

BISON ARE WILD ANIMALS

The largest herbivor in Europe can reach a weight of 1 tone and a speed of 60 kph.

Here's how to prevent an unpleasant encounter with a bison.

Keeps a distance of at least 100 m.

They may seem docile, but they can become aggressive when they feel threatened.

Stay calm and retreat slowly.

Do not feed the bison.

Do not take photos - a selfie can cost you your life!

Call to report the presence of the bison -
the place and time you saw the animal and the rangers will act immediately.

Armenis: 0757.810.905

Poieni: 0761.135.374 / 0721.277.535

Signs of agitated behavior :

He's raising his tail

Digging with the hoof in the ground

Keeping eyes fixed at you

Swinging of head from one side to the other

Grunts , puffs and other sounds

Move away calmly from the animal. Waits until he moves away or finds another remote route that avoids his way.

WHAT DOES THE WWF TEAM DO?

Intervenes to safely lead the bison away towards the wilderness

Provides additional food (hay / mineralised salts) in extreme weather conditions

Rangers constantly monitors the location of the bison and their health

ABOUT THE REWILDING INITIATIVE

Bison are a protected and vulnerable species that disappeared from almost all of Europe, including Romania, in the 19th century.

WWF-Romania, Rewilding Europe and local associations have begun in 2012 the initiative to reintroduce the European bison into the Țarcu Mountains and the Poiana Rusca Mountains, the territory that they have been inhabiting 200 years ago.

At this time, there are approximately 50 free-roaming bison in the two reintroduction areas.

The Rangers (members of the Armenis and Poieni communities) together with the WWF-Romania team are on the ground every day, monitoring the movements and the health of the bison and intervening according to the situations that occur.



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Although the bison are undergoing a process of acclimatization to local natural and climatic conditions, progressively before being effectively released in nature, some regain their instincts of survival at a slower pace depending on the frequency of interactions with people and feeding habits with which they were accustomed to in captivity.

In winter, and especially in periods of heavy snow, bison do not have access to grass. If wild bison are accustomed to these harsh winters, bison born and raised in zoos and reserves do not (yet) have this ability and until they adapt they try more accessible solutions such as hay.

In terms of interacting with humans, bison do not pose an imminent danger, but it must be remembered that they are wild animals and attracting them with food or engaging in direct contact is contraindicated, precisely to avoid the formation of dependence that leads to damage of goods.