Welcome to our High School Special Conservation & Environment Project in Kenya! Are you ready for a once-in-a-lifetime experience working in the African savannah and exploring this beautiful country?

Programme Goals:

**Conservation of savannah biodiversity:**
Actively contribute to the conservation of Kenya’s biodiversity through research and monitoring. Special emphasis will be on the research of the Rothschild’s giraffe and its entire ecosystem, including other fauna such as lions and other predators, birds etc. The work is part of a link up with other reserves. This is pioneering research that could determine the fate of this subspecies of giraffe.

**Community Engagement and Social Impact:**
Another element of the programme consists of installing eco-stoves for the community neighbouring the reserve, thus contributing to more sustainable livelihoods and a coexistence between human habitats and the wild environment. We will also engage in light building or renovation activities at local schools or community centres. And don’t forget your competitive spirit as there will be some intense volleyball matches with your peers in the evenings at the conservancy.

**Cultural Immersion:**
Immerse yourself in the rich culture of the country. After your volunteer work, delve into the vibrant Kenyan culture by learning traditional crafts, engaging in conversations with locals, and indulging in the diverse flavors of traditional Kenyan cuisine. Explore the country’s history and heritage with fellow volunteers, forging lifelong friendships and creating memories as you visit iconic landmarks, and marvel at the awe-inspiring beauty of Kenya, including its stunning wildlife and majestic landscapes.
**Accommodation**
Guesthouse

**Transport**
Jeep and by foot

**Meals**
All meals will be served at the guesthouse on the reserve and will be prepared by our resident cook.

**Timings**
This schedule is subject to change, however you will be advised in advance should this happen. You will depart home before 8am and arrive back at around 5pm. However, this may differ from day to day depending on the activity and progress of the volunteer work.

**Responsible Travel**
We offset 100% of carbon emissions associated with your in-destination transport. We’re committed to being fully climate-positive by 2024!

By volunteering with us you’re helping reforestation efforts, protecting existing forests and providing employment to local communities around the world.

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Day 7 | Saturday
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All day | **Weekend travel – Menengai Crater hike**
Put on your hiking boots! Located on the northern side of Nakuru is the single largest surviving volcanic crater in the world. The Menengai Crater is an extinct volcano that offers striking views of Lake Nakuru, Lake Bogoria and the crater itself.
It is believed that the crater is a historic ground for a battle between different clans from the Maasai community who fought for grazing land and pastures on the slopes of the Rift Valley.

Day 8 | Sunday
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All day | **Visit to Lake Nakuru National Park**
On the second day of your weekend trip you will visit Lake Nakuru National Park. Be sure to eat plenty for breakfast as it will most likely be a late lunch today. Once you arrive, you will head out on a short safari to see some of Africa’s most famous residents.
This National Park is well known for its huge flocks of flamingos, but you might also see black and white rhinos, baboons, hippos, zebras, buffalo, Rothschild giraffes and even rare tree-climbing lions!

Day 9 | Monday
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Morning | Back at the conservancy we will continue to monitor lions and other predators in the area.
Afternoon | The afternoon (as well as the evening) is dedicated again to the giraffe, this most graceful of African animals. Time to perform another survey, thus perfecting your monitoring skills.
Evening | Bring out the popcorn, as it's movie time! Not some drama or romantic comedy, but a documentary about giraffes. The learning goes on!

Day 10 | Tuesday
---|---
Morning | **Community Day: Building or Renovation Work**
Time to get dirty! Spend the morning doing light renovation or building work at a local school and interacting with the children. You can talk to the kids about environmental preservation too.
Afternoon | **The Kariandusi Museum**
Travel back in time a million years or so at the Kariandusi archaeological site, one of the first Paleolithic discoveries in Africa. Discover and learn about the great hand-axe culture.
Evening | **Night Game Drive**
Experience a once in a lifetime opportunity to glimpse Soysambu’s nocturnal life under the stars.

Day 11 | Wednesday
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Morning | **Birds of Prey Monitoring**
Begin today by continuing to improve your conservation monitoring skills, this time with terrestrial birds, of which eagles, vultures, falcons, goshawks and many others have significant populations.
Afternoon | Take a break from all the hard work and enjoy an afternoon of swimming at the Mbweha Camp, a luxury safari camp with a swimming pool.
Evening | Movie night again: watch the classic ‘Lion King’ movie right where its location is based upon. Spot the Swahili words used in the film.

Day 12 | Thursday
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All day | **Community Day: Tree Planting**
Join this all-day initiative to plant indigenous tree species in the Lake Elementaita catchment area. This helps preserve and restore the ecosystem. It mitigates the effects of climate change through water conservation and erosion control.
Evening | Upon return to the conservancy, relax and socialize with your fellow volunteer. Share stories and enjoy a barbecue around the campfire.

Day 13 | Friday
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Morning | **Lake Clean-up**
Not all park visitors are as considerate as your group. You will spend your morning cleaning the trash around the conservancy, as well as removing invasive species of plants which degrade the local ecosystem.
Afternoon | **Colobus Monkey Monitoring**
You will be responsible for monitoring yet another species of animal. The Colobus monkey population is greatly reduced compared to its former range; slowing biodiversity loss requires urgent conservation initiatives. Habitat loss is widely accepted as the single greatest threat to continued survival of virtually all threatened primate species. Afterwards, enjoy a final farewell meal with your group. Don’t forget to express your gratitude to our hard-working conservation staff and to provide useful feedback for improvements with our project.
Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.

Students will be immersed in different cultures, gaining an understanding of their role within our global community and developing a deeper cultural awareness.

Student Learning Outcomes

Intercultural Competence
Students will be immersed in different cultures, gaining an understanding of their role within our global community and developing a deeper cultural awareness.

Leadership Development
Students will be pushed out of their comfort zones, experiencing new challenges each day. They will build their confidence and resilience through team activities and new life experiences.

Healthy Active Living
Students will be encouraged to prioritise their self-care, enhancing their physical and mental well-being.

Empowerment
Students will be empowered to think for themselves, challenging the "status-quo" and cultivating transformative decision-making mindsets.

Global Citizenship
Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.

Day 14 | Saturday

Group members will likely be departing at different times, therefore the last 2 days may not be the same for everyone.

Your exact departure plan will be communicated with you directly by our local team. If you have longer to wait around, we will ensure you are comfortable and well looked-after.

You will have the continued support of Projects Abroad staff right until you are safely at the airport to board your plane back home.

From the bustling chaos of inner-city Nairobi to the sweeping tranquillity of its national parks, Kenya has a diverse and wonderful culture. And of course, this is undoubtedly one of the best places to see the world’s most amazing animals and contribute to their conservation.

Fun Facts

▲ One of the first African countries to ban plastic bags
▲ Mount Kenya is the second-highest mountain in Africa
▲ Many of the world’s best runners come from Kenya
▲ The first African woman to ever win the Nobel Prize is from Kenya

Want to learn more?

We’d be happy to talk to you and and and answer any questions you may have. You can call or email our team, or use the 'live chat' feature on the Projects Abroad website.

General inquiries: info@projects-abroad.org

Conservation & Environment

info@projects-abroad.org

Destination Information

National Language: Swahili, English
Population: 48 million
Currency: Kenyan Shilling
Time Zone: GMT +3
Capital: Nairobi
Calling Code: +254
Dominant Religions: Christianity, Islam
National Dish: Ugali
National Animal: Lion
National Bird: Lilac-breasted Roller

Social Media

@projectsabroadglobal
@projectsabroad
@projectsabroad
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**Highlights**
- 80 Service Hours
- Help conserve African savannah wildlife
- Install eco-stoves in the local community
- Immerse yourself in Kenyan culture
- Hike to Menengai Crater
- Offset your carbon footprint

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**Contact**

info@projects-abroad.org
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### Day 14  
**Saturday**  
**All day**  
**Sleeping Warrior Hike**  
Ready for another physical challenge? We will embark on a climb of the Sleeping Warrior Hill, named so because it resembles a sleeping Maasai Warrior.

### Day 15  
**Sunday**  
**All day**  
After a tiring hike on Saturday, you deserve some rest and a bit of luxury. We will relax and cool off again by the swimming pool at the Mbweha Luxury Camp.

### Day 16  
**Monday**  
**Morning**  
**Water Dam or Hole Maintenance**  
The dams on the conservancy help increase the drinking water storage capacity for wildlife. It falls within our responsibilities to make sure they are kept intact with hands-on manual labour.

**Afternoon**  
**Giraffe Survey**  
As the main focus of our efforts in Soysambu, we return to monitor giraffes.

### Day 17  
**Tuesday**  
**Morning**  
**Invasive Plant Removal**  
Soysambu, among other conservation areas in the Central Rift Valley, has high numbers of invasive plants. A wide range of species can often be found to out-compete indigenous plants. With large areas of land taken up by agriculture and towns, it is very important to keep the wild areas free from these alien plants and allow for natural systems to flourish, protecting genetics and the species that depend on them.

**Afternoon**  
We will conduct another giraffe survey after the hard work in the morning. Some Conservation activities may appear repetitive but they are in fact crucial for what we are trying to achieve.

**Evening**  
**Social Event**  
Enjoy a movie or a quiz night with the rest of your group at the Conservancy house.

### Day 18  
**Wednesday**  
**Morning**  
We are undergoing another survey of the wetland birds today, an opportunity for you to find out more about these species of birds.

**Afternoon**  
**Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center**  
Visit the injured birds of prey that are rescued, cared for and prepared for release back into the wild. Learn what it takes to reintroduce these birds in their natural habitats.

### Day 19  
**Thursday**  
**All day**  
We will spend another day planting trees in the Lake Elementaita catchment area.

**Evening**  
Relax by the campfire for another delicious African-style barbecue.

### Day 20  
**Friday**  
**Morning**  
Conservationists must always be vigilant: we will work again to remove snares placed by illegal poachers.

**Afternoon**  
Engage in monitoring of lions and other predators.

### Day 21  
**Saturday**  
**All day**  
**Visit the Equator**  
This will be a fantastic opportunity for bragging rights. Have a photo of yourself standing with one foot on one side of the equator and the other on the other side. Then keep going to Lake Baringo, where the Rift Wall is sheer and hot springs leak out of its base. Scottish geologist JW Gregory practically invented the word Rift Valley here in 1893, when trying to describe the fault line that caused it. In his honour, the Eastern Rift Valley was ‘baptized’ the Gregorian Rift.

**Evening**

### Day 22  
**Sunday**  
**All day**  
**Relaxation at the Camp**  
We have had three weeks of hard work, trips, adventure and community engagements. We are going to take this day to wind down, socialize with the staff and the other volunteers and reflect on what we have achieved so far. Play some board games, sports and team building activities.
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<td>Rock Wall Repair</td>
<td>Colobus Monkey Monitoring</td>
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<td>Fences and walls play a crucial role in mitigating human/wildlife conflicts and maintaining them is crucial. That's where you, our volunteers, come in. We follow 5 kilometres of wall, fixing it where the rock has disintegrated.</td>
<td>The Black and white colobus are hunted by humans for their meat and fur. Their striking pelt is traditionally used for wall hangings and for making ceremonial dresses. As a result, their numbers have reduced considerably and so we are responsible for monitoring their population.</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>Road Maintenance</td>
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<td>In the middle of the bush, it is the conservationists themselves who are responsible for maintaining the roads. Work alongside staff to fix and repair trails.</td>
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<td>We visit the nearby community again to instal eco-stoves.</td>
<td>Barbecue Make another campfire to prepare some mouth-watering African barbecued food.</td>
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<td>Lake Clean-up</td>
<td>Reflection Session, Feedback and Good-byes</td>
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Students will be empowered to think for themselves, challenging the "status-quo" and cultivating transformative decision-making mindsets.

Global Citizenship
Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.

From the bustling chaos of inner-city Nairobi to the sweeping tranquillity of its national parks, Kenya has a diverse and wonderful culture. And of course, this is undoubtedly one of the best places to see the world’s most amazing animals and contribute to their conservation.

Fun Facts
- One of the first African countries to ban plastic bags
- Mount Kenya is the second-highest mountain in Africa
- Many of the world’s best runners come from Kenya
- The first African woman to ever win the Nobel Prize is from Kenya

Want to learn more?
We’d be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have. You can call or email our team, or use the ‘live chat’ feature on the Projects Abroad website.

General inquiries: info@projects-abroad.org