



## Species Fact Sheet



### MAMMALS

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/mammals.html>

## Indian Flying Fox

*Pteropus giganteus*

**Peoria Zoo Exhibit** Historic Entry Building

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/exhibits.html>

**Habitat:** Tropical and subtropical forests and swamps, primarily in coastal regions

**Range:** Bangladesh, China, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka

**Activity Cycle:** Nocturnal— active at night

**Size:** Length is about 9 inches  
Wingspan up to 50 inches (over 4 feet!)  
Weight between 2-4 pounds with males weighing more than females.

**Social Structure:** Gregarious and lives in colonies which can number a few hundred. Males are territorial, with dominant males occupying the best roosting sites. Males will mate with any adult female roosting nearby. Females take care of the young.

**Distinguishing Features:** This a very large bat with a foxlike head and ears, large eyes, two claws on its wings, and no tail. The wingspan is one of the largest in the flying fox family. They use sight and smell to locate food, not echolocation as insectivore bats use.

**Diet:** Ripe fruit found in the trees, flowers and pollen

**Life Span:** Average 15 years

### ***Did you know?***

***Bats need more water than other mammals of the same size do because they lose a lot of moisture through their wings.***