

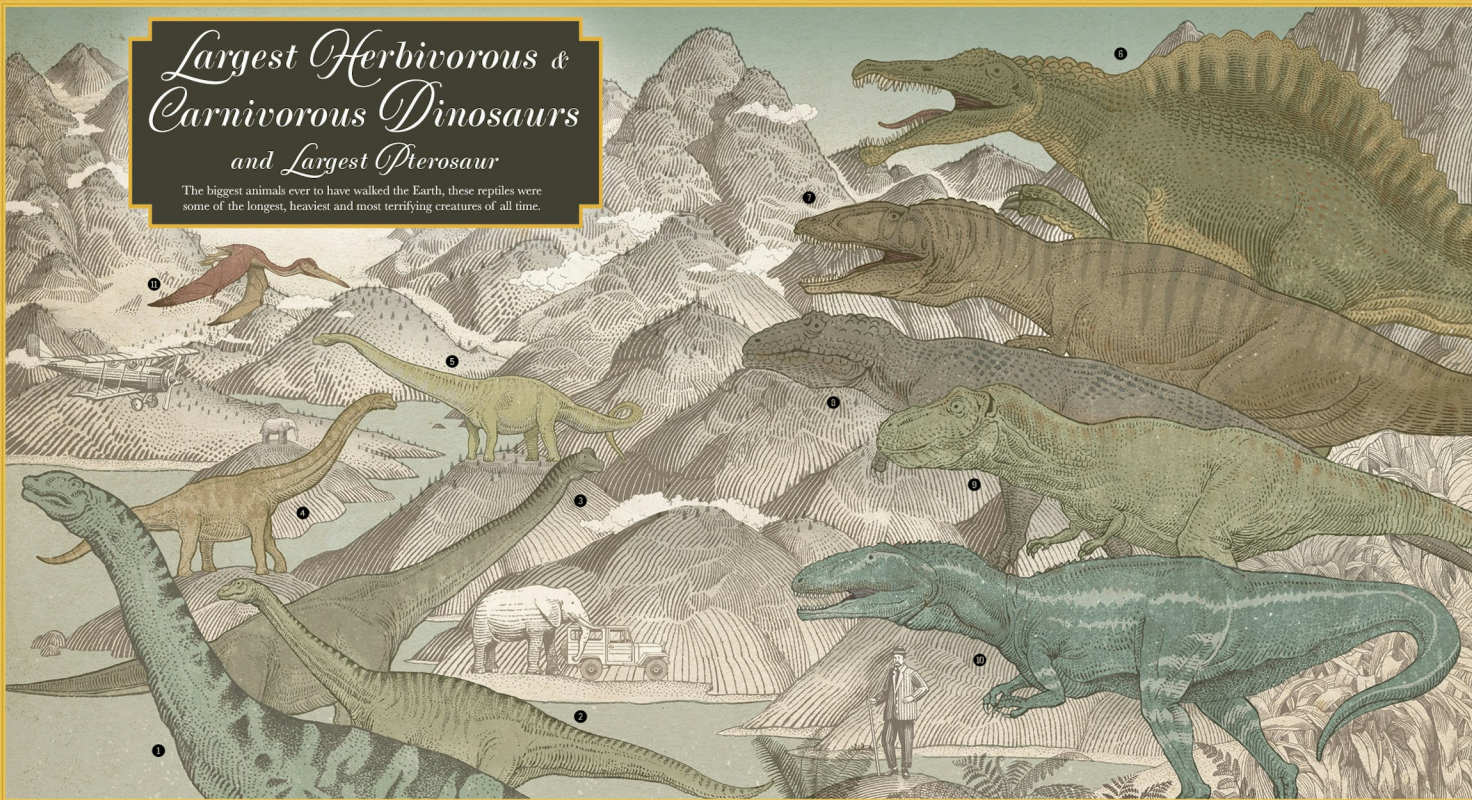
This is a visual feast of a compendium. With each turn of the page, you will marvel at our planet's superlatives – the largest-ever dinosaurs, biggest storms, tallest trees, deepest-dwelling sea creatures, longest insects and other astonishing feats of nature. Dip in and out, browse facts and satiate your curiosity as you discover the wonders of our world, from the highest mountain peak to the very depths of the oceans...

Within these pages you will discover some of the most extraordinary creatures that have ever lived, marvel at mankind's great feats of engineering and explore the furthest reaches of the universe. Packed with surprising comparisons and curious facts, this sumptuous compendium will help you to understand just how heavy, how strong, how small and how tall things really are.



# Largest Herbivorous & Carnivorous Dinosaurs and Largest Pterosaur

The biggest animals ever to have walked the Earth, these reptiles were some of the longest, heaviest and most terrifying creatures of all time.



## LARGEST HERBIVORES

❶ *Argentinosaurus huinculensis* Weight: 80 tonnes • Length: 35 m • Lived: Argentina, 97–94 mya (million years ago). It currently holds the record for being the heaviest land animal ever, and the longest.

❷ *Turiasaurus riolebensis* Weight: 50 tonnes • Length: 30 m • Lived: Western Europe, 150–140 mya

❸ *Brachiosaurus altithorax* Weight: 28–47 tonnes • Length: 20–22 m • Lived: North America, 157–145 mya

❹ *Paralititan stromeri* Weight: 59 tonnes • Length: 25 m • Lived: Egypt, 98–93 mya

❺ *Dreadnoughtus schrani* Weight: 49 tonnes • Length: 26 m • Lived: Argentina, 84–66 mya

## LARGEST CARNIVORES

❶ *Spinosaurus aegyptiacus* Weight: 7.4 tonnes • Length: 14 m • Lived: North Africa, 112–97 mya

❷ *Caracarasodonosaurus saharicus* Weight: 9 tonnes • Length: 13 m • Lived: North Africa, 100–94 mya

❸ *Giganotosaurus carolinii* Weight: 14 tonnes • Length: 13 m • Lived: South America, 99–97 mya

❹ *Tyrannosaurus rex* Weight: 8 tonnes • Length: 12 m • Lived: North America, 68–66 mya

❺ *Magnusaurus rosae* Weight: 6 tonnes • Length: 12 m • Lived: South America, 100.5–93 mya

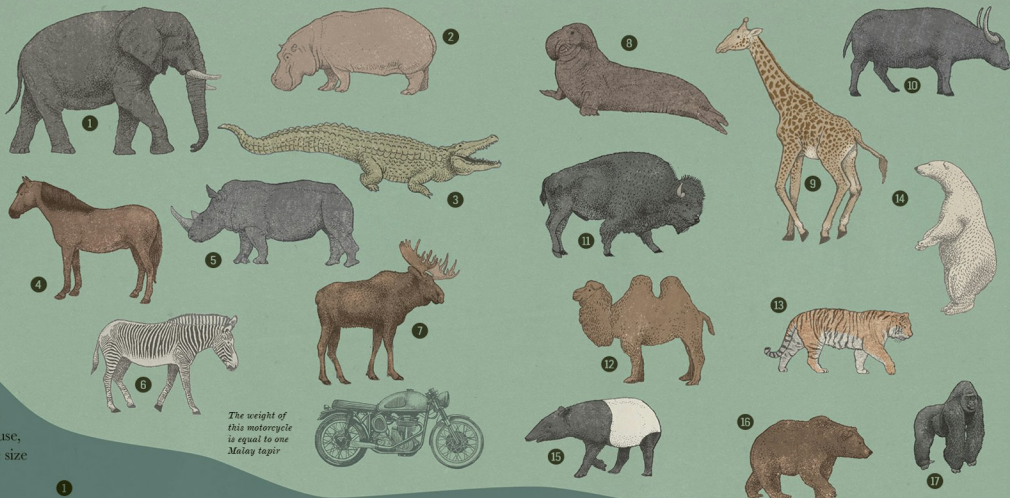
## LARGEST PTEROSAUR

❶ *Quetzalcoatlus northropi* Weight: 250 kg • Wingspan: 11 m • Lived: North America, 72–66 mya

# Some of the **LARGEST ANIMALS** on land ...

The majestic blue whale is the largest animal ever to have lived. Its tongue alone weighs as much as an elephant; its heart as much as a small car. On land, the mighty African elephant is the largest animal; the giraffe, the tallest.

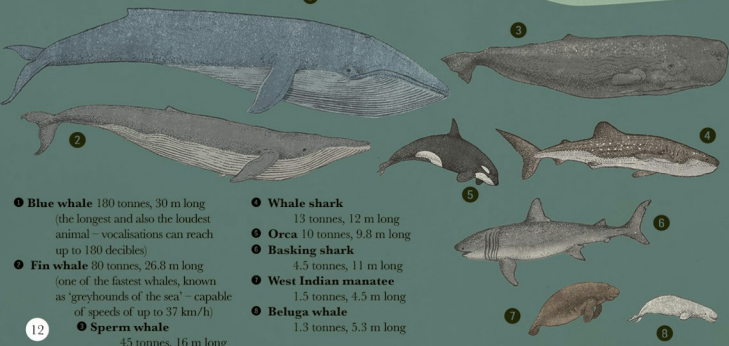
Down in the deepest depths of the ocean, there are species that reach gigantic proportions, from the giant squid that grow large enough to battle sperm whales to the giant isopod, a cousin of the woodlouse, which can grow up to eight times the size of its shallow-water relatives.



The weight of this motorcycle is equal to one Malay tapir

- African elephant  
6,300 kg, 4 m tall
- Common hippopotamus  
3,600 kg, 4.2 m long
- Saltwater crocodile  
770 kg, 4.5 m long
- Shire horse  
1,000 kg, 1.8 m tall
- White rhinoceros  
3,600 kg, 4.2 m long
- Grevy's zebra  
450 kg, 1.5 m tall
- Eurasian moose  
700 kg, 2 m tall
- Elephant seal  
4,000 kg, 6 m long
- Masai giraffe  
1,300 kg, 5.5 m tall
- Water buffalo  
1,200 kg, 2.7 m long
- American bison  
1,000 kg, 3.5 m long
- Bactrian camel  
690 kg, 2.1 m tall
- Siberian tiger  
200 kg, 3 m long
- Polar bear  
800 kg, 2.5 m long
- Malay tapir  
500 kg, 1.2 m tall
- Brown bear  
600 kg, 3 m long
- Eastern lowland gorilla  
200 kg, 1.9 m tall

## ... and at sea



- Blue whale 180 tonnes, 30 m long  
(the longest and also the loudest animal – vocalisations can reach up to 180 decibels)
- Fin whale 80 tonnes, 26.3 m long  
(one of the fastest whales, known as 'greyhounds of the sea' – capable of speeds of up to 37 km/h)
- Sperm whale  
45 tonnes, 16 m long
- Whale shark  
13 tonnes, 12 m long
- Orca 10 tonnes, 9.8 m long
- Basking shark  
4.5 tonnes, 11 m long
- West Indian manatee  
1.5 tonnes, 4.5 m long
- Beluga whale  
1.3 tonnes, 5.3 m long



- Lion's mane jellyfish  
1 tonne, 30 m long, 2.3 m body diameter
- Giant squid  
900 kg, 16.8 m long
- Giant manta ray  
3 tonnes, 7 m wide
- Giant isopod  
1.7 kg, 50 cm long
- Japanese spider crab  
19 kg, 3.8 m claw to claw, 40 cm body diameter

# Among the World's Largest Butterflies



**1 Queen Alexandra's birdwing** (*Oranthis alexandrae*)  
wingspan can be in excess of 28 cm

**2 Goliath birdwing** (*Oranthis goliath*) wingspan can be up to 28 cm

**3 African giant swallowtail** (*Papilio antimasus*) wingspan 25 cm

**4 Buru opalescent birdwing** (*Troides pratensis*) wingspan 20 cm

**5 Palawan birdwing** (*Tropophloeus palawanus*) wingspan 18 cm

**6 Rippon's birdwing** (*Troides hypoleucus*) wingspan 20 cm

**7 Chimera birdwing** (*Oranthis chimera*) wingspan 16 cm can be up to 18 cm in females

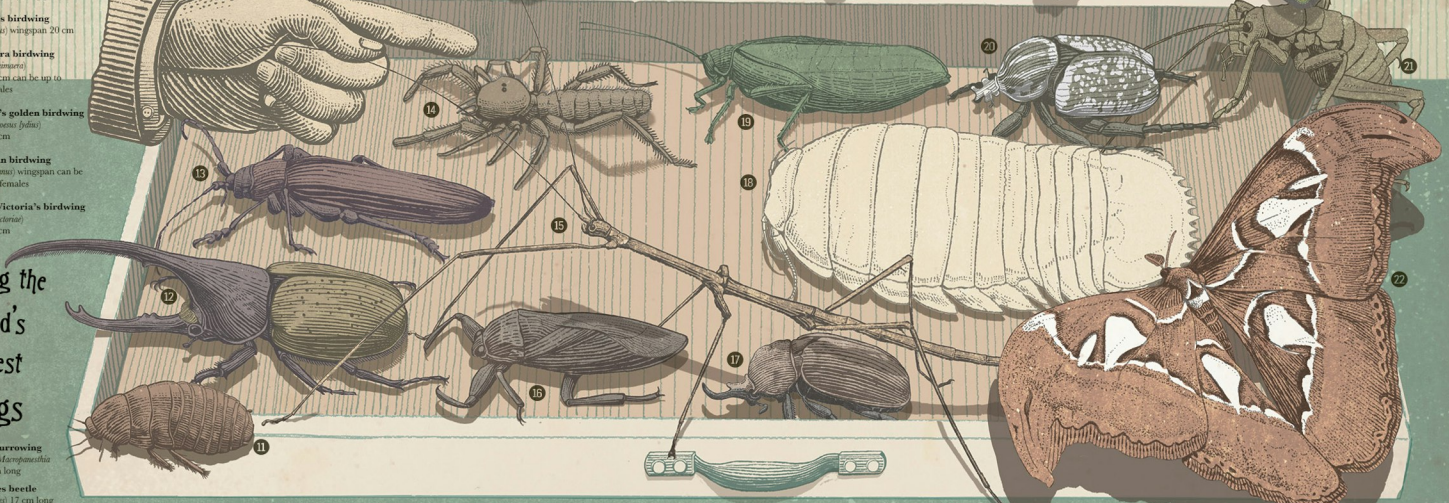
**8 Wallace's golden birdwing** (*Oranthis croesus* *india*) wingspan 20 cm

**9 Magellan birdwing** (*Troides magellanus*) wingspan can be 20-25 cm for females

**10 Queen Victoria's birdwing** (*Oranthis victoriae*) wingspan 19 cm



# Among the World's Largest Bugs



**11 Giant burrowing cockroach** (*Macropanesthia thomsoni*) 8 cm long

**12 Hercules beetle** (*Dynastes hercules*) 17 cm long

**13 Titan beetle** (*Titanus giganteus*) 17 cm long

**14 Egyptian giant camel spider** (*Solpuga arabis*) 15 cm long (including legs)

**15 Giant walking stick insect** (*Phryganistria chinensis*) 64 cm long including extended legs - the world's longest insect

**16 Giant waterbug** (*Lethocerus americanus*) 10 cm long

**17 Elephant beetle** (*Megasoma elephas*) 13 cm long (including horn)

**18 Giant isopod** (*Blattella germanica*) 50 cm long

**19 Giant long-legged katydid** (*Amorbia corpulenta*) 15 cm long, wingspan 25 cm

**20 Goliath beetle** (*Goliathus goliathus*) 11 cm long

**21 Little Barrier giant weta** (*Dinorthis hirsuta*) 10 cm long

**22 Atlas moth** (*Attacus atlas*) wingspan 25 cm