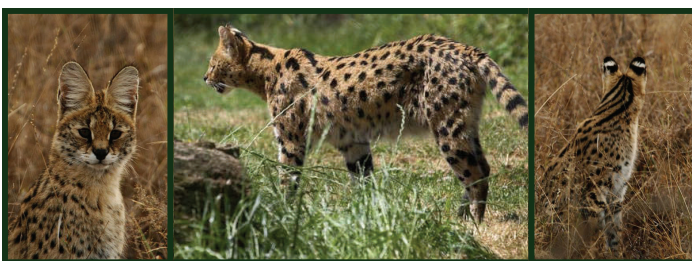


# SERVAL

*Leptailurus serval*



Relative to its body size, Servals have the biggest ears and the longest legs of any wild cat. Their long legs allow them to more easily look for prey over tall savanna grasses. The coat, which varies in color from reddish-brown to yellowish-brown, is covered with dark spots that often merge into stripes on the back. Servals are solitary animals that are crepuscular, which means that they are primarily active at dusk and at dawn. Servals hunt by leaping and landing on their prey with both front paws. They also will reach into deep holes to catch prey. Servals are very efficient hunters, with up to 60% of their hunting pounces resulting in a kill.



## SPECIES QUICK FACTS

### SIZE

The average Serval is 34 inches long, with an additional tail length of 14 inches. The Serval stands about 22 inches high at the shoulder.

### WEIGHT

The Serval weighs between 18 and 40 pounds.

### FOOD HABITS

Servals are carnivorous, with a diet that consists of rodents, rabbits, birds, and frogs.

### HABITAT

Servals are most commonly found in wooded savannas. They can also be found in grasslands and at the edges of rainforests, although they avoid deep rainforest habitats. Servals are almost always found near water.

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The Serval is common in the savannas of central Africa. It has been extirpated from extreme southern Africa, and it is very rare in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco and Algeria.

### FUN FACT

Servals can jump up to ten feet into the air and can change direction at full speed, which makes them very good hunters.