



# WHITE-LIPPED PECCARY

*Tayassu pecari*



The White-Lipped Peccary is a pig-like animal with dark, bristly fur. The long hairs on the back can be erected to form a crest when the animal is excited or in danger. The White-Lipped Peccary is the only large neotropical mammal to form large herds, which typically contain 40 to 300 animals. Large groups contain animals of both sexes and all ages. Movement of herds is driven by the availability of food, especially fruit. This species is primarily active during the day, with more activity at dusk and dawn.



## SPECIES QUICK FACTS

### SIZE

White-Lipped Peccaries have a body length of 3 to 4 feet and a shoulder height of 1.5 to 2 feet.

### WEIGHT

White-Lipped Peccaries weigh between 55 and 90 pounds.

### FOOD HABITS

White-Lipped Peccaries are omnivores that consume a variety of foods including fruit, leaves, roots, seeds, mushrooms, worms, insects, and small vertebrates.

### HABITAT

White-Lipped Peccaries prefer dense tropical forests, although they can also be found in dry savannas, tropical dry forests, and desert scrub.

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

White-Lipped Peccaries range from southern Mexico south to southern Brazil and northern Argentina.

### FUN FACT

The White-Lipped Peccary has a gland on its lower back that produces a distinctive odor used to mark territories and identify group members.