**Leopard Tortoise**

**Native to:** Savannahs of Eastern and Southern Africa

**Predators:**  Rodents, Canines, Large Lizards and Snakes when they are younger

**Food:**  Mixed grasses, Berries, Succulents, and Thistle

**Facts:**.

* They are the fourth largest species of Tortoise found on the planet. They grow as large as 28 inches in Diameter and weigh in at over 70 lbs.
* They get their name because Juveniles and young adults are marked with black spots which fade away as they reach full adulthood.
* They play a very important role in seed dispersal in the grasslands where they are found.
* They are very long-lived species of animals individuals in captivity can live well over 100 yrs.
* When they are full grown they have no natural predators due to their sizes and their thick shells.
* It takes them over 15 years to reach sexual maturity for breeding purposes.
* They can go up to almost a month I the wild without drinking water and almost two months without eating.
* The main threats to this animal in the wild come from industrial agriculture and planned burnings of its native homelands.

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Size
* Shells

**Reproduction:**

Females lay a clutch of eggs sometimes up to 30 eggs between May to early October one female can lay up to 5 individual clutches during that time as well.

**Lifespan:** Can live for about 100 years

**Handling Tips**

Our Leopard Tortoise is very easy to handle. Make sure you support the full weight of their shell and body.