

# White Park Cattle

**Good looks, distinguished history, future potential**



White Park Cattle have been kept in Britain for more than 2,000 years.

They are closely descended from Britain's wild white cattle that were enclosed in parks during the middle ages. By the end of the 19th century such parks had gone out of fashion and the breed struggled to survive. With the help of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust and dedicated owners the breed increased from 60 breeding females in 1973 to 750 today.

The White Park is distinguished in looks – **large white animals** with **black points** on their **muzzle, ears, eye-rims** and **feet**. The elegant **wide-spreading horns** are usually **black-tipped**. The cows are noted for **ease of calving**, and **high fertility**, while **bulls** used as crossing sires confer **exceptional hybrid vigour**. The cows **breed** until they are typically **12 to 16 years old**, although some cows can be more than **20 years** of age before they retire.



- White Park cattle reach full size at about five years of age.
- Heifers are typically put to the bull at 27 months to calve at 3 years old.
- The cattle are very hardy and successfully out-winter in low temperatures and wet weather.
- They are capable of converting coarse herbage into high quality meat, and of gaining weight at over 1 kg per day in good conditions.
- The breed is ideally suited to both organic farming and conservation management.

White Park beef is lean, tasty, well marbled and cooks beautifully. When properly hung joints shrink very little on cooking and the natural juices produced will be full of flavour.

AA Gill said in the Sunday Times:

***“White park beef was really excellent: softly chewy, with that strong, distinctive, almost corrupt flavour of proper beef ... it was the best steak I've had this year”***



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