



COMMON ELAND

Taurotragus oryx

SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The common eland stands between four to six tall at the shoulder and ranges between seven and 11 feet in length.

WEIGHT

Adult elands range between 650 and 2,200 pounds in weight.

FOOD HABITS

The common eland likes to eat a variety of grasses, leaves, and branches.

HABITAT

The common eland can be found living on savannas and plains.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The common eland is found throughout eastern and southern Africa.

FUN FACT

The horns of the eland are practically straight, with two tight twists. The eland is one of the only horned animals in which the female's horns are larger than the male's.



The common eland is most active in the early morning and late afternoon. They are very gregarious animals, even during the rainy season. These groups typically contain between 25 and 70 individuals, however as many as 400 have been observed in a single herd. For their size, they are extremely fast, running up to speeds greater than 40 miles per hour. People in Africa have been trying to domesticate the eland for years for purposes of meat and milk. The eland gives birth to one calf that will join a nursery of other eland calves.

