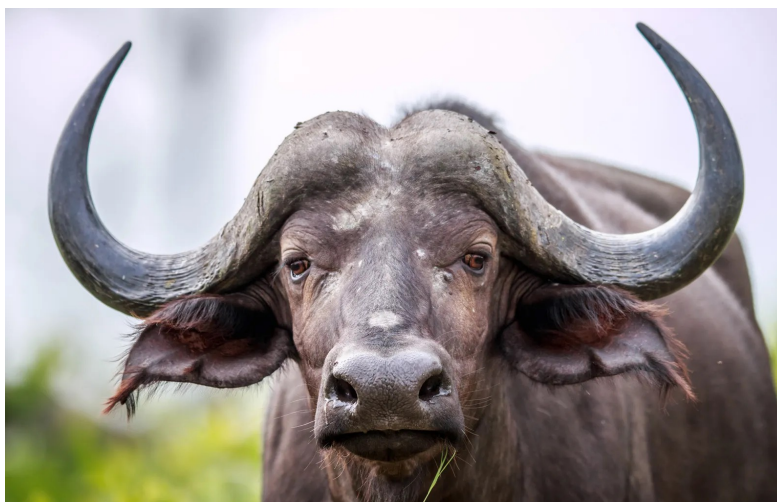
This massive horned mammal belongs to the **Mammalia** class, falls under the **Artiodactyla** order, and is a member of the **Bovidae** family (scientific name: *Syncerus caffer*).

## HABITAT

This highly resilient mammal thrives across the moist savannas, open grasslands, and dense lowland forest regions of sub-Saharan Africa. It prefers flat, open environments where its towering herd size allows it to spot potential predators from vast distances. It avoids arid deserts and wide open plains that restrict its access to daily drinking water.

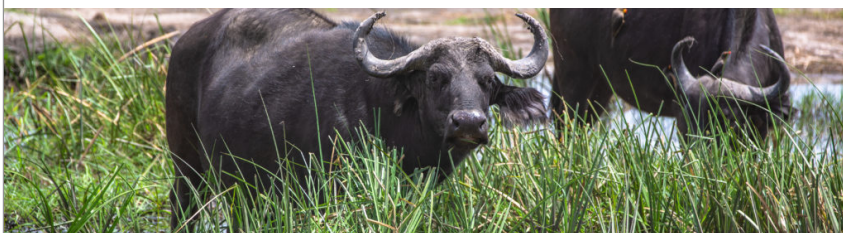
## DIET

The species operates primarily as a bulk grazing herbivore, feeding on various tall grasses, sedges, succulent shrubs, leaves, and wild herbs. To aid in digesting tough fibrous vegetation, it possesses a complex four-chambered stomach that ferments and grinds food inside its digestive system. It will also occasionally consume tree twigs and vines when green grass



## INTRODUCTION

The buffalo reigns as the undisputed giant and heavy champion of the African thickets. Incapable of surviving without daily water but gifted with the ability to outrun most predators in short bursts, this majestic nomad of the savanna combines ancient evolutionary traits with bizarre survival adaptations, fascinating researchers with its incredible strength, vision, and resilience in Earth's harshest open environments.





## ETHOLOGY AND TEMPERAMENT

This social mammal lives in nomadic groups consisting of a dominant bull, a chief cow, and several secondary females. It displays a cautious but highly aggressive temperament, preferring to stand ground when threatened and capable of delivering fatal charges to predators like lions if cornered. They spend their days foraging together, using highly coordinated group vigilance to keep the flock safe.

## FUN FACT

The massive bone shield of this creature is called a boss, measuring several centimeters thick to act as a natural helmet during high-impact battles between rival bulls. Additionally, the old myth that they are peaceful like domestic cows is false; they merely look calm when grazing but are widely considered one of the most unpredictable and dangerous animals in Africa.

## BREEDING SEASON

Reproduction occurs mostly during the rainy summer months when territory boundaries are fiercely crossed by mature adults. The dominant bull battles rivals to court cows, who endure a total gestation period of approximately 340 days (about 11.5 months). Females give birth to a single, golden-brown calf weighing 35 to 50 kg; twin births are exceptionally rare, occurring in less than two percent of pregnancies. The protective female hides her calf for the first few weeks due to her fierce maternal instinct, while the protective herd takes over the general defense until the calf can run with the group.

