

Unicorn Facts



Some unicorn enthusiasts claim that to avoid the hunters that threatened the unicorns existence on earth the unicorn took to the sea and evolved to become the narwhal, a whale like creature from the arctic with one long horn in the middle of its forehead. Ironically, narwhal 'horns' were often sold as unicorn horns in medieval times.



The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland. The Royal Coat of Arms of Scotland, used prior to 1603 by the Kings of Scotland was supported by two unicorns. Two gold coins of that era were even known as the unicorn and the half-unicorn.



The current Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom is supported by a unicorn for Scotland along with a lion for England.



Genghis Khan reportedly decided not to conquer India after meeting a unicorn, which bowed down to him; he viewed it as a sign from his dead father and turned his army back.



Early unicorn heraldry can also be found on the ancient seals of Babylonia & Assyria.



Unicorn horns are called alicorns.



The Chinese dreamed up a form of Unicorn long before the luminous white beauty of their western world existed. The creature, called a Qilin, had the body of a deer & the magnificent, rainbow scales of a dragon. A long horn sprouted from the centre of its forehead, and it was so light-footed that not a single blade of grass was crushed under its hooves.



The Qilin even had the ability to fly and was believed to live for 2000 years or more. The Chinese believe that Qilin can only be seen by "chosen ones" and only appears during the reign of superior rulers.



A Greek doctor named Ctesias gave us a first written description of this mythical creature after visiting Persia (Iran) and hearing stories from Indian travellers. According to Ctesias, the unicorn was a massive beast with a snow white body as big as a horse, a dark red head, cloven hooves & a multi-coloured two foot long horn.



The Turkish Unicorn, called karkadann, or kartijan, was thought to be a ferocious beast with a massive body and one horn. The karkadann was thought to out-run all the beasts of the forest with its thundering gait that shook the earth. Its voice was a frightening bellow that chased away all animals except for the ringdove, whose song was thought to lull the beast.