

Black Pine Animal Park

Animal Facts

Breed: LION-TAIL MACAQUE

Names / Sex / Age:

Mona Lisa, aka "Lisa" Female 15

Previous Home: Private homes.

Native to: Western Ghats mountains of India.

Size: 15 to 33 pounds. Males are slightly larger than females.

Life Expectancy: Up to 30 years in captivity.

Diet: Fruits, vegetables, small invertebrates; At Black Pine, monkey biscuits, fruits and vegetables, nuts, seeds, bread, sometimes crickets or mealworms.

Facts:

- Lion-tailed macaques are unique to India.
- Endangered, they number only about 2,500
- As few as 600 live in zoos around the world
- Lion-tailed macaques are arboreal, meaning they live in trees
- "Old world" primates, they have food pouches
- In addition to deforestation, lion-tailed macaques suffer from being captured for the pet trade, zoos, research, and use in traditional Chinese medicine

Personal History:

"Mona Lisa", also called "Lisa", was originally owned as a pet. One of her previous owners was unable to provide the medical care she needed and Lisa became very ill. A good Samaritan came to her aid and provided her foster care until she recovered. Then Lisa was adopted permanently by Black Pine. This species of monkey is rare in the exotic pet trade, so it is likely she was illegally smuggled into the country, or came at a very high price if purchased from a breeder.