



ROE DEER

Kingdom: Animalia **Phylum:** Chordata **Class:** Mammalia **Order:** Artiodactyla **Family:** Cervidae
Capreolus capreolus

Description: The Roe Deer is the smallest native deer of Europe

Height: 2-2.5 feet

Length: 3-4.5 feet

Weight: 33-110 pounds

Habitat: Woods and forests

Distribution: Europe, central Asia, east to Manchuria and Korea

Diet: Grass, herbs, shoots, twigs and leaves

Life Span: 15 years

Status: Stable

Special Characteristics:

- Only the male has antlers which he uses as weapons.
- The male's rack will not achieve its full 6 points until he is at least 2 years old.
- Lives alone or in small groups of less than 10.
- Hooves are narrow and short with lateral digits that leave a distinctive track.
- Since it has a small stomach and a rapid digestive system, the Roe Deer must eat frequently.
- It is most active at dusk and dawn.
- The Roe Deer was hunted to the point of extinction in England and Wales in 1730. It has thrived since its reintroduction in the 1790s.

Reproduction:

- Sexual maturity at 14 months for males and 1-2 years for females
- Gestation 10 months.
- The Roe Deer is the only hoofed mammal in which the fertilized egg is not implanted immediately. Although mating is July through September, the egg is not implanted until December.
- Litter size is 1-3 fawns.

