



ELEPHANT *Whispers*

Elephant Profile

ZIZIPHUS

Ziziphus is undoubtedly an exotic sounding name – perfect for such a unique elephant!

Living up to all expectations, Ziz, or Zizi, as he is fondly known, is a firm favourite among visitors and Elephant Grooms. His full name is Ziziphus Micronata; the scientific name for a Buffalo Thorn tree, as the first time we met Ziziphus, he was feeding near some Buffalo Thorn trees.

He is easily recognizable by the distinctive shape of his forehead and his calm demeanour. He is a creature of habit; thriving on routine and a regular schedule. When out on a walk, he likes to be positioned behind the same elephant, always in the same order. Ziz feels more comfortable and secure when flanked by other elephant, or Grooms, on both of his sides. When he has a swim in the dam though, he throws all caution to the wind, and just enjoys himself. When adding any infrastructure to our venue, we ensure that we slowly introduce Ziziphus to the new building, walking a little closer every day, until he is content that the new addition does not pose any threat.

Ziziphus AT A GLANCE

Sex: Male

Age: 22 Years

Shoulder Height: 2.90m

Approximate Weight: ± 2.9 tons



It is wonderful to see how people are drawn to Ziziphus, they take pleasure in the restful, undemanding companionship so generously offered by him. Guests appreciate his soothing, gentle manner, and are rewarded by Ziz's obvious enjoyment of the attention he gets.

All elephants love oranges, and Ziz is certainly no exception. The Grooms often chuckle when watching Ziz eating oranges, saying that he has the same dreamy look on his face that ladies get when eating chocolate!

