

HAPPY HOLLOW FOSSA FACTS



**THANK YOU FOR BEING KIND
TO OUR ANIMALS BY NOT
TAPPING ON THE GLASS.**



RONI

FEMALE FOSSA
BORN JUNE 12, 2001.

FAVORITE FOOD

RATS, MICE, CHICKEN.

I AM A TRUE CARNIVORE AND
MADAGASCAR'S TOP PREDATOR.

FAVORITE ACTIVITIES

- SUNBATHING.
- SNIFFING OUT TREATS.
- CLIMBING.

SOCIAL LIFE

- SOLITARY BY NATURE.
- NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BREEDING THROUGH SPECIES SURVIVAL PLAN PROGRAM.

KEEPER NOTES

- **I AM ELDERLY**
FOSSAS CAN LIVE TO BE 20 YEARS OLD.
- **SKIN CONDITION**
BECAUSE OF MY ADVANCED AGE, I HAVE SOME SKIN CONDITIONS THAT MY KEEPERS AND VETERINARIAN MONITOR CLOSELY.
- **ARTHRITIS**
I AM ON SPECIAL MEDICATION FOR ARTHRITIS. MOVING AROUND HELPS A LOT, WHICH IS WHY I GET SPECIAL ENRICHMENT THAT ENCOURAGES ME TO MOVE AROUND IN MY EXHIBIT.
- **I WEIGH...**
X LBS, WHICH IS HEALTHY FOR A FOSSA MY AGE.



WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Whole bodied meals, including organs, bones, etc. are fed to our carnivores for full nutrition and dental health.



"BONE" APPETITE!

Our carnivores and omnivores may be offered meat items such as (whole bodied) chickens, mice, rats, etc. on their menu. This may be off-putting to some people, but these items are nutritionally complete and provide an interesting meal for our animals. (Think of it like being served a full chicken dinner, instead of a plain chicken breast.)



LEFTOVERS

Like people, our fossa may also save "leftovers" for later, or leave behind the least favorite parts.

PLAYING WITH FOOD

Keepers will sometimes hide food inside the exhibits, giving the animals opportunities to "hunt" for their food. This is very enriching for the animals and allows them to exercise the same feeding behaviors you might see in the wild.



FOSSA SPECIES SURVIVAL PLAN PROGRAMS (SSP)

As an Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) accredited facility, Happy Hollow participates in Species Survival Plan (SSP) programs for fossas.

SSP programs focus on animals that are in danger of extinction in the wild, and ensure the survival of selected species in zoos and aquariums.

Due to her age, Roni is not recommended for breeding, but Happy Hollow is still helping the SSP program by providing a comfortable place for her to live.

Fossas are solitary animals, which is why Roni is quite content living by herself.



FOSSA CONSERVATION

THANK YOU FOR HELPING FOSSAS!

Through Quarters for Conservation, every admission and membership to Happy Hollow has an impact! Zoos are a necessary and vital part of efforts to conserve fossas and other endangered animals.

FOSSAS IN THE WILD

Fossas are classified as a vulnerable species, with only about 2,500 in the wild. A relative of the mongoose, fossas are only found on the island of Madagascar, off the coast of Africa. Fossas are the island's largest carnivores. Locals pronounce the name "foo-sa." The fossa is Madagascar's only predator and its main food source is lemurs. Fossas are ambush hunters and have retractable claws (like cats) to climb trees.

THREATS TO WILD FOSSAS

- Habitat loss. 90% of Madagascar's native forest habitat is gone.
- Competition for food with introduced species like civets.
- Diseases that threaten fossas, such as rabies, which was introduced to the island by domestic dogs and wild cats.

HOW CAN YOU HELP WILD FOSSAS?

Ecotourism helps the fossa and other wildlife in Madagascar. When people travel to the island to see its amazing biodiversity, their visits provide money for the local people and encourage them to keep the forests as they are.