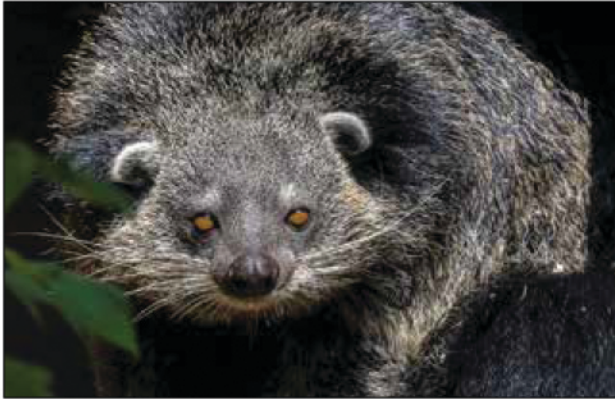


BINTURONG

updated March 2017



Range	Southeast Asia
Habitat	Canopies of tall, dense, tropical forests; lowland forests with grasslands
Diet (wild)	Primarily frugivorous but will also eat insects, birds, fish, rodents, carrion, eggs, tree shoots, and leaves
Diet (captivity)	
Description	Length: 2–3 feet; tail: additional 2–3 feet; weight: 20–45 pounds. Long, heavy body with short legs. Shaggy black coat; each hair tipped in white/beige. Short pointed muzzle with long whiskers. Females are 20% larger than males.
Lifespan	Wild: 18 years. Captivity: Over 25 years.
Reproduction	Mating can occur spring through fall; female may remain fertile for four years after mating. Nests are started at twilight and usually finished by dawn. Oviparous, the female lays 3–8 oval, soft-shelled eggs in the ground in June; they hatch in 75–90 days depending on soil temperature. Exhibit temperature dependent sex determination. Nests that are 22–27 degrees Celsius (72–81 F) tend to be males, and those above 28 degrees Celsius (82 F) tend to be female. Are well developed at birth (precocial) and grow at a rate of about per year during the first five years (when they sexual maturity). Growth slows down considerably after that but has been reported to continue for at least over 20 years.
Behavior	Binturongs are mostly solitary and tend to evade each other, but aren't strictly territorial. They spend the majority of their time climbing, but also have a high level of ground activity as they are too large to jump from tree to tree. Their hind legs can rotate backwards to enhance their back claws' ability to grasp as they climb trunks. When do they walk, they amble with flat feet. As a binturong climbs, its scent pouch drags on the branches, leaving a perfumed smear that smells like buttered popcorn. In trees, its long prehensile tail acts as a fifth limb, allowing the binturong to walk upside down, using its forelimbs to pull fruit into its mouth.
Our animals	
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only other carnivore with a prehensile tail is the kinkajou. • Binturongs are also known as bearcats. They are the largest species in the Viverridae family, which includes civets and genets. • Unlike most mammals, the female binturong is 20% larger than the male and has rather masculine genitals. • Binturongs are often described as a keystone species within their ecosystems. They are the only known disperser of strangler fig seeds, as they have the digestive enzymes required to soften its seed coat. This seed dispersal is very crucial for the persistence of these forest ecosystems. • In the wild, binturongs prey on rodents and provide humans with rodent control. • Binturongs are used for their fur and meat, which is considered a delicacy in some countries.

Phylum
ChordataClass
MammaliaOrder
CarnivoraFamily
ViverridaeGenus
Arctictisspecies
A. binturong