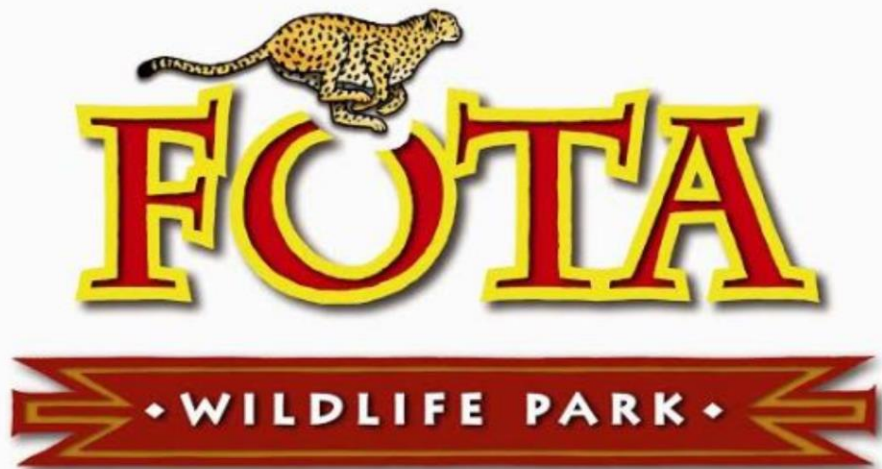


# Indian Rhino

## At Fota Wildlife Park



# Welcome to Fota Wildlife Park!



- Fota Wildlife Park was established in 1983.
- Our aim is to help conserve animals across the globe through Conservation, Education and research!
- The Wildlife Park is a charity and a not for profit organisation.
- By visiting Fota Wildlife Park, you are playing a part in helping to conserve the world's endangered wildlife!

# The Wonderful world of RHINOS!



- Our planet is home to five species of rhinoceros – the black rhino and the white rhino, which live in Africa, and the Sumatran, Javan and Indian (or greater one-horned) rhino, which inhabit the tropical forests and swamps of Asia.
- These amazing animals are known for their awesome, giant horns that grow from their snouts – hence the name “rhinoceros”, meaning “nose horn”. Javan and Indian rhinos have one horn, whereas the white, black and Sumatran rhinos have two horns!



# What are the differences in appearance among the rhino species?



- Among Asian rhinos, the greater one-horned rhino (Indian Rhino) is the largest rhino species and identified by its single black horn and a grey-brown hide with skin folds that give it an armour-plated appearance. The Javan rhino looks similar to the greater one-horned rhino, but with a much smaller head and less obvious skin folds. It is also known as the lesser one-horned rhino.
- The Sumatran rhino is the smallest of the rhino family and is brown in colour, and is the only Asian species of rhino that sports two horns.
- Black rhinos are the smaller of the two African rhino species. Both black and white rhinos have two horns but can be told apart based on the shaped mouth. White rhinos have a square upper lip with almost no hair, while black rhinos have a hooked upper lip.



# Rhino Adaptations!



Adaptations are features that help an animal to survive

Thick, layered skin protects rhinos from sharp grasses and thorns.



Large ears can rotate to pick up sounds from many directions.



Can you think of any other features that help rhinos to survive in the wild?




Horns used for defence and possibly display

A prehensile upper lip helps in foraging and browsing


Thick, padded soles on their feet absorb shock and cushion legs




# Indian Rhino Information



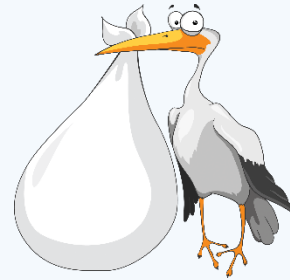
Indian rhino are grazers. Diet is mostly based on grass but fruit, leaves, aquatic plants and various crops are occasionally on the menu.



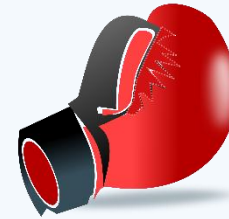
Indian rhinoceros can reach 10.2 to 12.5 feet in length and weigh 3,500 to 4,900 pounds.



Indian rhino likes to spend time in areas that provide enough water and mud which are used for cooling during the hottest part of the day. Indian rhino are very good swimmers!



Pregnancy lasts 15 to 16 months and ends with one baby (calf). A young Indian rhinoceros stays with its mother usually until the age of 2 years (until the arrival of the next calf). Indian rhinoceros can survive around 40 years in the wild



Indian rhinoceros are solitary creatures (live alone). They become very aggressive and often fight to the death during the mating season



It can be found in the northern parts of India and Nepal. Indian rhinoceros inhabits floodplain grasslands, swamps and forests.

*Why do Rhinos have horns?*

*Rhinos can use their horns to protect themselves and their calves from predators*

*Some Rhino species, like the black rhino also use their horns to help find the best leaves to eat !*



*How much do Rhinos Weigh?*



*Rhinos are really large animals, weighing as much as 2,500kg. That means they weigh more than a car!*

*How fast can they run?*

*Rhinos can move a lot faster than one might think! They can reach a speed of up to 55 km per hour!*



*What do rhinos eat?*



*Rhinos are herbivores! This means that they only eat plants. Some rhinos eat more than 180 different plant species!*

EN

*Why are Rhinos threatened?*

*Habitat loss and illegal hunting is the biggest threat to rhinos in Africa and Asia!*

# Rhino horn.....



## Can rhino horns grow back?

- Rhino horn is made of keratin, the same substance as you find in human hair and fingernails.
- Rhinos are born without horns, but within just a couple of months, a tiny stub appears – and their horns continue to grow for the rest of their lives. If a rhino's horn is removed without cutting into the skull, it can grow back to almost its full size after three years. However, if the rhino skull is cut into, it could stop the re-growth of the horn. Unfortunately, poachers kill rhinos to get their horns.

## What are rhino horns used for?

- Rhino horn is often ground up into powder and used in traditional Asian medicines. Throughout Asia, people believe that it can treat and cure a range of ailments from fevers to cancer. Some use it as a symbol to display success and wealth. Unfortunately, the illegal trade of rhino horn throughout Asia continues to operate and threaten wild rhinos despite international bans on the trade of rhino horn.



# Things to do at Home!



# Word Search

Look carefully and see can you find the words listed below!

N	R	V	A	S	L	R	C	S	M	E	D	G	S	L
Z	I	S	K	N	X	H	A	P	X	R	E	L	F	I
H	I	K	U	O	Y	I	L	E	O	O	R	B	Y	O
A	C	O	S	I	Y	N	V	C	A	V	E	G	F	N
H	O	R	N	T	S	O	E	I	S	I	G	X	Y	E
B	K	G	B	A	P	O	S	E	B	B	N	A	R	A
P	K	G	T	T	O	E	R	S	E	R	A	T	M	K
D	X	D	J	P	A	P	V	E	J	E	D	O	B	E
G	J	F	N	A	C	U	I	R	C	H	N	F	U	Q
Y	K	T	S	D	H	E	B	E	E	O	E	M	L	W
G	E	H	L	A	I	L	K	H	F	S	N	C	L	Y
R	R	R	D	O	N	R	E	G	I	T	N	I	S	O
S	F	J	P	O	G	A	F	R	I	C	A	O	H	W
R	O	T	A	D	E	R	P	E	A	R	S	L	C	R
H	A	B	I	T	A	T	T	C	E	T	O	R	P	N

ADAPTATIONS  
BULLS  
EARS  
HABITAT  
LION  
PREY  
RHINOCEROS  
TIGER



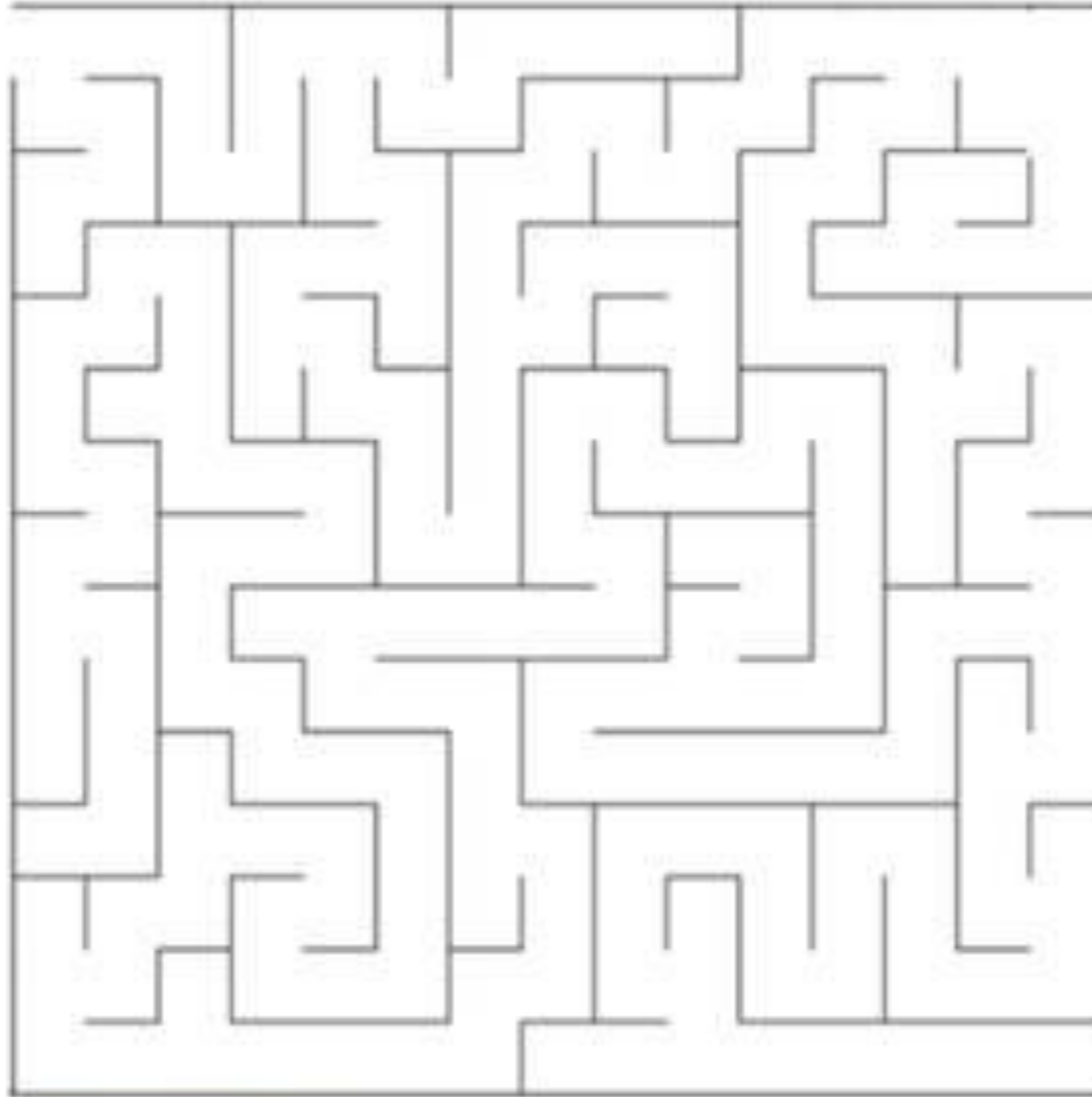
AFRICA  
CALVES  
ENDANGERED  
HERBIVORE  
POACHING  
PROTECT  
SKIN



ASIA  
CONSERVE  
FOTA  
HORN  
PREDATOR  
RHINO  
SPECIES



Can you help the rhino find its food?



Maze  
Craze!



Did You Know?

Rhinos can eat up to 100 pounds of food a day. Depending on the species, they eat leaves, fruit, grasses, stems, and twigs.



# What have you learnt about Rhinos?

1. How many species of rhino exist?

- 4
- 7
- 5

2. Fota Wildlife Park is home to?

- Indian Rhino
- Black Rhino
- White Rhino

3. How long can a rhino live for in the wild?

- 40 years
- 70 years
- 50 years

4. Why are rhinos endangered?

- Poaching
- Not enough food
- Hunted for their meat

5. How long is a rhino pregnant for?

- 15 – 16 months
- 12 – 13 months
- 9 months

6. Which rhino species is the smallest?

- Sumatran rhino
- Indian rhino
- Black rhino

# Answers



1. How many species of rhino exist?

- 5

2. Fota Wildlife Park is home to?

- Indian Rhino

3. How long can a rhino live for in the wild?

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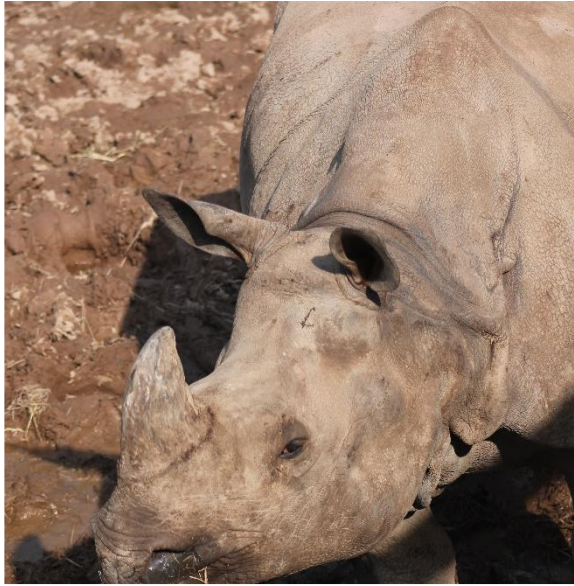
- Sumatran rhino



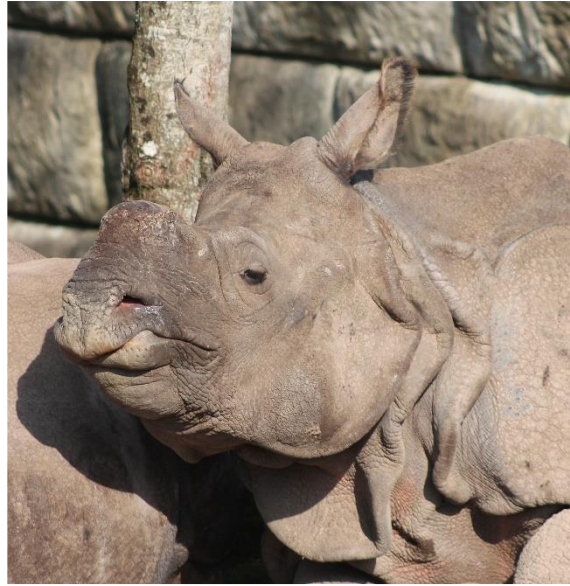
*Spot the differences between Pics A & B*



# Our Rhinos at Fota Wildlife Park!



Schusto

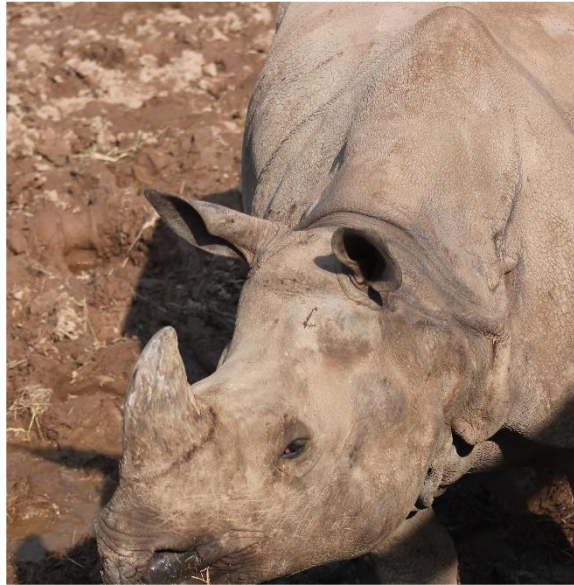


Maya

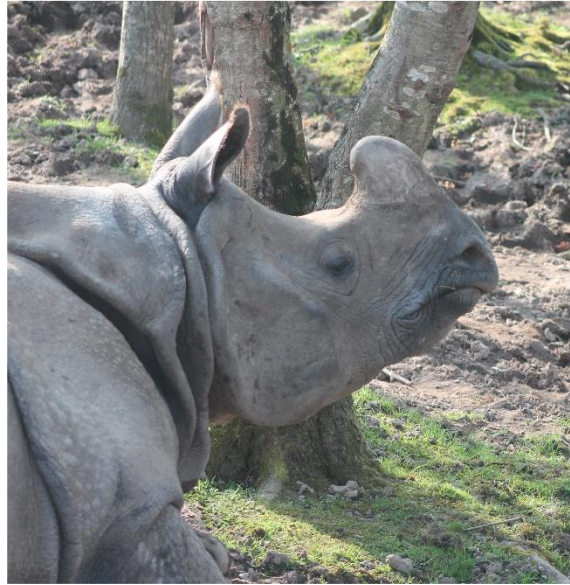


Jamal

# Who's who!



A



B



C

# Conservation & Threats



Today, it's estimated that in the region of 29,000 rhinos are left in the wild, compared to 500,000 at the beginning of the 20th century. Two species of rhino in Asia—Javan and Sumatran—are critically endangered according to scientists, here are the numbers for each species:

Javan Rhino: 58-68

Sumatran Rhino: 80

Indian Rhino: >3,500

Black Rhino: 5,000

White Rhino: More than 20,000

## What can be done to save Rhinos?

Governments need to investigate, expose and crack down on poaching and the illegal trade in rhino horn – and reduce demand!

We need to expand protected areas, create new ones, connect isolated rhino habitats and increase security in these areas to prevent poaching!

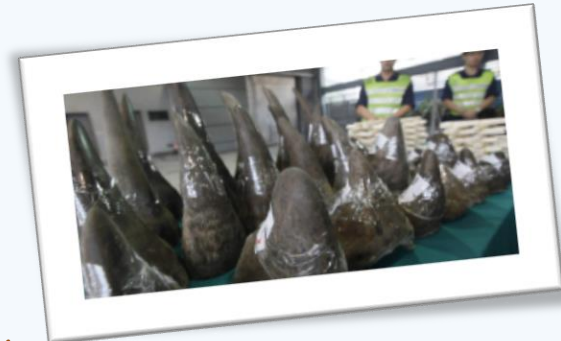
Promoting wildlife-based tourism that helps fund conservation efforts and gives local communities an income from living alongside wildlife.

Scientists and conservationists need to work with communities living around protected areas to help them use their natural resources more sustainably!

We need to support the movement of rhinos to different safe locations within their home range with the aim of creating new, secure populations.

## Stopping the trade in rhino horn!

Although international trade in rhino horn has been banned under CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora) since 1977, demand remains high, particularly in Vietnam – and this has led to an increase in rhino poaching in both Africa and Asia.



# Learning at Fota Wildlife Park.....

If you would like to learn more about wildlife.....why not book an educational tour with our education department. Each year our skilled team of educators teach in excess of 19,000 students in the areas of conservation & ecology. We welcome students of all ages all year round!

We hope to see you soon!

Contact: [education@fotawildlife.ie](mailto:education@fotawildlife.ie)  
Or (021) 4812678 ext 206  
For more details!

