



Wildlife Conservation in Kenya



Excited about Wildlife and being in harmony with nature? Participate in Wildlife conservation efforts at a local conservancy. This program is designed for nature and adventure enthusiasts. Involve yourself in the conservation of Giraffes, Birds, and Colobus monkeys amongst other species.

Program Description

Kenya is famously known and recognized for its wildlife which roams freely in the Savanna. Wildlife is a big part of Kenya's economy in general, and also at grassroots levels. In most cases, there are remote communities that live within close quarters with the wildlife. This has over time caused human-wildlife conflicts and in most cases, wildlife has been forced out of their natural habitat for human activities to thrive. In this case, various players of goodwill have set up conservancy areas to promote a healthy co-existence between wildlife and local communities. Along with our conservationist, you will be one of the key players in running the daily activities to meet the objectives of conservation efforts.

You will be involved in activities such as; ecological monitoring, census, tracking, collaring, amongst many other activities. You will be accompanied by a wildlife specialist during your work at the conservation site. This specialist will take you through your

schedule and train you on the activities. It is important to know that there is a local community within the conservancy. Establishing meaningful interactions with the locals will help you understand their co-existence with wildlife and the impact of the conservation efforts.

Aims & Objectives

- Gain invaluable, practical experience in wildlife conservation.
- Assist the local staff by providing an extra hand.
- Be part of the team conserving the endangered Rothschild giraffe.

Your tasks as a volunteer

- Track Rothschild giraffes and gather data on their behavior and habitat.
- Remove invasive plants to restore grazing areas and protect the ecosystem.
- Inspect and maintain the electric perimeter wall, checking for faults and clearing overgrowth.
- Participate in a game drive at Soysambu Wildlife Conservancy to learn about its wildlife and birds.
- Work at the Dundori Tree Nursery, helping nurture seedlings and support reforestation.
- Plant indigenous trees in Dundori Forest Reserve to improve the environment.
- Explore the Menengai Crater and plant trees to help preserve the area's biodiversity.

Schedule

Monday to Friday

You will spend **4-5 hours** in the conservancy with the wildlife conservationist in monitoring/census/tracking the wildlife and assisting the local staff where need be. Once back at the accommodation, you will have time to prepare your activities for the next day.

The day could look like this:

- Breakfast
- Conservation related activities
- Lunch
- Conservation related activities.
- Preparing daily activities.
- Dinner

One week exemple:

First day : Start your adventure with a warm welcome! Get to know the team, learn about the projects, and explore your accommodation center as we prepare for the journey ahead.

Tuesday: Wildlife Conservancy: Kick off your conservation journey with an exciting game drive through the Kigio Wildlife Conservancy. Experience the breathtaking landscapes and discover the diverse wildlife, from antelopes to elephants.

Wednesday: Giraffe Tracking and Ecological Monitoring: Embark on a thrilling giraffe tracking expedition. Join conservationists to monitor the endangered Rothschild giraffes, observing their behavior and contributing to their protection.

Thursday: Removal of Invasive Plants: Help restore the ecosystem by working with the conservation team to remove invasive plant species from grazing areas, making the habitat healthier for wildlife.

Friday: Electric Fence Inspection: Assist in inspecting the electric perimeter fence that protects the conservancy. Help clear overgrowth and ensure the fence is functioning properly to safeguard wildlife.

This schedule can be changed and/or amended depending on weather conditions, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances.

Equipment

Safety materials such as:

- Hiking boots
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Safari hat
- Comfortable clothing
- Day packs
- Insect repellents
- Water bottles
- Personal medication
- Torch
- Light, breathable clothing for warm weather (long sleeves and pants for sun protection).

Modest or casual attire is required while in the conservancy area and when interacting in the village. It must be totally covering the knees and shoulders, (nothing revealing, tight fitting, sheer, low cut, or with any offensive/inappropriate displayed on it)

Accommodation and Meals

You will stay in our volunteer house. All participants are expected to respect the environment and use all resources sparingly, especially electricity. There are occasional power stops during the day, but don't panic. This is life in the village. The water supply is always assured. You will have all the basic necessities during your stay.

Meals are provided daily and rooms are cleaned at weekends, but you will also be required to help to keep the accommodation clean and tidy. The Volunteer House is located close to the School and a short walk from the southern entrance to Lake Nakuru National Park. It is about 15 km from Nakuru town.

Additional requirements

- **A passion for wildlife**, nature conservation, and sustainability is essential. No prior experience in conservation is required, but an eagerness to learn and contribute is important.
- **Good physical health** is required, as the program includes outdoor activities such as hiking, tree planting, and fieldwork in varying weather conditions.