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tortoises 'tɔːr təs ɪz are reptiles of the family testudinidae of the order testudines latin for tortoise like other turtles tortoises have a shell to protect from predation and other threats here is a list of tortoise species with images descriptions and organized by size each species has an in depth page to go with it a tortoise is a land dwelling reptile of the order testudines tortoises are found worldwide with the most famous tortoise of all the giant tortoise lonesome george who lived on the galapagos islands near ecuador tortoises like their aquatic cousins the turtles have a hard shell which protects their body there are about 49 species of tortoises and they range in size from the padlopers homopus of southern africa with shell lengths of 10 to 15 cm 4 to 6 inches to the giant tortoises geochelone of the aldabra and galapagos islands with shells over 1 metre 3 3 feet long animals network team tortoises are terrestrial reptiles that are part of the turtle family unlike the other members of the turtle family tortoises cannot swim these land dwelling creatures have tough claws for digging instead of the webbed feet of other turtles read on to learn about the tortoise tortoise crossing the road in south africa dive into tortoise ecology and learn about their habitats diets and the challenges they face in the modern world state conservation facts about gopher tortoises scientific name gopherus polyphemus conservation status threatened to endangered size 9 to 11 inches as adults 23 28 cm 10 pounds 4 5 kg lifespan 40 60 years in the wild 90 in captivity shell color tan brown or gray what is a gopher tortoise approximately 49 different species of tortoises are categorized under 18 extant genera some of the most commonly found tortoise species are listed below aldabran giant tortoise radiated tortoise angonoka tortoise sulcata tortoise or african spurred tortoise red footed tortoise southern wood tortoise or argentine tortoise testudinidae read our complete guide to classification of animals tortoise conservation status endangered tortoise locations africa asia central america eurasia europe north america oceania south america tortoise facts main prey grass weeds leafy greens fun fact can live until they are more than 150 years old habitat diet herbivore size up to six feet weight up to 573 pounds size relative to a 6 ft man iucn red list status vulnerable lc nt vu en cr ew ex least concern extinct current september 25 2022 by jeff england in this article we seek to take a closer look at the tortoise latin testudinidae examining amazing examples of the species through exploring elements of history defining features as well as the nature of these noble creatures 1 tortoises are turtles despite their differences tortoises are turtles however it s important to remember that not all turtles are tortoises their similarities make it incredibly easy to get the two confused but recognizing the differences will help you tell them apart all tortoises are in fact turtles that is they belong to the order testudines or chelonia reptiles having bodies encased in a bony shell but not all turtles are tortoises if tortoises are turtles why not just call all turtlelike creatures turtle 1 aldabra giant tortoise 2 african spurred tortoise 3 greek tortoise 4 indian star tortoise 5 leopard tortoise 6 hingeback tortoise 7 hermann s tortoise 8 russian tortoise 9 red footed tortoise 10 yellow footed tortoise 11 pancake tortoise 12 elongated tortoise 13 egyptian tortoise 14 marginated tortoise tortoises and turtles are both reptiles from the order of testudines but in different classification families the major difference between the two is that tortoises dwell on land while turtles live in the water some or nearly all of the time all 39 different types of tortoises last updated on september 6 2022 in reptiles tortoises are a group of exclusively terrestrial reptiles that are native to every continent apart from australia and antarctica all tortoises belong to the order testudines or chelonia making them members of the turtle family but not all turtles are tortoises the main difference between the two is their modes of life all tortoises are terrestrial whereas other types of turtles can be aquatic or semi aquatic besides this tortoises have a number of tortoises are crazy cool animals but a lot of people are confused about their anatomy and what goes on in that shell consider this your one stop shop for all questions on what makes a tortoise a tortoise in this article we will talk about all the crazy and not so crazy things that may be on or in your wonderful pet tortoises contents hide aldabra atoll indian ocean the giant tortoises on the aldabra this species is found naturally on three of the islets of the aldabra atoll a small group of coral islands over 90 of the population is found on the largest islet of grande terre and the tortoises here are highly sociable compared to those on the other islets bestseller 4 6 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approximately 49 different species of tortoises are categorized under 18 extant genera some of the most commonly found tortoise species are listed below aldabran giant tortoise radiated tortoise angonoka tortoise sulcata tortoise or african spurred tortoise red footed tortoise southern wood tortoise or argentine tortoise

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