



Ministeriet for Grøn Trepert
Styrelsen for Grøn
Arealomlægning og Vandmiljø

Meeting a Wolf

Stay Safe in Nature



What to do if you encounter a wolf in nature

Stay calm

It is very rare for wolves to approach people. If you encounter a wolf that is not shy and comes closer than 30 meters, stay calm, remain still, and observe the animal. You may take a photo or video as documentation.

Do not follow

Give the wolf space and peace, and do not follow. Chasing the wolf will disturb and stress it.

Make noise if you feel uneasy

If the wolf does not retreat: Shout, clap, or wave your arms. This shows the wolf that you are human, which is frightening to the animal.

Keep eye contact

Do not turn your back on a wolf that approaches you. Act confident and keep looking directly at it. Show dominance in the same way you would towards a persistent or aggressive dog. Shout and clap, if it comes closer.

If you are in a car, stay inside

Wolves do not associate vehicles with humans and may come close to a car. Stay in the car until the wolf leaves.

If you surprise a wolf, step back slowly

If you and the wolf only become aware of each other at close range, step back slowly while maintaining eye contact. A threatened wolf may growl or bare its teeth. This does not mean it intends to attack—it is a sign of fear. The wolf will normally leave once it has the chance.

If the wolf is trapped, leave it alone

Should a wolf be stuck, e.g. inside a fenced area or a building, do not approach it. Instead, contact the authorities immediately. A wolf that cannot escape will defend itself and potentially create a dangerous situation.

If a wolf attacks: defend yourself

There have been no wolf attacks on people in Denmark, but should it happen, you must defend yourself by all means: hit, kick, and use any object at hand. If a wolf attacks another person or your dog, aim your blows and kicks at the wolf's hindquarters. Do not go between the wolf and the victim.

Help with monitoring wolves

You can support the authorities by reporting wolf sightings to the national wolf monitoring programme. This is in particular important, if you suspect that a wolf is unusually bold or shows little fear of humans. If possible, take a photo or video as documentation.

Have you encountered a wolf? Report your observation at www.ulveatlas.dk

Contact: The Danish Nature Agency <https://naturstyrelsen.dk/kontakt-os-lokalt>