

ALTINA WILDLIFE PARK

a **unique** wildlife adventure

ALTINA WILDLIFE



FACTSHEET



Asian Water Buffalo

Scientific Name:
Bubalus bubalus

Habitat: Originally native to the wet grasslands and marshes of Asia including Nepal, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand and Bhutan. Introduced to Australia in the early 1800's for use as farm animals.

Description: The buffalo's hide is bluish black covered in thin hair. It is the largest of the wild cattle. The bulls (males) can measure up to 1.5m tall and can weigh up to 1000kgs. Their horns may spread up to 3.7m from tip to tip measured along the curve. The horns sweep out and back to form almost a circle, and are three-sided.

Status: Common.

Interesting Facts:

- The buffalo are gentle creatures and are easy to tame. They are farmed and used extensively in Asia for cultivating crops.
- They are sexually mature at 18 months.
- Group Structure: Females live in herds with their young, while males live in "bachelor herds" until breeding time.
- Water buffalo love to wallow in lakes and rivers.
- Diet: Grasses and vegetation.
- Unusually the sound made from a water buffalo resembles a "quacking" noise.
- Lifespan: 30 years.