# [Deer](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/deer/" \o "Deer) :

The deer is found in the forests of [Europe](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/europe/), [Asia](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/asia/) and North America, where most deer grow to an average of about 1 meter tall. Deer-like creatures are found in [Africa](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/africa/), however they are all [antelope](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/antelope/) and not deer.

Deer stay in herds of approximately 25 deers per herd, mainly female deer and a dominant male deer known as a stag. The male deer are protective deer and will often fight other stags to protect their herd of female deer and to protect their pride.

The male deer [horns](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-horn) shed and regrow every year, a little like the skin on a [snake](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/snake/). The only [species](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-species) of deer with exception to this annual [horn](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-horn) shedding is the Chinese water deer.

There are around 40 different [species](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-species) of deer found in the woodlands of the Northern Hemisphere. There are roughly six different [species](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-species) of deer found in the UK alone, however, only the red deer and the roe deer are truly native to the Isles.

## Deer Facts :

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| [**Kingdom**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-kingdom)**:** | Animalia |
| [**Phylum**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-phylum)**:** | Chordata |
| [**Class**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-class)**:** | Mammalia |
| [**Order**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-order)**:** | Artiodactyla |
| [**Family**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-family)**:** | Cervidae |
|  | |
| [**Scientific Name**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-scientific-name)**:** | Odocoileus virginiana |
| [**Type**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-type)**:** | Mammal |
| [**Diet**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-diet)**:** | Herbivore |
| [**Size (H)**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size)**:** | 60cm - 105cm (24in - 206in) |
| [**Weight**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-weight)**:** | 10kg - 450kg (22lbs - 990lbs) |
| [**Top Speed**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-top-speed)**:** | 70km/h (43mph) |
| [**Lifespan**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifespan)**:** | 10 - 20 years |
| [**Lifestyle**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifestyle)**:** | Herd |
| [**Conservation Status**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-conservation-status)**:** | Threatened |
|  | |
| [**Colour**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-colour)**:** | Brown, Tan, White, Orange |
| [**Skin Type**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-skin-type)**:** | Fur |
| [**Favourite Food**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-favourite-food)**:** | Acorns |
| [**Habitat**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-habitat)**:** | Dense forest and planted areas |
| [**Average Litter Size**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-average-litter-size)**:** | 1 |
| [**Main Prey**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-prey)**:** | Acorns, Fruit, Grass |
| [**Predators**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-predators)**:** | Wolf, Bear, Cougar |
| [**Distinctive Features**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-distinctive-features)**:** | Long ears and some male species have antlers |