

Marapana Wildlife Park

A Hands on Experience that is Totally Wild

Fact Sheet

Black-headed python

(*Aspidites melanocephalus*)



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Black-headed Pythons have dramatic coloration, with dark brown or reddish brown bands against ground colours from cream to tan, and a beautiful jet-black head.

Females generally grow a lot larger than males and can reach lengths of ten feet.

DID YOU KNOW?

A Black-Headed Python uses that beautiful, glossy black head, to absorb the sun's heat! They will stick just their head out of a hole in a rock or in the hollow of a tree, and soak up the sun, without having to expose their whole body!

Black-headed pythons are a predator unlike any other in Australia. They feed on mostly on reptiles, including large monitor lizards, and also eat frogs, small mammals and birds. The Desert Death Adder, King Brown Snake and other venomous snakes also make up a big part of their diet.

DISTRIBUTION

These guys are found from Northern Australia, to central Queensland, right across to the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

The habitat they live in is one of the harshest on the planet, with temperatures exceeding 40°C and night time temperatures falling below -2°C! They choose to live in and amongst rocky outcrops, hollow logs beside watercourses, burrows, or clumps of grass, and they are very capable climbers

