

# Chinese goral ... high-altitude daredevils!



## Why exhibit Chinese gorals?

- Boost capacity for the only goral species in North American zoos. The Chinese goral is the last member of the “goat-antelope” tribe formally managed in AZA institutions, and a great example to discuss how ungulates are related.
- Make use of areas with steep landscaping! Goral use (and often prefer) dizzying terrain - the perfect fit for that awkward vertical space.
- Stop worrying about animals being off display due to cold with these hardy caprids. Goral can live outdoors year-round, even in northern climates.
- Take advantage of visitors questioning “what IS that animal?” to highlight these primitive caprids and point out the characteristics that give them the name “goat-antelopes”.
- Compare signal flags with the goral’s long, shaggy tail for a fun, interactive lesson on visual communication.

### MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 3-4 feet

**Height:** 2 feet at shoulder

**Weight:** 50-70 lbs



Mountains



China

IUCN  
VULNERABLE  
CITES I

Unknown wild population

## Get involved with stewardship!

*In situ* initiatives involving this species are currently being identified and reviewed by the TAG.

## Care and Husbandry

**RED SSP:** 14.13 (27) in 11 AZA institutions (2016)

**Species coordinator:** Gil Myers, Smithsonian National Zoo  
[myersg@si.edu](mailto:myersg@si.edu) ; (202) 633-4189

**Social nature:** Best kept as a breeding pair with young. Multiple females can be housed together with or without a male if sufficient space is provided. Bachelor herds (2-4 animals) are highly dependant on individual personalities and size of exhibit.

**Mixed species:** Generally mixes well, but can be aggressive during rut (smaller species often removed at this time). Successful mixes include takin, markhor, various deer species, red pandas, and cranes.

**Housing:** Very cold tolerant. Unheated shelters are typically sufficient in winter. Goral are agile climbers and jumpers: barriers should be at least 8 feet tall or have an inward overhang of 2-3 feet.

**Medical notes:** Aside from occasional treatment for parasites (coccidia and strongyles) and hoof trimming, little medical attention is needed.

**Keeper resources:** Latrine use keeps cleaning time to a minimum. Goral tend to be wary, but can be trained to shift into smaller pens using food rewards.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

<http://www.azaungulates.org/>

