

The Six Tiger Subspecies

Today, there are six subspecies. At the beginning of the 20th Century, there were nine subspecies of tigers worldwide, but three – the Bali, Javan and Caspian – have become extinct. All six surviving subspecies – the Amur, Bengal, Indochinese, Malayan, South China and Sumatran – live in Asia. Take a look at the tiger images on the flip panels. Can you tell which tigers are which? Open the flip panels to find out.



The Six Tiger Subspecies

Today, there are six subspecies. At the beginning of the 20th Century, there were nine subspecies of tigers worldwide, but three – the Bali, Javan and Caspian – have become extinct. All six surviving subspecies – the Amur, Bengal, Indochinese, Malayan, South China and Sumatran – live in Asia. Take a look at the tiger images on the flip panels. Can you tell which tigers are which? Open the flip panels to find out.

<p>THE AMUR (OR SIBERIAN) TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris altaica</i></p> <p>Range: Eastern Russia, a few in northeastern China and northern North Korea</p> <p>Habitat: Coniferous, scrub oak and bamboo forests</p> <p>Fact: The Amur tiger is the largest subspecies of tiger in the world. Amur tigers were on the verge of extinction in 1940, but due to conservation efforts their numbers have become stable. They have the broadest stripes of all surviving subspecies.</p>	<p>THE BENGAL (OR INDIAN) TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris tigris</i></p> <p>Range: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar and Nepal</p> <p>Habitat: Deciduous forests (wet and dry), grasslands, and temperate and mangrove forests</p> <p>Fact: A few Bengal tigers have been kept in zoos or private collections. Most of them have been born in captivity, but a few have been found in the wild. This is very rare and is due to a massive poach.</p>
<p>MALAYAN TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris jacksoni</i></p> <p>Range: Southern tip of Thailand and Peninsular Malaysia</p> <p>Habitat: Mixed broadleaf forests (tropical and subtropical)</p> <p>Fact: The Malayan tiger, although smaller than the Indochinese tiger, is so similar that until 2004 it was thought to be the same subspecies.</p>	<p>INDOCHINESE TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris corbetti</i></p> <p>Range: Wide range throughout Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Vietnam</p> <p>Habitat: Bamboo forests located in hills to mountainous regions</p> <p>Fact: Due to the remote locations where Indochinese tigers live, field studies have been limited and little is known about the status of these tigers in the wild.</p>
<p>SOUTH CHINA TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris amoyensis</i></p> <p>Range: Central and eastern China</p> <p>Habitat: Evergreen forests in mountainous, sub-tropical regions</p> <p>Fact: It is believed that in the wild, the South China tiger is extinct. There are 47 of these tigers that live in 18 zoos in China. If any are living in the wild, they would be found in southeast China.</p>	<p>SUMATRAN TIGER</p> <p>Scientific Name: <i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i></p> <p>Range: The Indonesian island of Sumatra</p> <p>Habitat: Mountainous and lowland forests, peat swamps and freshwater swamp forests</p> <p>Fact: Although Sumatran tigers are protected by law in Indonesia and there is an increased effort in tiger conservation, there is still a large illegal market for Sumatran tiger body parts and products.</p>

THE SIX TIGER SUBSPECIES

Today, there are six subspecies. At the beginning of the 20th Century, there were nine subspecies of tigers worldwide, but three – the Bali, Javan and Caspian – have become extinct. All six surviving subspecies – the Amur, Bengal, Indochinese, Malayan, South China and Sumatran – live in Asia. Take a look at the tiger images on the flip panels. Can you tell which tigers are which? Open the flip panels to find out.



1

THE AMUR (OR SIBERIAN) TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris altaica*

Range: Eastern Russia, a few in northeastern China and northern North Korea

Habitat: Coniferous, scrub oak and birch forests

Fact: The Amur tiger is the largest subspecies of tiger in the world. Amur tigers were on the brink of extinction in 1940, but due to conservation efforts their numbers have become stable. They have the fewest stripes of all surviving subspecies.

2

THE BENGAL (OR INDIAN) TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris tigris*

Range: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar and Nepal

Habitat: Deciduous forests (wet and dry), grasslands, and temperate and mangrove forests

Fact: A few Bengal tigers have been born white or cream-colored. Most of these have been born in captivity, but a few have been found in the wild. This is very rare and is due to a recessive gene.

3

MALAYAN TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris jacksoni*

Range: Southern tip of Thailand and Peninsular Malaysia

Habitat: Moist broadleaf forests (tropical and subtropical)

Fact: The Malayan tiger, although smaller than the Indochinese tiger, is so similar that until 2004 it was thought to be the same subspecies.

4

INDOCHINESE TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris corbetti*

Range: Wide range throughout Thailand, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR (Laos), Myanmar and Vietnam

Habitat: Remote forests located in hilly to mountainous regions

Fact: Due to the remote locations where Indochinese tigers live, field studies have been limited and little is known about the status of these tigers in the wild.

5

SOUTH CHINA TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris amoyensis*

Range: Central and eastern China

Habitat: Evergreen forests in mountainous, sub-tropical regions

Fact: It is believed that in the wild, the South China tiger is extinct. There are 47 of these tigers that live in 18 zoos in China. If any are living in the wild, they would be found in southeast China.

6

SUMATRAN TIGER

Scientific Name: *Panthera tigris sumatrae*

Range: The Indonesian island of Sumatra

Habitat: Mountainous and lowland forests, peat swamps and freshwater swamp forests

Fact: Although Sumatran tigers are protected by law in Indonesia and there is an increased effort in tiger conservation, there is still a large illegal market for Sumatran tiger body parts and products.

1



2



3



4



5



6

