

Latin name : Chiroptera

Size : 3.5 to 5 cm

Span : 18 to 24 cm

Lifespan : 10 to 12 years

Bat

The most common species in France is the Pipistrelle, which is also the smallest. We can sometimes observe it... hanging from the inside of a parasol on the restaurant terrace!

Bats eat up to half their weight in insects per night. In particular, they rid us of mosquitoes, hence the idea of encouraging them to set up nest boxes.



Nocturnal mammals, bats fly with their hands! Equipped with numerous sensors that make it highly sensitive to air movements, this winged hand enables bats to fly much more agilely and precisely than birds. The adaptation to flight has resulted in a reduction in the weight of the body, particularly the bones. The legs are too weak for bats to stand upright. This is why they hang by their feet. The weight of their body exerts a pull on the tendons that hold their claws in the hanging position, requiring no energy expenditure and enabling them to remain in this position effortlessly.