



Hotel Cotto do Gatto

Ponte da Barca - Portugal

Mammals

Discover the species present in nature around Cotto do Gatto...



Red Fox

These are extremely adaptable and intelligent animals.

They live in dens, in family groups, and feed on small mammals, fish, fruit, seeds, etc.

They have excellent sight, smell and hearing.

This species produces more than 28 different vocal calls and are mostly seen at night.



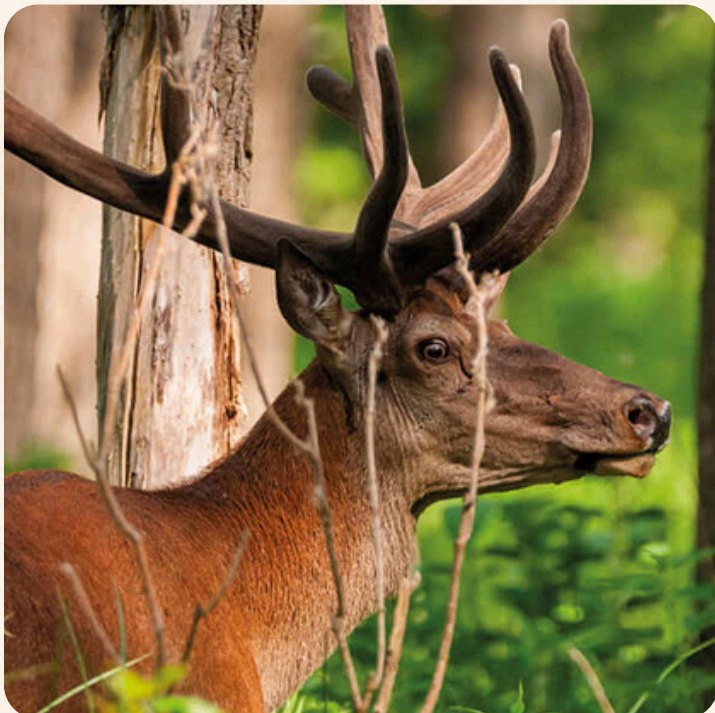
Iberian Wolf

Distinguished from the common wolf by their coat, which is more yellow-brown and by having black stripes on the front of their forelegs.

This predator organizes itself socially in packs between 2 and 10 wolves, depending on the time of year, and in well-defined hierarchies.

They feed essentially on roe deer, deer and wild boar.

Their species is at risk of extinction.



Dear

It is a large animal, about 2.5 metres long and weighing between 100 and 250 kilos.

During spring, its antlers begin to sprout and grow until the mating season.

Every year the antlers get bigger and grow new tips. After mating, the antlers fall off.

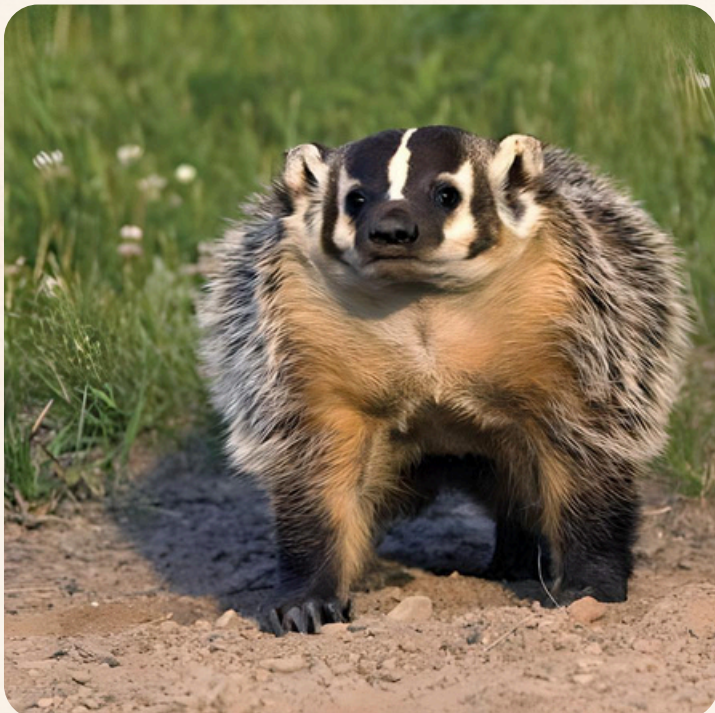


Boar

They live in herds made up of females and young boars, the males joining the herd during the mating season.

They can measure up to 1.40 metres in length and weigh an average of 250 kilos.

Their diet consists of fruit, roots, small animals and some vegetable species.



Badger

They are small to medium-sized animals.

They can weigh more than 30 kg during autumn, which is the time when they eat more than average to accumulate energy for the winter.

Badgers are omnivores, being able to feed on both animals and plants.

The European badger has a greyish body with black limbs and a light, almost white tail.



Castro Laboreiro

Being one of the oldest breeds on the Iberian Peninsula, it owes its name to the town where it originated.

The Castro Laboreiro is a shepherd dog, indispensable for protecting flocks from wolf attacks.

Each year, the Contest of "Cães de Castro Laboreiro" is held, the oldest competition of its kind in Portugal.

The competition has existed since the 50s and has been a tradition in Portugal ever since.



Otter

The European otter is a medium-sized semi-aquatic mammal with dense fur, a long tail and webbed paws.

It feeds on fish and other small animals.

In Portugal it is common and considered "Low Concern", but worldwide it is "Almost Threatened".

It prefers aquatic habitats with vegetation and is mainly nocturnal.



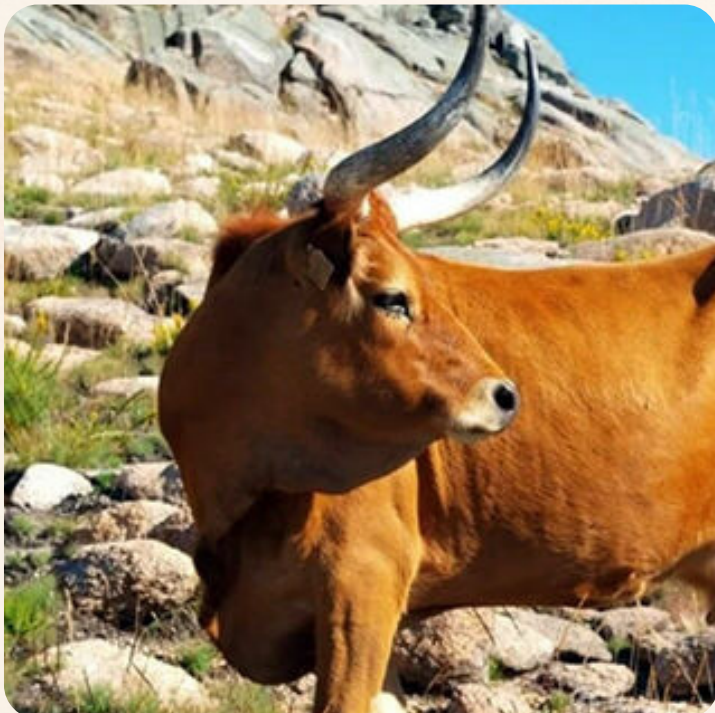
Mink

The mink is a predatory mammal.

Its body length is between 40 and 50 centimetres, and it has a tail almost the same length as its body, which can reach 30 centimetres in length.

It lives in forests and is found mainly in trees.

It feeds on squirrels, mice, birds, insects and wild berries. The cubs are born blind and deaf.



Barrosã Bull

The Barrosã is considered to be the most beautiful of all cattle and its existence has been recorded for at least more than ten thousand years.

It is well adapted to mountain farming areas, where it plays an important role in working the very small beds, fertilising them with its manure and making the most of the natural food resources available, which would otherwise be wasted.



Red-Toothed Dwarf Shrew

It is an extremely small animal, measuring just 42 to 72 millimetres and weighing between two and seven grams.

It feeds mainly on spiders, beetles, bugs and snails.

The red-footed dwarf shrew is one of the smallest mammals in the world and has a maximum lifespan of just one year.



Genet

The genet is a nocturnal, secretive and agile carnivore that spends most of its time in tree hollows or perched in them.

It is the size of a domestic cat, with an elongated body, short legs and a thick, long tail that is as long as its body.

It feeds mainly on insects, reptiles, birds and fruit.



Wild Goat

The Wild Goat is a sociable animal that usually roams in herds.

They have a specific way of communicating when they are in danger, with the herd coming to protect them.

Their natural habitat is woodland and mountains.

November and December are their breeding months, and this is when the well-known head-to-head fights between males in order to win the female occur.



Mountain Goat

The mountain goat lives in mountain areas, escarpments, bushland with a rocky substrate and areas of oak woodland.

Females live an average of 22 years and males 15 years.

During October and December, mixed groups of mountain goats form, where there is a hierarchy between the males, established by body size and by fighting.