Comprising about 30% of all land on Earth, it’s little wonder that the planet’s largest continent is brimming with life…

**Highest-living mammal**
The rabbit-like large-eared pika lives on rocky slopes of the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau at dizzying heights of around 6,130 m (20,110 ft). They’re sometimes called “whistling hares” owing to their high-pitched alarm calls.

**Most aquatic crocodilian**
Compared with other crocodile species, the slender-jawed gharial has weak legs, so the only way it can move on land is by sliding on its belly. As a result, it never strays far from rivers in India and Nepal. By contrast, in the water, it’s a very quick and nimble swimmer.

**Largest peafowl**
India’s blue peacocks are the most iconic member of this bird family, but they’re not the biggest. That title goes to the green peacock, found notably on the Indonesian island of Java. With that show-stopping tail, a male can reach 3 m (9 ft 10 in) long.

**Newest ape**
Once believed to have been Sumatran orangutans, Tapanuli orangutans were officially recognized as a new species on 2 Feb 2017. Key traits that distinguish these close relatives include a smaller head and frizzier fur, as well as a slightly different diet.

**Farthest head rotation by a mammal**
No mammal’s neck is more flexible than the tarsier’s. These nocturnal primates from south-east Asia can turn their heads nearly 180° in each direction—giving them a total rotation of almost 360°! They also have the largest eyes for a mammal (relative to body size).

**Largest hammerhead shark**
With their flattened heads and spaced-out eyes, hammerheads are one of the most unusual-looking creatures in the ocean! Of the nine known species, the biggest—by far—is the great hammerhead, which can attain lengths of 20 ft (6.1 m).