

Sichuan takin ... a bizarre and fantastic beast!



MEASUREMENTS

Length: 5.5-7.5 feet

Height: 3.5-4.5 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 330-750 lbs



Montane forest



China

IUCN
VULNERABLE
CITES II

Unknown #
In the wild

Why exhibit Sichuan takin?

- Ignite the curiosity of your guests with these large and bizarre-looking ungulates that look like a cross between a bison, a bear, and a wildebeest!
- Piggyback on the popularity of giant pandas even in the absence of the black-and-white bears. Takin and pandas share the same habitat, face similar threats, and benefit from the same habitat conservation projects.
- Create memorable guest encounters with these confident caprids, using a training wall for feeding or to show off their impressive hind-leg stand.
- Present a spectacular cold-weather exhibit with these active and hardy animals. Their distinctive bulbous noses help warm inhaled air, providing a great interpretive opportunity.
- Enchant guests with frisky, teddy-bear-like kids and boost social media hits by posting videos of their antics!

Stewardship Opportunities

Takin monitoring in Tangjiahe Nature Reserve

<http://conservationcenters.org/conservation-research/sichuan-takin>

Care and Husbandry

YELLOW SSP: 69.54.2 (125) 17 AZA (+5 non-AZA) institutions (2015)

Species coordinator: Dave Bernier, Lincoln Park Zoo

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Social nature: Social, with a distinct dominance hierarchy. Can be held in very large herds with sufficient space, although one male with several females is most common.

Mixed species: Successfully mixed with a variety of smaller hoofstock, including muntjac, goral, wild sheep, and blackbuck.

Housing: A hardy, cold-tolerant species. Cooling options (fans, barn access) needed above 95°F. Containment must be "heavy-duty" strength. Water moats are not an effective barrier.

Medical notes: Hardy. Annual physicals recommended during spring to allow for grooming and removal of matted fur prior to summer.

Special requirements: Watch for dominance-based aggression with food and enrichment. Sufficient holding stalls are needed to separate individuals (mothers will only share with young for a few months).

Keeper resources: Protected contact advised: takin are large and can be aggressive. Interact well with enrichment (provide multiple items).

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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

