

CAMEL

Lifespan: 40 to 50 years in the wild (up to 55 years in captivity).

Weight: 300 to 1,000 kg (males are significantly larger and heavier than females)

Body Measures: 2.2 to 3.5 meters in length with a shoulder height up to 2.1 meters

Body temperature: Between 93.0°F and 106.0°F (34.0°C to 41.1°C)

TAXONOMY & ANATOMY

As the most specialized desert herbivore, this massive ungulate features a coarse sandy coat, oversized foot pads, and a powerful muscular neck. Adult males display striking chest calluses with prominent fat-storing humps, while females possess slightly leaner frames. It is a prominent mammal possessing long double eyelashes and slitted nostrils, used as a formidable defense system.

SC. CLASSIFICATION

This massive humped mammal belongs to the **Mammalia** class, falls under the **Artiodactyla** order, and is a member of the **Camelidae** family (scientific name: ***Camelus bactrianus*** or ***Camelus dromedarius***).

HABITAT

This highly resilient mammal thrives across the arid and semi-arid savannas, open grasslands, and hyper-arid desert regions of Africa, Asia, and Australia. It prefers flat, open environments where its towering height allows it to spot potential threats from vast distances. It avoids thick brush and dense swamp forests that would restrict its steady walking speed.

DIET

The species operates primarily as a diurnal herbivore, feeding on various thorny plants, dry grasses, succulent shrubs, roots, and saltbushes. To aid in digesting tough fibrous vegetation, it possesses a complex three-chambered stomach that ferments and grinds food inside its digestive system. It will also occasionally consume bones, sandals, and tent fabric when green vegetation is scarce.



INTRODUCTION

The camel reigns as the undisputed giant and endurance champion of the desert wilderness. Incapable of climbing steep cliffs but gifted with the ability to walk hundreds of miles without water, this majestic nomad of the shifting sands 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 male, a chief female, and several secondary cows. It displays a cautious but highly defensive temperament, preferring to walk away at steady speeds when threatened but capable of delivering fatal kicks or spitting to intruders if cornered. They spend their days foraging together, using highly coordinated group vigilance to keep the flock safe.

FUN FACT

The massive humps of this creature are packed with pure fat rather than water, measuring over thirty centimeters high to provide energy reserves during long sandstorms. Additionally, the old myth that they store drinking water in their stomachs is false; they merely possess specialized red blood cells that can expand to hold vast amounts of hydration after drinking over one hundred liters in minutes.

BREEDING SEASON

Reproduction occurs mostly during the dry winter 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 360 to 440 days (about 12 to 14 months). Females give birth to a single, cream-colored calf weighing 35 to 45 kg; twin births are exceptionally rare, occurring in less than one percent of pregnancies. The protective female hides her calf for the first few days due to her fierce maternal instinct, while the protective herd takes over the general defense until the calf can match the group's walking pace.

