

ALTINA WILDLIFE PARK

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FACTSHEET



Indian Blackbuck Antelope

Scientific Name: *Antelope cervicapra*

Habitat: Blackbuck antelope are found in West Pakistan and India from Kathiawar to Bengal and south to Cape Comorin, where there is open woodland and grassland.

Description: Females and young have a uniformed light brown coat with white on the face and underside. Males develop dark brown-black upper parts and outside of the legs at about 3 years of age. They grow spiral horns up to 70cm long. Indian Blackbuck are a medium sized antelope reaching a maximum height of 90cms and can weigh up to 50kgs.

Status: Threatened

Interesting facts:

- Group structure: Strong herding instincts which usually comprise of a dominant male and up to 50 females and young. Other males form bachelor herds.
- Males scent mark trees, bushes, etc. to mark their territories.
- Blackbuck can reach speeds up to 90kms per hour with strides up to 6m long and can leap up to 2m in height. This ability currently allows the Blackbuck to outrun many predators, an example from the past was the Asiatic Cheetah (now extinct).
- Lifespan: 12 -15 years.