The Tsushima Leopard Cat

Scientific Name: Prionailurus bengalensis euptilurus
English Name: Tsushima leopard cat

The Tsushima leopard cat is a wild cat which only inhabits Tsushima Island. It is regarded as a subspecies of the leopard cat, which migrated to Tsushima around 100,000 years ago when the island was connected to the Asian continent. In 1971, the Tsushima leopard cat was designated as a National Nature Monument. However, due to habitat degradation and road accidents, the cat population is decreasing, and in 1994 the Tsushima leopard cat was designated a National Endangered Species in accordance with the Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species. Conservation projects are being carried out so that, in the future, the Tsushima leopard cat can live safely in its natural environment.

Getting Here

Tsushima Wildlife Conservation Center

Differences between a Tsushima Leopard Cat and a Domestic Cat

Fur Pattern

- A Tsushima leopard cat
- A domestic cat

Pant spots

Head

- A Tsushima leopard cat
- A domestic cat

- Stripes continuing from the face to the back of the head, and small round ears

Ears

- A Tsushima leopard cat
- A domestic cat

- White spots on the back of the ears

Plane

- Fukuoka - Tsushima: 30 min
- Nagasaki - Tsushima: 35 min

Ferry

- Hakata - Izuohara: 4 hrs 40 min
- Hakata - Hitakatsu: 5 hrs 50 min

Jetfoil

- Hakata - Izuohara: 2 hrs 15 min

Distance & Time between Tsushima Airport & Ports and Tsushima Wildlife Conservation Center

- From Tsushima Airport: 66 km ~90 min by car
- From Izuohara Port: 77 km ~2 hrs 40 min by car
- From Hitakatsu Port: 25 km ~40 min by car

Information

Opening Hours: 10:00 - 16:30 (last admission 16:00)
Entrance Fee: FREE
Closed: Every Monday (Tuesday if the Monday is a national holiday), Dec 29th-Jan 3rd
Note: No food, drink, smoking or pets are allowed inside the center.
Tel: 0920-84-5577
Fax: 0920-84-5575
Sagasoosaki Park, Kamiogatsu-cho, Tsushima city, 817-1603

Tsushima Wildlife Conservation Center is co-established by the Ministry of the Environment, Nagasaki Prefecture and Tsushima City for the protection of endangered wildlife on Tsushima. The center's activities include providing explanations of the ecology and status of wildlife on Tsushima, such as that of the Tsushima leopard cat, as well as carrying out educational activities to further understanding about wildlife conservation, and conservation programs for endangered species.
A. What is Biodiversity?

On Tsushima there exists a unique ecosystem consisting of living things of various origins, from native Tsushima wildlife to that of the continent and the Japanese mainland. Here, with these connections as a starting point, you can ponder the biodiversity of both the earth and Tsushima.

B. The Tsushima Leopard Cat

From images revealing the fundamental information on and origins of the Tsushima leopard cat, to a skeleton assembly puzzle - you can have fun while you learn with our many activities.

C. Let’s Meet a Tsushima Leopard Cat!

Here you can meet Fukuma, the Tsushima leopard cat! Check out the Tsushima leopard cat’s distinct characteristics as you observe this inquisitive animal. However, make sure you follow the rules and be gentle!

D. The Relationship Among Tsushima Leopard Cat, Nature and People on Tsushima

See a diorama reproducing the environment in which the Tsushima leopard cat lives. Hear bird calls, see specimens and models of insects and fish, and understand the links between nature and people on Tsushima.

E. Conservation and Population Growth Initiatives

The latest information on the center’s Tsushima leopard cat conservation measures is updated here as it becomes available. As well as that, there’s a substantial interactive corner, with an automatic filming activity in which you can experience the life of a Tsushima leopard cat through a cat’s eyes, a quiz, and more. Last but not least, you can also observe the rarely seen breeding behaviour of leopard cats in captivity.