

AMUR TIGER

Panthera tigris altaica

The largest of all cats, the Minnesota Zoo has exhibited Amur or Siberian tigers for 30 years. They now appear in the context of their larger environment—the Russian Far East. Once spread across large areas of the region, it is estimated only 400 Amur tigers remain in the wild, mostly limited to two zones in southeastern Russia. Amur tigers eat large mammals, like wild boars and deer, and need large territories to roam in search of food. They hunt using stealth, speed, and sheer strength. The Minnesota Zoo is a leader in tiger conservation efforts in Southeast Asia, and heads several field programs supporting tiger research and protection.



Fun Facts

- The Amur tiger's orange coloring is somewhat paler than the coloring of other tigers. Its stripes are brownish black, and are widely spaced.
- Amur tigers are the largest of all cats and can reach over nine feet in length. Males can weigh up to 550 pounds.
- Unlike most cat species, tigers like water and are good swimmers.
- There are five subspecies of tiger still living today: Amur, Bengal, Indochinese, Sumatran, and South China.
- Tigers have excellent vision during the day and night.
- Humans are the only predators of Amur tigers.
- The Minnesota Zoo is recognized internationally for its conservation programs to save tigers from extinction.

Meet the Tigers

The Minnesota Zoo currently has seven tigers, four males and three females, on exhibit at Tiger Base Camp and the Tiger Lair.

Lana and Nika

Sisters, Lana and Nikka were born at the Minnesota Zoo in May 2004. They are genetically valuable with both parents having links to tigers in the wild.

Molnie and Vaska

Born in 2000 at the Detroit Zoo, these two brothers are often called the “Detroit Boys.”

Serge

This male tiger came to the Minnesota Zoo in 2006 from Little Rock Zoo.

Nadia

Nadia is a female tiger from Zoo Montana that came to the Minnesota Zoo in 2006.

Check

The Minnesota Zoo identifies tigers by the markings above the right eye. This male tiger has a “check mark” above his eye.