**[Arctic Wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/arctic-wolf/" \o "Arctic Wolf):**

The Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) is found in the most northern parts of the wolf's range, in the Arctic Circle. Arctic wolves mainly inhabit Northern [Canada](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/north-america/canada/) and Alaska, parts of [Greenland](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/north-america/greenland/)and [Iceland](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/europe/iceland/) and Northern Europe.  
  
Arctic wolves are incredibly versatile and adaptive [animals](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-animal), able to withstand year round sub-zero [temperatures](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-temperature). Living in the Arctic Circle, the Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) spends five out of twelve months in total darkness.  
  
The Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) hunts [lemmings](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/lemming/), assorted rodents, and [Arctic hare](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/arctic-hare/) but will take larger [prey](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-prey) like caribou when available. When the Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) wants to hunt musk ox, the pack will gather and work as a team attempt to isolate it from the herd and take it. An adult musk ox is simply too big for one Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) to try and take on alone.  
  
Although the Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) is generally smaller in [size](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size) than the grey [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/), Arctic wolves tend to be bulkier than grey wolves with the male Arctic wolves also growing larger than the female Arctic wolves.  
  
Normally, only the alpha male Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) and female Arctic wolves breed, but if a pack gets too large it may break up into new smaller packs giving others the opportunity to mate. Due to the Arctic Circle's uncompromising permafrost soil and the difficulty it poses for digging dens, Arctic wolves often use rock outcroppings, caves or even shallow depressions as dens instead.  
  
Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) pups are born in litters of two or three in the months of May and June, meaning that the Arctic [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) pups are born about a month later than the grey [wolf](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/wolf/) pups. Arctic wolves tend to be white with brown irises, unlike most other subspecies of wolves with yellow to amber eyes. White fur gives them [camouflage](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-camouflage) in a snowy [environment](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-environment), and the darker irises give added protection to the eyes in a high glare [environment](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-environment).

## Arctic Wolf 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)**:** | Carnivora |
| [**Family**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-family)**:** | Canidae |
| [**Genus**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-genus)**:** | Canis |
|  | |
| [**Scientific Name**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-scientific-name)**:** | Canus Lupus Arcticus |
| [**Type**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-type)**:** | Mammal |
| [**Diet**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-diet)**:** | Carnivore |
| [**Size (L)**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size)**:** | 60cm - 91cm (24in - 36in) |
| [**Weight**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-weight)**:** | 25kg - 40kg (55lbs - 88lbs) |
| [**Top Speed**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-top-speed)**:** | 75km/h (46mph) |
| [**Lifespan**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifespan)**:** | 7 - 10 years |
| [**Lifestyle**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifestyle)**:** | Pack |
| [**Conservation Status**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-conservation-status)**:** | Least Concern |
|  | |
| [**Colour**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-colour)**:** | White, Grey |
| [**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)**:** | Deer |
| [**Habitat**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-habitat)**:** | Grass plains and tundra forests |
| [**Average Litter Size**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-average-litter-size)**:** | 4 |
| [**Main Prey**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-prey)**:** | Deer, Elk, Moose |
| [**Predators**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-predators)**:** | Human |
| [**Special Features**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-distinctive-features)**:** | Thick, warm fur and loud howling noise |