



# CHINESE WATER DEER

*Hydropotes inermis*

## SPECIES QUICK FACTS

### SIZE

The Chinese water deer has a body length of 2.3 to 3.3 feet and a shoulder height of 18 to 22 inches.

### WEIGHT

The weight of the Chinese water deer ranges from 20 to 31 pounds.

### FOOD HABITS

The diet of the Chinese water deer includes grasses, reeds, and vegetables.

### HABITAT

The Chinese water deer can be found in swampy, open grasslands and in areas with tall grass.

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The Chinese water deer is found in China and Korea.

### FUN FACT

A large population of these deer resides in the English countryside, established by a group of escapees from the Duke of Bedford's deer park.



Although they are vegetarians, the males grow fangs that can be up to 3.2 inches in length. Males are territorial, and they defend their territories against all rivals. Fighting bucks stand approximately parallel to one another with their heads at the shoulder level. By swinging their heads down, the bucks attempt to wound the opponent in the nape or on the shoulders with their canines. They often succeed in tearing out strips of hair and skin, causing painful and dangerous wounds. The Chinese water deer is active in the morning and evening and hides the rest of the day. It is often trapped as a pest in China.

