

Celebrating Cornwall's Mammals - from dormice to dolphins!

Did you know.....

Antlers are usually shed each year and are used in challenges and trials of strength between stags.

The Reeve's Muntjac is the smallest deer species in Europe.

Fallow Deer were introduced in the 11th century by the Normans.

The Roe Deer is the only Deer to show delayed implantation.

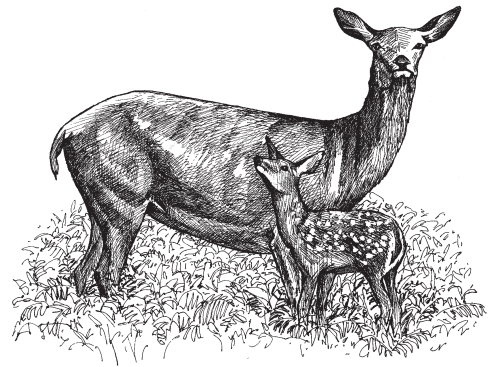
The Reeve's Muntjac Deer was introduced from China in 1894 to the Duke of Bedford's Park at Woburn.

The Red deer found in England are a lot smaller than those found on the Continent.

Antlers are covered with a hairy skin or 'velvet' whilst they are growing. When they finish growing this dies and falls off.



Red Deer antlers



Red Deer hind with calf

Red Deer are the largest land mammal in the UK.

The Reeves Muntjac is also known as the 'Barking Deer'.

Today deer are often seen as a pest, causing damage to farmer's crops and forestry.

The hunting of deer has been a big sport through the ages. Land was especially designated for hunting and deer were protected by law, the illegal killing of a deer incurred severe punishment!

The Roe Deer became extinct in England by 1800 due to forest clearance and hunting.

Today the word 'venison' applies to the meat of deer, originally it applied to the meat of Wild Boar and other animals of the chase.

Illustrations by Sarah McCartney and Jenny King



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Supported by the
Heritage Lottery Fund

