



## Giant African spurred tortoise

*Centrochelys sulcata*

### Fun Facts

- *Sulcata* comes from the latin word *sulcus* which means ‘furrow’. This refers to the furrows or deep lines on their shells.
- The African spurred tortoise is the third largest species of tortoise in the world. Only the Galapagos tortoise and the Aldabra giant tortoise are bigger.
- They are capable of going weeks without food or water. When they do find it, boy can they drink, consuming up to 15% of their body weight.
- These tortoises are herbivores, which means they eat grasses and plants.
- The female tortoise can grow up to 50 cm in length and weigh up to 60 kg. The male tortoise can grow up to 80 cm in length and weigh a whopping 100 kg!
- The name ‘Spurred tortoise’ comes from the ‘sticky outy’ bits or spurs on its hind legs.

