



## **Chinchillas**

Did you know that Chinchillas come from the Andes in South America?

Fully grown chinchillas are about 12 inches long – however, the females are bigger than the males!

Chinchillas are more active at night between dusk and dawn.

The average chinchilla lives between 10-12 years although some have been known to live to over 20.

### **What type of cage does my pet chinchilla need?**

Chinchillas need a nice big cage so that they can move around a lot. They also like cages which are tall with different levels. The floor of the cage should be covered in a thick layer of paper, hay or straw which needs to be changed frequently. Chinchillas aren't usually aggressive and often like to live with at least one other chinchilla to keep them company. Your chinchilla will appreciate some wood in their cage to chew on and will need a dust bath available at all times which he or she will use to clean and groom themselves in.

### **What should I feed my pet chinchilla?**

Your chinchilla should eat good quality grass hay and it should be available for them 24 hours a day. You can also feed chinchilla pellets alongside the hay. Ensure that your chinchilla has access to clean fresh water at all times.

If you would like more advice on chinchilla's then please don't hesitate to contact us at Hillside to make an appointment.

*Disclaimer: Hillside Vets' website is intended to be used only as a guide and information resource, not as an alternative to a veterinary consultation and advice. Nothing contained in this website should be construed as medical advice or diagnosis. For specific healthcare advice please discuss the particular symptoms and circumstances of your pet with your vet.*