

# MEET OUR ANIMALS

## Introducing: our Angora Goats



Here at Diamond Forest Farm Stay we have three Angora cross goats: Jimmy, Houdini & Nigel. Angora cross means that they are half Angora goat and half Saanen goat (pronounced Saynen). Their mum, June, was a Saanen and their dad Ben was an Angora.

All three of our goats were born here on the farm. Jimmy was born in 2013 and Houdini & Nigel (twins) were born in 2014. Although they all have different personalities (Jimmy is bossy, Houdini always escapes and Nigel just follows Jimmy around) they all kind of look the same and it is very hard to tell apart; except for Houdini. Houdini likes to escape a lot and if you see a goat in with our sheep or our donkeys or on his own in the dam paddock it is always Houdini.

### Did you know?

- Angora goats have really long curly fleece.
- Angora fleece is used to make very fine jumpers. However, because our three friendly farm goats are only half Angora they don't keep their long fleece all year. During summer they begin to shed their fleece until they end up with really short hair like a Saanen.
- Angora goats need shearing once a year but our boys don't need shearing because their fleece falls out.
- Goats, like sheep and Alpacas, only have teeth on their bottom jaw and a soft palette on the top jaw.
- Goats like to climb and jump a lot so that's why we have an electric fence around their paddock. If we didn't they would escape and run all over the farm. Even with the electric fence, Houdini escapes quite often.

### Our Secret

Our goats like pears, peaches, melons, tomatoes, mangos and bananas. We also like to keep them healthy by giving them lots of greens but goats aren't all that fussy when it comes to food. They will happily eat weeds, Brussel sprouts and even lemons!