



Emperor Tamarin

Saguinus imperator



Family Group

Pitino and Amelie, Tomasso and Tonetta, Infant 1 and Infant 2

We live in the Vanishing Kingdom next to the Spider Monkey habitat! Pitino (**born on August 8th, 2017**) and Amelie (**born on December 27th, 2017**) are the parents, also known as the breeding pair. Together, they have had many tamarin babies including Tomasso and Tonetta (**born June 21st, 2022**), and the two new unnamed twins (**born September 15th, 2023**). They are also parents to the sister group of tamarins located on the other end of Vanishing Kingdom!

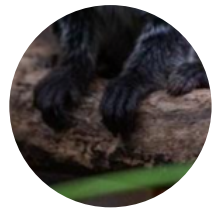
Sister Group

Mattessich, Gianna and Gabriella

We live in the Vanishing Kingdom next to the White-Handed Gibbon habitat! We are all daughters of Pitino and Amelie. Gianna and Gabriella (also known as Gabi) are twins, born on **December 22, 2021**. Mattessich (also known as Matty) was born on **February 12, 2021**.



TAMARINS AT A GLANCE



- There are two subspecies of emperor tamarin that are distinguished by their **mustaches**. The bearded emperor tamarin has a full beard, while the black-chinned emperor tamarin only has a mustache without the beard.
- Like all tamarins, emperor tamarins have **narrow hands** with **non-opposable thumbs** and **claws** at the ends to aid in climbing.
- Emperor tamarins have a **long reddish-brown tail**
- Emperor tamarins are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and animals (insects)



Adult Size:

9.2-10.4 inches long
10.7-14.2 oz

Avg. life expectancy in native habitats:
10-20 years
Avg. life expectancy in human care:
23-24 years

WHERE ARE NATIVE EMPEROR TAMARIN HABITATS LOCATED?



Emperor tamarins can be found throughout the Amazonian tropical forest regions in southeast Peru, northwest Bolivia, and northwest Brazil. They typically inhabit the tree canopy of tropical lowland rainforests.

Emperor Tamarin Behaviors

SLEEPING

When an emperor tamarin family goes to sleep, they roll up together and spend the night in the hollow of a tree.

At night, we like to curl up in the branches and nest boxes in our habitat. We feel the most safe when we are together!



TERRITORY

Emperor tamarins are extremely territorial. They use high-pitched, shrill sounds to warn trespassers what their territory is.

You may hear us making noise when you visit us at the zoo, this just means we are defending our space when we see new faces!



CARE

The mother will carry and feed her babies for about 30 minutes every 2-3 hours. Otherwise the males carry and care for the infants.

We are one big happy family! To ensure our babies get the best care, parents, siblings, aunts and uncles will all care for the babies!



CLIMBING

Thanks to their claws, emperor tamarins are very good at climbing (down) vertically. Their claws give them additional grip.

Our habitats are filled with lots of branches and vines that we love to climb and jump around on!



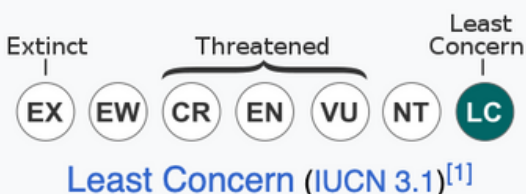
- Emperor tamarins often live among other species of tamarin, which serves to help defend against predators and gather food.
- In tamarin society, males and females mate for life and take equal part in raising their young.
- It is believed that they were named after German emperor Wilhelm II, who also wore a mustache.
- Emperor tamarins normally give birth to twins, but single births and triplets also occur. The Racine Zoo is one of only two zoos in the country currently successfully breeding these animals!
- Tamarins live in groups of 2-15 individuals. Members are ranked by sex and age; the oldest female has the highest rank. Males help rear the young, and the younger members will also help.

Emperor Tamarin Conservation

Much of the range of the emperor tamarin is subject to progressive deforestation due to logging and cattle ranching. The species is also subject to the pet trade.

Emperor tamarins are currently of **least concern**, however, habitat loss due to agricultural development may impact the future status of this species.

Conservation status



How can we help?

Logging, farming, and development take away from the natural forest in which these animals live.

By purchasing products that are certified by programs - such as Rainforest Alliance or Forest Stewardship Council - that promote sustainable farm and forest practices, you can help conserve habitats of endangered species.