



Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site

AMERICAN BISON

Bison bison



TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

The American bison is the heaviest land mammal in North America. A mature bull can weigh 2,200 pounds.



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Often referred to as buffalo, the American bison is only distantly related to the "true buffalo" of Asia and Africa. Bison were misnamed by the French fur trappers and are still mistakenly called buffalo by many people.

Great herds once roamed North America, but the millions of bison that had been present when the Europeans first came were hunted to near extinction by the late 1800s.

Bison were an important food source for many Native Americans. Furs for clothing, meat, leather, and sinew for bows are a few of the products obtained from the bison.

Despite their massive size, bison are very agile and can run up to 40 miles per hour.

Bison are herbivores, which means they eat plant material.

The bison herd here at LBJ was established by Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th President of the United States.