

Baby panda officially named at Vienna zoo

December 13 2010



A Handout picture released Monday by the Zoo of Vienna shows a panda cub, born on August at the zoo and officially named Fu Hu Madarin for "Happy Tiger" during a celebration on Monday. In Chinese tradition, Giant Pandas are not officially named before they are 100 days old, because the mortality rate in the first year is so high, at about 40 percent, according to the zoo.

A baby panda born in August at the Vienna zoo was baptised Monday as "Fu Hu", which means Happy Tiger in Mandarin, with his human godfather at his side, Austria's economy minister.

Besides Reinhold Mitterlehner, China's ambassador to Vienna Shi Mingde also attended the official naming ceremony.

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The name Fu Hu was chosen in a vote on the Internet that drew 25,000 participants. The little panda's name is close to that of his big brother Fu Long (Happy Dragon), who in 2007 was the first panda to be conceived naturally in captivity in Europe.

Fu Long, now three, has since been returned to China and now lives at the Bifengxia panda reserve in Sichuan province.

Pandas, even when conceived abroad, are the property of the Republic of China and only loaned to foreign zoos.

Mother Yang Yang and father Long Hui are also due to leave Schoenbrunn [Zoo](#), the oldest in the world, in 2013.

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