

HALARI DONKEY

*Majestic Donkey
Breed from Gujarat*



Background

The Halari Donkey derives its name from the word Halar, a region in current day Jamnagar District of Gujarat, Western India. The first king of the region was Jam Sri Rawalji Lakhaji Jadeja who, in 1540, named the region after one of his fore-father Jam Sri Halaji Jadeja. Halar is known locally as Halar Pradesh, or the province of Halar. The region is arid and semi-dry, with an undulating landscape, hosting scrub and thorn forests. Owing to the paucity of rainfall, there is little agriculture in the area, and has historically been inhabited by large numbers of sheep and goat herders, principally the Bharwad and Rabari communities.

Pastoralists have bred this animal to meet at least two key needs: while on migration the Bharwad and Rabari pastoral communities

need to be able to transport their household goods, which can add up to quite significant weight. Breeders claim that they have bred the Halari donkey for its broad back, specifically to enable it to carry large, and potentially awkward loads. Breeders also talk of the Halari as a particularly docile donkey, more so than other, more commonly available donkeys. Docility is a particularly valued trait where an entire family may be travelling with a pack animal.

Keepers of the Halari Donkey

- The Bharwad and Rabari pastoral communities use this donkey as a pack animal for their long-distance migrations with their Dumma sheep and Kahami Goat in entire Saurashtra.
- The Kumbhar (potter) community uses the donkey for transport of mud and other pottery-related raw material. The community will also use the donkey for transport of raw material for the construction of check dams, ponds and other earthwork.
- The Ravad community of Saurashtra uses this animal for transportation of construction materials at construction sites. They also sell adult donkeys in animal fairs.
- Kumbhar and Ravad communities use this donkey for the transport of mud and bricks in brick factories.
- All communities will sell the foal of the animal, as well as the adult males, as a means of enhancing household revenues.





Parameter	Male (Above 3 Years)		Female (Above 3 Years)	
	Range	Average	Range	Average
Neck circumference	65.96±0.23	39 - 81	67.19±0.09	21 - 92
Chest Width	65.96±0.23	39 - 81	27.32± 0.04	17 - 42
Height at Withers	108.04 ±0.19	39 - 81	107.25± 0.06	70 - 129
Body Length	116.71 ±0.20	39 - 81	114.60±0.07	72 - 152
Heart Girth	119.39 ±0.23	39 - 81	119.03± 0.08	75 - 152
Paunch Girth	146.25 ±0.33	39 - 81	150.29± 0.12	80 - 193

Registration Number: **INDIA_DONKEY_0400_HALARI_05220**

NativeTrack: Jamanagar, Dwarika and Rajkot Districts, Gujarat

Breeder Community: Mainly Bharwad, Rabari, Ravad and Kumbhar communities of Halar region

Coat Color: Primarily white

Ear: Larger than that of Kutchi donkey, the other breed found in Gujarat

Face Pattern: Roman Nose /Concave Nose Pattern

Body Size: Large to Massive

Height: Taller than that of Kutchi donkey, the other breed found in Gujarat



Prepared by:



Centre for Pastoralism

