

Maine Coon Cats: Gentle Giants

“That’s the biggest cat I’ve ever seen!” Maine Coon cat owners hear this often. The Maine Coon is a sturdy American pure-bred known for its intelligence and friendliness. They relish relationships with people and make excellent family pets. Surprisingly athletic for their size, they are also adept at chilling out at your feet while you’re watching TV.



Slovenia’s striking Maine Coon souvenir sheet, illustrated with arresting detail by Saule Beksultanova, earned 3rd place in that nation’s Most Beautiful Stamp of 2020 contest. (COSSU Cat Mews, Summer 2021)

Designated by the State of Maine as its official cat, a Maine Coon dresses out for harsh northeast weather with its water-proof coat, tufts of fur between the toes for insulation, a wide ruff of neck fur, and a bushy tail that wraps its body for warmth. Lynx tips on the ears are a defining characteristic, and long, curling hairs inside the ears offer protection against the chill. The Cat Fanciers’ Association notes that coonies present in about 75 different color combinations and such patterns as solid, tabby and tortoiseshell.



Submitted by:
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Maine Coon kittens at 12 weeks of age are the size of a regular one-year-old domestic cat.



Maldives 2020, from CATS souvenir sheet.

For 10 years, Guinness World Records has named Maine Coons The Longest Cat. They can reach a whopping 48” from the back of the body (excluding tail) to the tip of the nose.



Sao Tome & Principe 2011 s/s: Gatos batedores de recordes (Record-hitting cats).



The author’s Maine Coons, named for villages in the State of Maine: Maddie (top) and Dexter.