

Difference Between Turtle And Tortoise

Desert tortoise The species is native to the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts of the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico, and to the Sinaloan thornscrub of northwestern Mexico. The specific name *agassizii* is in honor of Swiss-American zoologist Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz. geographic, and behavioral differences between desert tortoises east and west of the Colorado River, it was decided that two species of desert tortoises exist: The desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) is a species of tortoise in the family Testudinidae. *G. agassizii* is distributed in western Arizona, southeastern California, southern Nevada, and southwestern Utah. The desert tortoise is the official state reptile in California and Nevada 93e08f7991

Galápagos tortoises are native to seven of the Galápagos Islands. Shell size and shape vary between subspecies and populations. On islands with humid highlands and abundant low vegetation, the tortoises are larger, with domed shells and short necks; on islands with dry lowlands and less ground-level vegetation, the tortoises are smaller, with "saddleback" shells and long necks. Charles Darwin's observations... 93e08f7991 This species is highly distinctive and is now classified by itself, in the monotypic *Chersina* genus. While it differs considerably from all other tortoise species, its closest relatives, according to phylogenetic studies, are the tiny "padloper" (*Homopus*) tortoise species, with which it shares its southern African habitat. 93e08f7991 The turtle's shell is important to study, not just because of the apparent protection it provides for the animal, but also as an identification tool, in particular with fossils, as the shell is one of the most likely parts of a turtle to survive fossilization. Therefore, understanding the shell structure in living species provides comparable material with fossils. 93e08f7991 == Taxonomy == 93e08f7991

Turtle shell It is constructed of modified bony elements such as the ribs, parts of the pelvis, and other bones found in most reptiles. It comprises an upper part, the carapace, and lower part, the plastron, connected by a bony bridge. The turtle shell is a shield for turtles (order Testudines), completely enclosing all the turtle's vital organs and in some cases even the head. It comprises The turtle shell is a shield for turtles (order Testudines), completely enclosing all the turtle's vital organs and in some cases even the head. The bone of the shell consists of both skeletal and dermal bone, showing that the complete enclosure of the shell likely evolved by including dermal armor into the rib cage 93e08f7991

== Shell nomenclature == 93e08f7991 The specific name, *weneri* (of the synonym *Testudo weneri*), is in honor of Israeli herpetologist Yehudah L. Werner. 93e08f7991

Red-footed tortoise They are closely related to the more easterly-distributed yellow-footed tortoise (*C. denticulatus*) of the Amazon Basin. Visible differences are noted between red-footed tortoises from varying eco-regions. They are closely related The red-footed tortoise (*Chelonoidis carbonarius*) is a species of tortoise from northern South America. Visible differences are noted between red-footed tortoises from varying eco-regions. range from pale yellow to vivid or dark red. They have dark-colored (nearly black), "loaf"-shaped carapaces (top shell) with a lighter patch in the middle of each scute (shell segment), and a somewhat lighter-colored plastron (underbelly). They also have dark limbs dotted with brightly-colored scales, from which they get their name, that range from pale yellow to vivid or dark red. These medium-sized tortoises generally average 30 cm (12 in) as adults, but can reach over 40 cm (16 in) 93e08f7991

== Description == 93e08f7991 Internationally it is known by the two names of "angulate" and "bowsprit" tortoise. Locally in southern Africa however, it is uniformly known as the "angulate" tortoise in English, and as the *rooipens skilpad* ("red-belly tortoise") in Afrikaans. 93e08f7991 The shell of the hawksbill turtle, among other species, has been used as a material for a wide range of small decorative and practical items since antiquity, including food and medicine, but is normally referred to as tortoiseshell. 93e08f7991 The geographic distribution of the Greek tortoise (*Testudo graeca*) includes North Africa, Southern Europe, and Southwest Asia. It is commonly found along the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus, extending from Anapa, Russia, to Sukhumi, Abkhazia, Georgia. Additional populations are present in parts of Georgia, Armenia, Iran, and Azerbaijan. 93e08f7991 == Name and taxonomy == 93e08f7991 == Geographic range == 93e08f7991 The marsh terrapin is typically a rather small turtle, with most individuals being less than 20 cm (7.9 in) ranging from 15 to 21 centimeters in straight carapace length, but one has been recorded with a length of 32.5 cm (12.8 in). It has a black or brown carapace. The top of the tail and feet are a grayish brown, while the underside (plastron) is yellowish. 93e08f7991 Turtle shells are made mostly of bone; the upper part is the domed carapace, while the underside is the flatter plastron or belly-plate. Its outer surface is covered in scales made of keratin, the material of hair, horns, and claws. The carapace bones develop from ribs that grow sideways and develop into broad flat plates that join up to cover the body. Turtles are ectotherms or "cold-blooded", meaning that their internal temperature varies with their direct environment. They are generally opportunistic omnivores and mainly feed on plants and animals... 93e08f7991

Kleinmann's tortoise The species was once more widespread, but its numbers are now dwindling, and complete extinction in the wild is a looming threat unless more actions are taken to protect this species. The species is native to Libya and possibly extinct in Egypt. Kleinmann's tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*), also called commonly the Egyptian tortoise, Leith's tortoise, and the Negev tortoise, is a critically endangered Kleinmann's tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*), also called commonly the Egyptian tortoise, Leith's tortoise, and the Negev tortoise, is a critically endangered species of cryptodire turtle in the family Testudinidae 93e08f7991

Tortoise Differences exist in usage of the common terms turtle Tortoises (TOR-təs-iz) are reptiles of the family Testudinidae of the order Testudines (Latin for "tortoise"). tortoise species can

live 80–150 years. Tortoises are typically slow-moving, placid and gentle. The shell in tortoises is generally hard, and like other members of the suborder Cryptodira, they retract their necks and heads directly backward into the shell to protect them. Like other testudines, tortoises have a shell to protect from predation and other threats 93e08f7991

Tortoises can vary in size with some species, such as the Galápagos giant tortoise, growing to more than 1.2 metres (3.9 ft) in length, whereas others like the speckled Cape tortoise have shells that measure only 6.8 centimetres (2.7 in) long. Several lineages of tortoises have independently evolved very large body sizes in excess of 100 kilograms (220 lb), including the Galapagos giant tortoise and the Aldabra giant tortoise. They are usually diurnal animals with tendencies to be crepuscular depending on the ambient temperatures. They are generally reclusive animals. Tortoises are the longest-living land animals in the world, although the longest-living species of tortoise is a matter of debate. Galápagos tortoises are noted to live over 150 years, but an Aldabra giant tortoise named Adwaita may have lived an... 93e08f7991

Greek tortoise The species is a medium-sized herbivorous testudinid, widely distributed in the Mediterranean region. The Greek tortoise (*Testudo graeca*), also known commonly as the Moorish tortoise and the spur-thighed tortoise, is a species of tortoise in the family Testudinidae 93e08f7991

Uniquely, the genus *Pelomedusa* does not have a hinged plastron (lower shell). All the other species in the family Pelomedusidae, however, do... 93e08f7991

Galápagos tortoise Charles Darwin's observations of these differences on the second voyage The Galápagos tortoise (*Chelonoidis niger*), also called the Galápagos giant tortoise, is a very large species of tortoise in the genus *Chelonoidis* (which also contains three smaller species from mainland South America). The species comprises 15 subspecies (12 extant and 3 extinct). It is the largest living species of tortoise, and can weigh up to 417 kg (919 lb). They are also the largest extant terrestrial cold-blooded animals (ectotherms). ground-level vegetation, the tortoises are smaller, with "saddleback" shells and long necks 93e08f7991

The specific name, *kleinmanni*, is in honor of Edouard Kleinmann, a French stockbroker who collected the holotype in 1875. 93e08f7991 With lifespans in the wild of over 100 years, it is one of the longest-lived vertebrates. Captive Galapagos tortoises can live up to 177 years. For example, a captive individual, Harriet, lived for at least 175 years. Spanish explorers, who discovered the islands in the 16th century, named them after the Spanish *galápagos*, meaning "tortoise". 93e08f7991

Angulate tortoise It is the only living The angulate tortoise (*Chersina angulata*) is a species of tortoise found in dry areas and coastal scrub vegetation in South Africa. It is the only living member of the genus *Chersina*. The angulate tortoise (*Chersina angulata*) is a species of tortoise found in dry areas and coastal scrub vegetation in South Africa 93e08f7991

African helmeted turtle The species naturally occurs in fresh and stagnant water bodies throughout much of Sub-Saharan Africa, and in southern Yemen. Branch, Bill (2001). specimens and historical DNA (Testudines: Pelomedusidae)". *Zootaxa* 3795 (5): 501%u2013522. Tortoises, Terrapins and Turtles of Africa The African helmeted turtle (*Pelomedusa subrufa*), also commonly known as the marsh terrapin, the crocodile turtle, or in the pet trade as the African side-necked turtle, is a species of omnivorous side-necked terrapin in the family Pelomedusidae 93e08f7991

Turtle They are found on most continents, some islands and, in the case of sea turtles, much of the ocean. Modern turtles are divided into two major groups, the Pleurodira (side-necked turtles) and Cryptodira (hidden-necked turtles), which differ in the way the head retracts. turtles, including land-dwelling tortoises and freshwater terrapins. There are 360 living and recently extinct species of turtles, including land-dwelling tortoises and freshwater terrapins. They are found on most continents, some islands and, in the case of sea turtles, Turtles (order Testudines) are reptiles characterized by a special shell developed mainly from their ribs. Like other amniotes (reptiles, birds, and mammals) they breathe air and do not lay eggs underwater, although many species live in or around water 93e08f7991

Their natural habitat ranges from savannah to forest edges around the Amazon Basin. They are omnivorous tortoises, consuming a wide assortment of plants, grasses, flowers, fruit and (notably) fungi, as well as the occasional earthworm or other invertebrate. When presented with the opportunity, many tortoises will also scavenge on carrion. They do not brumate, due to their equatorial home range, but may aestivate in the hotter, drier months.... 93e08f7991 The desert tortoise lives 70 to 80 years on average; it grows slowly and generally has a low reproductive rate. It spends most of its time in burrows, rock shelters, and pallets to regulate body temperature and reduce water loss. It is most active after seasonal rains and is inactive during most of the year. This inactivity helps reduce water loss during hot periods, whereas winter brumation facilitates survival during freezing temperatures and low food availability. Desert tortoises can tolerate water, salt, and energy imbalances on a daily basis, which increases their lifespans. 93e08f7991 *T. graeca* is recognized for its longevity, with verified lifespans exceeding 100 years and anecdotal reports suggesting ages over 125 years. Among reptiles, it has one of the largest known genomes. 93e08f7991 In 2011, on the basis of DNA, geographic, and... 93e08f7991 == Etymology == 93e08f7991 The male turtle is distinguished by its long, thick tail. A female tends to have a shorter tail and a broader carapace. A hatchling has a shell size of about 3 cm (1.2 in) in length, and is olive to black in color. It also has two small tubercles under the chin and musk glands in the sides of the carapace. 93e08f7991

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