

Welcome to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy



© Patrick Bergin

Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land.

~ Aldo Leopold

OL PEJETA 
 **CONSERVANCY**

www.olpejetaconservancy.org

Welcome to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy!

You are currently visiting the Ol Pejeta Conservancy - a mosaic of grass plains, wooded grassland, Acacia woodland and evergreen thicket extending for over 350 square kilometres.

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy, East Africa's Largest Black Rhino Sanctuary, is situated at the foot hills of the Aberdares and the magnificent snow-capped Mount Kenya. Ol Pejeta boasts an astounding variety of animals including non-indigenous chimpanzees and the Big Five (the endangered black and white rhino, leopard, elephant, buffalo & lion).

The combination of amazing wildlife and stunning views across the open plains guarantees an unforgettable safari experience.



More About the Ol Pejeta Conservancy

Our Mission Statement

Ol Pejeta Conservancy works to conserve wildlife, provide a sanctuary for great apes and to generate income through wildlife tourism and complementary enterprise for reinvestment in conservation and community development.

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy is a **not-for-profit organization** situated in Kenya's Laikipia County adjacent to Nanyuki town. Ol Pejeta is East Africa's Largest Black Rhino Sanctuary, the only place in Kenya to see chimpanzees and holds some of the highest predator densities in Kenya.

Formerly Ol Pejeta Ranch, a 40,000-hectare highly developed and very lucrative cattle ranch owned by Lonrho Africa, the Conservancy reached its current size in 2004.

By integrating wildlife with an extensive livestock production system, the Conservancy has created a symbiotic environment where cattle are used for ecological benefit to maximize the biodiversity of the area.



© Juan Pablo Moreiras

Code of Conduct

OI Pejeta reserves the right of access and may ask anyone perceived to be causing disturbance or damage to the environment to leave the Conservancy.

The OI Pejeta Conservancy (“OI Pejeta”) is first and foremost a wildlife reserve. As a visitor you have been given access to a delicate wildlife area, care and attention is required if damage and disturbance to the environment is to be avoided.

General Conduct

- Please make sure you obtain an official receipt for any cash transactions
- If you have any problems, please contact the OI Pejeta’s Radio Room on 0723 312 673 or the Chief Executive Officer on 0722 390 007
- Please strictly observe the maximum speed limit of 40kph
- Driving “off road” is prohibited, unless under exceptional circumstances during game drives and for management reasons (e.g., game capture) only. Driving “off road” during the rainy season is strictly prohibited
- Walking on OI Pejeta is prohibited, unless authorized by management and guests are guided by an armed, authorized, competent guide with appropriate knowledge of the dangers of wildlife. OI Pejeta ranger patrols on foot are not prohibited



- Wildlife always has right of way
- Do not light fires, except those controlled by lodge staff and/or management
- Do not discard litter or cigarette butts anywhere other than at a designated bin
- Please be quiet and considerate when viewing wildlife, keep a sensible distance away and ask your driver to switch off the engine
- Please take care when visiting the blinds – there may well be wildlife very close by. An authorised OI Pejeta guide must always be present during “blind” visits

- Never feed wildlife from your car, in the wild or at your camp/house. It will upset their diet and lead to unnecessary dependence on people and possibly eventual harm to the animal

- Please do not damage or remove any flora or fauna, including bones and plants

- No firearms, spears, bows and arrows of any kind are to be carried within the Conservancy

- Collection of firewood is prohibited, unless undertaken by OI Pejeta staff in the designated areas only
- Report any concerns or contraventions of this code to the OI Pejeta’s Radio Room on 0723 312 673
- Please make sure all vehicles on game drives are back in their Camp / Hotel or out of the Conservancy by 7pm

You Are Visiting the Largest Black Rhino Sanctuary in East Africa

The population of black rhino in Africa plummeted from an estimated 65,000 to around 10,000 in the early 1980s. By 2001, the total African population was estimated at 3,100.

In Kenya alone, the population dropped from 20,000 to less than 300 due to illegal killing for rhino horn. This represents a loss of 4.5 rhinos a day for 10 years. At present, there are an estimated 620 black rhino in Kenya, and more than 85 of them live on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy as our flagship species. Kenya is the stronghold of the last remaining population of eastern sub-species (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*), holding 88% of the world's remaining population. In response to the drastic reduction in rhino numbers through poaching, Kenya decided to set up specially protected and fenced sanctuaries for rhino conservation. The creation of these sanctuaries was designed to maximize breeding potential, using surplus animals to re-stock any new areas. Ol Pejeta is one such sanctuary.

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy is Home to More than 85 Black Rhinos

As one of the world's most endangered species, the care and protection of our black rhino is one of the largest operations the Ol Pejeta security team has to coordinate. The threat of poaching remains real and, sadly, an ever-increasing danger.

What's Next for Ol Pejeta's Black Rhinos

The Ol Pejeta carrying capacity for black rhinos is estimated at 120, although this is subject to much debate and will ultimately depend



upon ongoing and regular assessments of forage condition across the entire land area. When working with endangered species it is essential to ensure that numbers of any given population are held at some point below their "ecological carrying capacity". Beyond this point breeding performance tends to deteriorate leading to reduced population growth, clearly - clearly not ideal when one is trying to maximize numbers as quickly as possible.

To that end, in keeping with the National Black Rhino Management Strategy as developed by the Kenya Wildlife Service, Ol Pejeta is already seeking new areas in the immediate neighbourhood into which an expanding black rhino population could spread. We have high hopes that a new 20,000 acre conservation area recently set aside by the Agricultural Development Corporation (a government parastatal) on Mutara Ranch on Ol Pejeta's northern boundary might provide an ideal opportunity in this regard.

World's Rarest Rhinos Come Home To Africa



On December 20th 2009, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy welcomed four special new arrivals to the conservancy.

Najin, Fatu, Sudan and Suni are **four of the world's last remaining eight northern white rhinos** (*Ceratotherium simum cottoni*). All four were translocated from Dvůr Králové Zoo which had been their home in the Czech Republic.

The transfer was aimed at providing the rhinos with the most favourable breeding conditions in an attempt to pull the species back from the verge of extinction. It is thought that the climatic, dietary and security conditions that the rhinos will enjoy on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy will provide them with higher chances of starting a population in what is seen as the very last lifeline for the species.

The rhinos were accompanied by experts, including their keeper Jan Zdarek and veterinarian Dr. Jiri Vahala, from Dvůr Králové Zoo, rhino veterinarian Dr. Pete Morkel, an expert veterinarian dedicated to rhino translocation, and 'rhino whisperer' Berry White. The rhinos were translocated by road from Dvůr Králové to Prague airport, from where they were flown to Nairobi and driven out to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy.

The reintroduction initiative was carried out by a partnership of conservation organizations. Since the Ol Pejeta Conservancy offers a well-qualified and experienced staff to care for these species as well as its close proximity to the northern white rhino's stronghold, it was selected to be the best possible location for the northern white rhino's breeding project.

Since their arrival, the northern whites have adapted to their environment quite well, considering the dramatic change in weather and climate (having had heated sheds before and daily outings in the cold, snowy Czech Republic). Initially, their diet remained unaltered, being fed a mixture of Czech pellets and hay, but thereafter, the northern whites were slowly introduced to African pellets and local hay in order to prepare them for reintroduction into the wild. Now they live almost entirely in the "wild", within their 700-acre enclosure.

It is our hope that with time, the northern white rhinos will be comfortable enough to breed in order to sustain their population. Until then, they continue to move from strength to strength each day here at their new home, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy.

More on the Northern White Rhinos

There were more than 2,000 northern white rhinos remaining as recently as 1960. By 1984, poaching had decimated the population.

Today only eight northern white rhinos are known to exist. Four of them live on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy!

The Plight of the Northern White Rhinos

Currently listed as the most critically endangered rhino subspecies and the most endangered mammal species in the world, northern white rhinos used to range over parts of Uganda, Chad, Sudan, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo. By 1960 more than 2,000 northern white rhinos still existed, although poaching continued at unsustainable levels across much of their range.

Until recently, the only known wild northern white rhino population was clinging to survival in Garamba National Park in North-East Democratic Republic of Congo. However continuous civil war and armed conflict in this area acted to reduce this population to 24 known individuals by 2005. Sadly there has been no sign of any of these animals since 2007 and it is thought that this wild population may now be extinct. Thus the focus has now shifted to trying to rescue the species by breeding the last few northern white rhinos held in captivity.

WANT TO HELP?

For an additional cost, we can arrange a “behind the scenes” visit to Najin, Fatu, Suni and Sudan. All funds raised from your visit will go directly towards the care of the four northern white rhinos. Read on for more information.



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A Unique Opportunity to Visit the Northern White Rhinos and our Endangered Species Boma!

Did you know that **there are only 8 northern white rhinos left in the world and 4 of them live on the OI Pejeta Conservancy?** Along side these rhinos also live populations of endangered Grevy's zebra and Jackson's hartebeest.

On December 20th, 2009, the OI Pejeta Conservancy welcomed Najin, Fatu, Sudan and Suni. All of the animals were translocated from Dvur Kralove Zoo, which up until late 2009, had been their home in the Czech Republic. As featured in the recent BBC "Last Chance to See" series with Stephen Fry, you can spend some time with Najin, Sudan, Suni and Fatu and learn about their story and the story of their species. During your visit you will also be able to observe other endangered species such as the Grevy's zebra and the kongoni (or Jackson's hartebeest).

Please note that space is limited as we are only allowing 8 pax per day to visit the rhinos. **The cost is 10 USD per person with a minimum of USD 30 even if less than 3 people are in the group.** Bookings and payment should be made directly with your lodge manager or contact our Radio Room on 0723 312673.

Visits will start from the Morani Information Center at 4pm daily and conducted from an OI Pejeta pick-up car or a 4WD car. No vans or 2WD cars allowed.



Activities on Ol Pejeta

The Chimpanzee Sanctuary

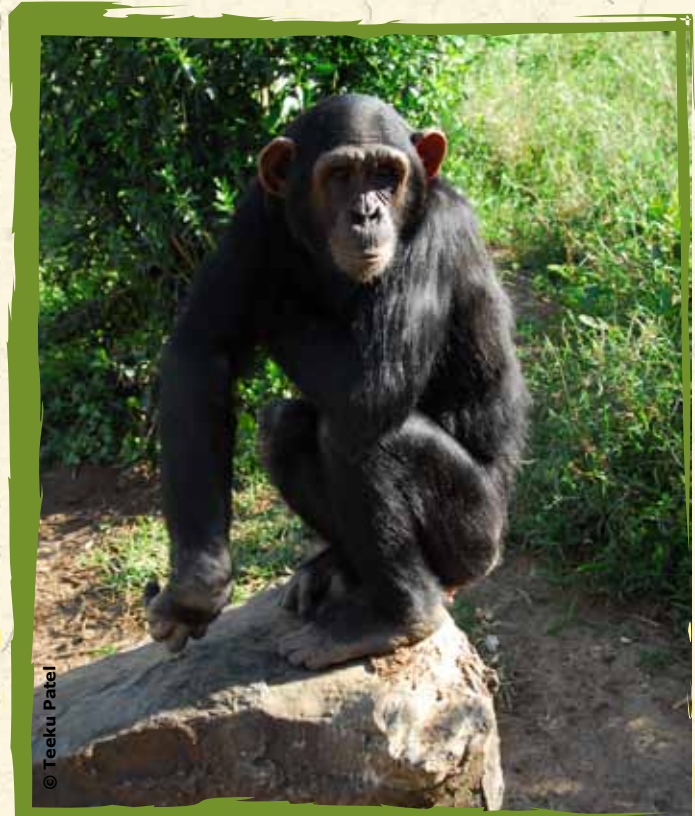
During your stay on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, you can visit the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary - the only place in Kenya where this highly endangered and remarkably intelligent species can be seen!

Since 1993, the Sweetwater's Chimpanzee Sanctuary in collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Jane Goodall Institute has provided a home to orphaned chimpanzees rescued from traumatic situations from different parts of the world.

The Sanctuary has rescued chimpanzees from Burundi, during the civil war in the country, as well as other parts of west and central Africa, and the Middle East. During your stay on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy you will be given the opportunity to learn about chimpanzees, as well as viewing them in their vast natural enclosures. At the time of printing there were 41 chimpanzees in the Sanctuary.

Chimpanzees living in the Sanctuary are carefully nursed back to health so they can enjoy the rest of their days in peace. The animals live in two large groups separated by the Ewaso Nyiro River.

The Sanctuary is a member of the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA), an alliance of between 18 sanctuaries in 12 countries that provide a safe haven for more than 800 orphaned and/or confiscated chimpanzees and other primates across Africa.



Chimp Facts

Noisy and curious, intelligent and social, chimpanzees are the closest living relatives of humans, sharing approximately 98% of our genetic blueprint. These mammals have the ability to stand and walk upright while also having the ability to move effectively on all fours. Thanks to the opposable thumbs on their hands and feet, chimpanzees make use of tools such as rocks to crack nuts in half or sticks inserted into mounds to 'fish' for termites, and are the only primates to have developed tool use to such an advanced level.

Learn more at our visitors centre located within the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary!

The Bush Meat Crisis

Habitat loss and commercial hunting for bush meat has become the most significant immediate threat to the future of chimpanzees in the wild. The demand from consumers in wealthy countries for tropical hardwoods means the west and central African forests, habitat to wild chimpanzees, are being destroyed at an alarming rate. As part of the process of forest destruction, all wild animals living within the forests are hunted to supply the illegal bush meat trade. Often whole chimpanzee families are butchered, leaving behind infants that are later exported to zoos and medical institutions or sold as exotic pets.

WANT TO HELP?

Adopt a Chimpanzee

The chimpanzees brought into the Sanctuary need to constantly be looked after due to the fact that they cannot be reintroduced into the wild. All their food is provisioned and they are subject to regular veterinary scrutiny. **As a result of this, its costs up to 3,000 dollars per year to take care of one chimpanzee.**

Thus, by adopting one of the following chimpanzees for one year, you will assist to give the chimpanzees the life they deserve.

Poco

Poco spent the first nine years of his life in a small cage suspended above a workshop, where he was placed to attract potential customers.

Mwanzo and Ajabu

Mwanzo, which means “first” in Kiswahili, was the first chimpanzee to be born in the sanctuary. Her daughter Ajabu, which means “surprise”, came as a surprise to all.

Tess

Tess was found for sale in a market place looking miserable and malnourished.

George

George was found bundled in barbed wire.

Naika

Naika was abandoned by a travelling circus. Strong and determined, she is now the third ranking female in her group.



Adoption Packages

- For \$250 you can buy a Golden Adoption for one year, in return you will receive a fleece, cap, certificate, fact sheet and postcard.
- For \$150 you can buy a Silver Adoption for one year, in return you will receive a polo shirt, cap, certificate, fact sheet and postcard.
- For \$50 you can buy a Bronze Adoption for one year, in return you will receive a cap, certificate, fact sheet and postcard.
- For \$25 you can buy a Standard Adoption for one year, in return you will receive a certificate, fact sheet and postcard.

Visitors to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy have free access to the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary, which is open daily from 9:00am to 10:30am and 3pm to 4:30pm.

The Morani Information Centre



It has been almost three years since the passing away of our world famous tame black rhino, Morani.

Morani was a fantastic draw for our visitors and helped educate them about the plight of black rhinos in Africa, and what must be done to ensure their survival. Now in Morani's absence, we continue to educate our visitors on black rhinos and our work to conserve these highly endangered animals. The Morani Information Center offers visitors a chance to learn about the various species of wildlife present on the Conservancy and to provide comprehensive information about how a modern wildlife Conservancy works.

The Morani Information Center was constructed in commemoration of Morani 11 years after his arrival in 1989. Throughout the years, the Center has catered to tourists, the local community and even educational institutions such as high schools and universities from different parts of the country. Upon arrival at the Center, a group of guides will welcome you warmly and take you on a tour where you will be treated to hundreds of fascinating facts on

the behavior and anatomy of all the animals on the Conservancy. From dental formulas to bone structures, from how to differentiate one set of horns from another, to ways of telling apart different kinds of droppings, the guides take it upon themselves to demonstrate the fact that there is no such thing as "too much" information.

So when visiting the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, **add visiting the Morani Information Center to your to-do list**, to gain an insight on wildlife, as well as help keep the memory of Morani the friendly rhino alive.

Baraka - Our New Ambassador

After Morani's passing, a 16 year old black rhino was transferred to the Morani complex. Being the first rhino born in the open fields of the Ol Pejeta Conservancy on November 20th 1994, this tender hearted mammal was aptly named Baraka meaning "blessings" in Swahili.

Baraka was later involved in a fight that caused an injury to one of his eyes. This eye later developed an abscess that ruptured and consequently had to be removed. As if life hadn't proven to be difficult enough for this young rhino, Baraka

later developed a crystallized cataract in his other eye which, even after numerous attempts at finding a cure, eventually led him to become completely blind.

The loss of one sense only heightens another, and like a child learning to take his first step, Baraka needed some time to adjust. Therefore, to shield him from additional peril, he was transferred from the wild and put in a 100 acre enclosure where he would be closely monitored for about one year. Throughout this year, Baraka was given the opportunity to familiarize himself with his new environment as well as his caretakers.

It has been three years since that time and Baraka's well being continues to improve. He is now a major attraction at the Morani Information

Center. Baraka's new home has meant that he has replaced Morani as an ambassador for the species. However, he will never be able to match Morani's good nature and willingness to allow visitors a "hands-on" experience. It is for this reason that we have created a feeding platform from which visitors can feed Baraka three times a day.

Visitors to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy have free access to the Morani Information Centre and to Baraka. Come visit Baraka from 10.30am to 6.00pm everyday!



In Memory of Morani

Morani has been buried under the Ol Pejeta Conservancy tree on Zebra Plain where we have put a rock cairn in tribute to him. Any visitors wanting to visit this are welcome.



More Activities on Ol Pejeta



Game Viewing and Guided Bush Walks

Experience the African bush and explore the vast savannah while viewing the Big Five and a host of other flora and fauna. Game drives are probably the most popular way to see wild animals in their natural habitat and people visiting the Ol Pejeta Conservancy have the chance to be escorted by informative guides through the Conservancy.

Night Game Drives

Thanks to The Ol Pejeta Conservancy's private status it is able to offer the unique pleasure of night game drives.

Night game drives last approximately two hours and are your opportunity to see some nocturnal wildlife around the Conservancy. During this enjoyable experience, you will travel in an open game drive vehicle with very informed and knowledgeable guides that use a spotlight to search for the nocturnal species. Expect to see a wide variety of animals not normally seen during the day, including aardvarks, bat-eared fox, porcupines, bush babies, bushbucks, mongoose, genet cats and a number of nocturnal birds.

Lion Tracking

For research purposes, a number of lions on the Conservancy are fitted with lion-tracking collars, which enable the researchers to keep track of their whereabouts. Visitors are given the opportunity to accompany our research teams to radio track our lion prides across the Conservancy.



Bird Watching

With well over 291 recorded bird species, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy is an ornithologist's paradise. The open savannah plains here on Ol Pejeta offer excellent bird watching opportunities.

Camel Rides

Camels are widely acknowledged as efficient pack animals. Their long strides and strong humps make a camel ride a fast and fun experience. Camel rides are available from Sweetwaters Tented Camp. Call 0734 699 851 for more information.



Sundowners

Few experiences rival the glory of a sunset over Africa, especially when the scene is set amidst an amphitheatre of mountains and enhanced by a selection of tempting cocktails, beers, wines, soft drinks and canapés. Leaving camp as the sun begins its descent, guests to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy may enjoy an evening game drive before arriving at a panoramic stretch of open savannah, where gazelles, antelopes, zebras and giraffes graze. To the south-east tower the snow-capped spires of Mount Kenya, to the west the majestic Aberdare Range, and to the east the gentle folds of the Loldaiga Hills. And, once the sun has sunk behind the Aberdares, there's still an exciting evening game drive back to camp to be enjoyed!



A Morning with the Cattle Management Team

The Livestock department here on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, welcomes visitors to spend a morning with them to see how the livestock management system works. Visitors are provided with the opportunity to witness the success of the wildlife-cattle integration system. In addition, visitors can visit the "bomas", which are mobile predator-proof structures, where the cattle are held overnight. During this overnight stay, the trampling effect and manure provides a great environment for the growth of nutrient rich grass that appear as conspicuous patches of green grasses referred to as hotspots.

For more information, contact our Livestock Manager, Giles Prettejohn at

gilespj@olpejetaconservancy.org or
0733 299 592.

Community Visits

Here is an opportunity for our guests to visit our surrounding communities and observe the tangible social benefits the Ol Pejeta Conservancy has created. The Conservancy has been involved in various community projects, focusing on improving areas such as health, water, roads, education, agricultural and livestock extension. Visitors can also get engaged at various levels to support community projects. Some of the areas frequented by visitors include:

- Visit to nearby community schools
- Visit to Marura Village Community Dispensary
- For more information, please contact Paul Leringato on community@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0729 592 964



Nanyuki Weavers and Spinners

This is located around the centre of Nanyuki town. It is a women's self-help project registered under the Ministry of Culture and Social Services. This group was started with the main aim of training poor, widowed and single women living in the villages surrounding Nanyuki town to become self-reliant by learning the craft of spinning, knitting and weaving using locally produced wool. Nanyuki town was targeted because it is one of the major wool producing areas in Kenya. For more information, please contact

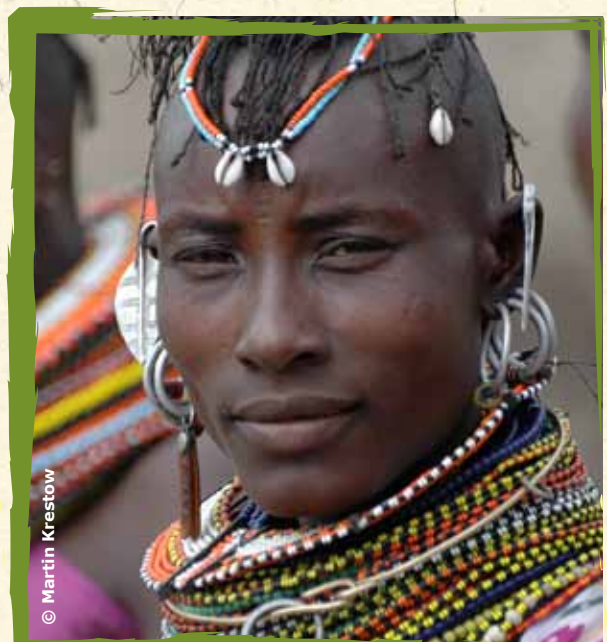
062 320 62 or pceansw@africaonline.co.ke.

Mitumba Art

“Mitumba” is a Kiswahili word that refers to donated clothes from around the world that end up in markets here in Kenya, where they are sold to provide an income for entrepreneurs. A group of young northern Kenyans are creating beautiful crafts out of these donated linens and cotton fabrics. The Mitumba art workshop, based at the foot of Mount Kenya, is a small but very busy and vibrant place where young talents are developing their arts and crafts skills under

the supervision of Sonja Parkinson.

The Mitumba art is visited regularly by tourists who are keen to see the beautiful crafts and rarely do they go away empty handed. This creates a genuine experience for both the tourists and fantastic staff. For more information, please contact 0721 374717 or sonja@mitumbaart.com.



Boran Cattle

Wildlife-Livestock Integration

Early in the 1950's, the OI Pejeta Conservancy was a highly developed and lucrative cattle ranch. Sitting on 40,000 hectares of land, excellent infrastructure was put in place including substantial internal fencing and an impressive water reticulation system, ideal for cattle ranching. Wildlife was not tolerated then, but later on, more wildlife-tolerant management systems allowed wildlife to re-populate OI Pejeta.

OI Pejeta Conservancy currently holds the largest single herd of pure Boran cattle in the world, with 2,000 top quality Boran breeding cows.

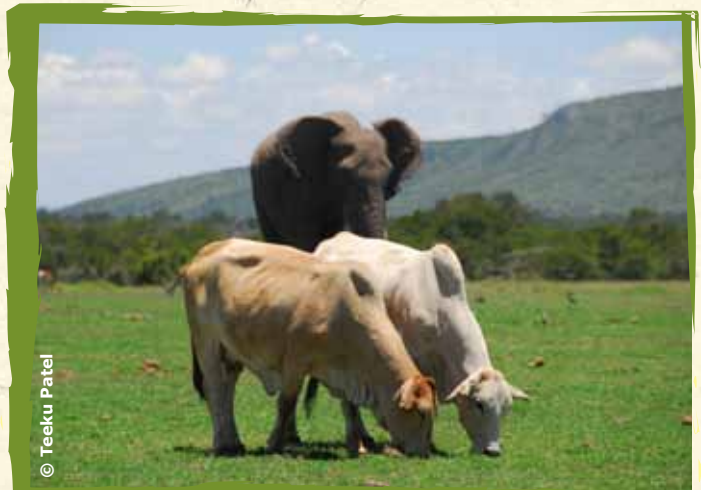
On the OI Pejeta Conservancy, livestock ranching and wildlife conservation are not considered mutually exclusive. Indeed OI Pejeta has pioneered the use of its livestock to manage the land as a means to increase biodiversity, making us a model for modern wildlife conservation. A small proportion of the Conservancy has been set aside as a predator-free breeding centre, incorporating the 300 registered cows and their followers, and all the breeding bulls. A new quarantine centre with facilities to collect embryos and semen has been up and running since December 2010.

Grazing

On the OI Pejeta Conservancy, cattle are used as an ecological tool to manage the rangelands, maintaining heterogeneity and maximizing biodiversity. Visiting OI Pejeta, it is quite evident how managed livestock systems have improved our wildlife "productivity". This has been done in the following ways;

- The OI Pejeta Conservancy has an annual rainfall of over 700mm per year, received in two main seasons, often with no prolonged dry season. This enhances good growth of grass, which if not grazed, easily becomes rank, stale and therefore unsuitable for all grazers, including wildlife.

- Cattle are used as a tool to intensively graze such areas to improve the quality and range productivity without the damaging effects of fire
- The cattle are held overnight in mobile, predator,-proof "bomas" (enclosures), which then create 'hot-spots' of nutrient- rich grass (*Cynodon sp.*) favoured by all wildlife
- The cattle are sprayed against ticks regularly, thereby reducing the tick burden on wildlife and the tick population as a whole



© Teeku Patel

Thus, controlled grazing of cattle has resulted in increased heterogeneity and enhanced biodiversity. In addition, it makes economic sense, as with the two enterprises it is possible to increase overall profitability per acre. An integrated system of cattle production and tourism provides more income and better margins than an "either, or" situation. Furthermore, we believe it is politically important to be doing all possible to maximize land productivity. Finally, our integrated system has allowed for more employment as well as reducing risks to the business in times of poor tourism.



Boran Beef

The OI Pejeta Conservancy produces quality free-range Boran beef off the natural pastures for the discerning Nairobi market.

- 25% of the herd – 1,600 head – are processed annually on-site and the beef delivered to Nairobi customers twice weekly
- On site processing creates minimal stress to the animals, resulting in a better quality product, appreciated by several top class Nairobi butchers. Free from any growth hormones and feed additives, this is a very natural beef full of flavour
- The OI Pejeta Conservancy's abattoir is Halal Certified, providing a guarantee to our Muslim customers

For more information on OI Pejeta Boran beef, please contact our Livestock Manager, Giles Prettejohn at gilespj@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0733 299 592.

Boran beef is distributed to various butcheries around Nanyuki town and Nairobi.

To purchase OI Pejeta free-range Boran beef in Nairobi, visit Gourmet Meat Products located at Yaya Centre and Karen Provision stores.

For more information, contact Gourmet Meat Products on 0721 405 050.

Research on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy

Ongoing research is very essential for sound scientific conservation and management of our wildlife resource.

The Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for the study of the ecology and behaviour of black rhino amongst other wildlife species within the savannah ecosystem.

The Ecological Monitoring Department

The Ecological Monitoring Department (EMD) on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy aims to identify and monitor the key variables necessary to maintain healthy trends in both habitat and animal species. Consequently, the EMD sets appropriate threshold levels for key animal and habitat variables, changes in which act as early warning systems. Whenever threshold levels are exceeded, either management intervention is recommended or third party researchers are engaged to study the underlying reason for change.

Earth Watch

The Earth Watch Institute is an international non-profit organization that brings science to life for people concerned about the Earth's future. The institute runs the "Saving Sweetwaters' Rhinos" project and works together with the Ol Pejeta Conservancy to collect data that aims to monitor the habitat requirements and dynamics of the black rhino, as well as interactions between rhinos and other browsers and their impact on the vegetation.

This research aims to guide management about the relative abundance of the key browsing species that can sustainably exist within the Ol Pejeta Conservancy. The project was established in 1999 and is continuously reviewed to address some of the emerging habitat management challenges on the Conservancy.

For more information on the Earthwatch programme, please contact Dr. Geoffrey Wahungu at gmwahungu@yahoo.com.



© Felix Paton

Our Research Centre

The OI Pejeta Conservancy has an in-house Research Centre that offers subsidized accommodation and catering services to visiting researchers. So far, the Research Centre has housed researchers, including students from various Universities, who come and stay on the Conservancy not only to enjoy some time away from the hustle and bustle of city life, but to use the opportunity as a learning experience and have the chance to make a contribution to their field of education.

Accommodation

The Centre can comfortably house 16 people. The main building has five single bedrooms and one double bedroom. Two external rondavels (traditional thatched huts) provide a further eight rooms. In addition there are also two self-contained rondavels. The main building has a kitchen equipped with refrigerator and deep freezer. Catering services are provided by the staff.

Collaring & Tracking

For the effective management of species, the EMD here at the OI Pejeta Conservancy fit some of the wildlife with radio tracking devices. Having the ability to closely monitor a few individuals in a population means that not only can the EMD obtain data on predator-prey interactions, but they are also able to monitor population status and structure, movement patterns and social organization.

With prior arrangement, lion tracking trips with members of the OI Pejeta Conservancy security staff can be arranged.

For more information, please contact OI Pejeta's Head of Ecological Monitoring, Nathan Gichohi on nathan@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0722 258 146.



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Wildlife & Security

Protecting wildlife is an expensive business. Convention has it that the cost of protecting wildlife habitat literally doubles with the presence of black rhino, such is the security requirement to counter the poaching pressure upon these animals. While we aim to develop the majority of this funding from our tourism operations, tourism is a “fickle” business and these revenue flows can be susceptible to periodic downturns. To that end, we consistently work to develop the funding and partnerships necessary to guarantee the security of our wildlife. Throughout its operation, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy has come up with various ways to protect and safeguard the Conservancy as well as the surrounding communities.

Tracker Dogs & Aircraft

The Conservancy currently has two tracker dogs, St. Hubert hounds (more commonly known as bloodhounds). These canines, with extraordinarily keen noses combined with a strong and tenacious tracking instinct, are bred specially to follow human scent and are used to follow-up any incidents of insecurity. Most of their work is done in the surrounding communities.

In addition, the Conservancy operates a Piper Subercub, a small, light aircraft. This is used predominantly for security surveillance, rhino monitoring and game counts across the Conservancy & surrounding wildlife areas.

Armed Teams

We currently operate a number of highly trained armed teams. These are self-sufficient, mobile teams able to spend extended periods of time in the field. These teams have been trained to operate day and night and to respond to incidents, not only within the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, but in conjunction with local authorities outside of the Conservancy.

Rhino Patrols

We currently work to a coverage rate of one rhino patrol team to 3,500 acres within the core conservation area. The key objective of the patrol teams is to monitor black rhino. There is one patrolman per 1,000 acres and every rhino is seen at least once every 3 days. Each rhino is individually identifiable using ear notch patterns that are unique to each animal.



Costs Associated with Maintaining an Armed Patrol for Rhino Protection

	KSH	USD
Salary for a Ranger (per month)	20,000	250
Armed Team Equipment	32,500	434
Rations	28,932	385
Radio	42,000	560
Radio Batteries	11,300	560
GPS tracking device	9,000	120
Solar Panel Charger	7,500	100
Digital Camera	12,500	167

Fence

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy's fully electrified perimeter fence not only demarcates the Conservancy's boundary but also, importantly, prevents human-wildlife conflict. Through the prevention of human-wildlife conflict, relations with communities have been strengthened.

Additionally, Ol Pejeta retains its linkages to the greater Laikipia ecosystem by maintaining corridors in the northern fences that are rhino-proof but permeable to all other species.

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy currently has a fence attendant for every 7km of fence who conducts maintenance and provides security in the form of insurgence detection. The fence is monitored on a 24/7 basis with a response team based at the control offices to respond to any incidents at night.

WANT TO HELP?

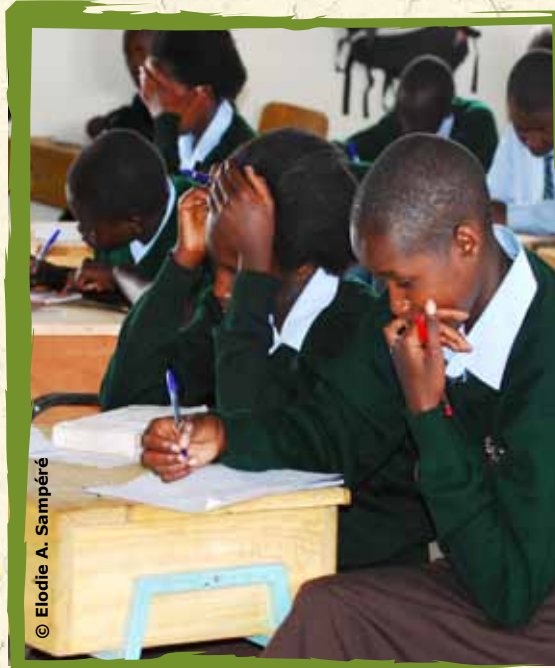
If you would like to contribute towards the care and protection of our black rhino by taking on all or part of the costs identified above please contact our CEO, Richard Vigne on either richard@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0722 390 007.



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Community Development Programmes

The OI Pejeta Conservancy is a not-for-profit organization that aims not only to sustain wildlife, but to contribute to the general welfare of the surrounding human populations. We focus primarily on community outreach with the hopes of serving two main purposes; providing information and providing services. To do so, the OI Pejeta Conservancy covers six core areas that help to ameliorate the living standards of people living behind our fences.



Education

The OI Pejeta Conservancy has always been a firm believer in education as a means of cultivating independent thinkers and visionary leaders. Thus, in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and willing donors, we have been able to contribute to the advancement of educational facilities in the surrounding community. OI Pejeta supports the infrastructural development of 12 local schools on an annual basis. This includes the construction of classrooms and laboratories, providing students uniforms, and donating books, computers and desks.

In addition, working in conjunction with local government, OI Pejeta provides bursaries in order to allow needy students to complete their education. In Laikipia, many talented students are often excluded from secondary school because they are unable to pay the required school fees. We have started a Bursary Fund and are currently assisting 49 students with school fees. Within the next five years, and with the help of willing donors, we aim to provide support to 100 children per year or more if possible!

Water

Globally, nearly 1 billion people suffer needlessly from a lack of access to safe, clean water, which is why the OI Pejeta Conservancy fully understands the value of water as a necessity of life. Water in Laikipia is scarce due to the lack of surface water and unreliable rainfall. Hence, rivers tend to be few and far between. Many families amongst the communities surround-

ing the Conservancy are therefore forced to walk many kilometres every day to collect water from communal water sources. Often the water is unfit for human consumption, resulting in high incidences of water-borne disease.

OI Pejeta works to support capacity building for local river water users associations. Additionally, the Conservancy has made a



contribution to various water projects including the following:

- Implementation of the water supply systems in Ex-Erok, a small-scale farming area in southern Laikipia
- Supplying water directly from OI Pejeta to the Waichekeheri and Eleri communities
- Donation of rain water-catchment tanks to Marura and Tigithi Women's groups
- Work to de-silt and repair dams and create dry-season livestock drinking pans using OI Pejeta owned and operated earth-moving equipment
- Operating a borehole rig to cost-effectively clean and repair boreholes that have fallen into disrepair as well as work to rectify and administer abandoned water schemes.

Roads

Laikipia suffers from a poor road network. As a result many areas become impassable during the rainy seasons. This makes it impossible for farmers to deliver their produce to market or for sick people to reach medical assistance.

Working with local government, the OI Pejeta Conservancy has used its own earth-moving machinery to rehabilitate and improve local access



roads. For example, OI Pejeta helped resurface the 7 km Marura community road, as well as the 9km road running from Sweetwaters to Nanyuki town.

Community-Based Tourism

In support of conservation tourism activities to help generate income for the local communities, the OI Pejeta Conservancy has given support to the Eleri Multi-cultural village, and, in conjunction with the African Wildlife Foundation, OI Pejeta is supporting nearby ADC Mutara to become involved in wildlife conservation and the development of tourism.

Health

Many rural areas of Kenya have inadequate health facilities. In Laikipia, many people live in abject poverty and have little or no access to professional health care and other essential services. This means that they inevitably face in-



creasing pressure from a lack of basic health care, family planning education and exposure to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Health centres are often few and far between and lack the appropriate

medical supplies to provide proper health care to the local populations.

The OI Pejeta Conservancy works with the Kenya Ministry of Health to improve current health facilities and develop new health related initiatives. So far, OI Pejeta has made contributions to the Marura and Withare community dispensaries by supplying drugs, constructing water tanks and toilets, financing the construction of housing and supporting children with medical complications to undergo surgery. OI Pejeta also makes regular donations of equipment to the Nanyuki District Hospital.

With more help from donors, the OI Pejeta Conservancy hopes to support the establishment of more rural health facilities, the provision of mobile clinic services and the establishment of a health facility near Ngare Nyiro village.

Agriculture & Livestock Extension

Laikipia is a dry area. Traditional rain-fed agriculture often fails. This results in inadequate nutrition amongst local people who are consequently forced to rely on government funded relief supplies. OI Pejeta employs two agricultural extension officers, who assist farmers to develop appropriate technologies to implement dry-land farming (conservation agriculture) and drip irrigation techniques.

A programme entitled “Linking Livestock Market with Wildlife Conservation” (operated in tandem with the African Wildlife Foundation), has recently set up a revolving fund of \$350,000 to provide equitable and reliable markets to community groups that have established wildlife conservancies in northern Kenya.



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WANT TO HELP?

OI Pejeta's COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Funding Priorities

Below is a list of funding priorities for the future, carefully identified with the involvement of the communities living around us. If you would like to contribute towards the OI Pejeta Community Development Programme please contact our CEO Richard Vigne on either richard@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0722 390 007.

Budget (US\$)	Description
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pair of school uniform for a child
35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed a child for a year
50	Can buy one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 exercise books • 10 assorted pre-school teaching aids
100	Can buy the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 text books for a high school • 2 students desks (lockers) • 1 teachers table and chair
400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pays one year high school scholarship (fees)
1,600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pays for 4 years of high school scholarship for one student
5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equips a high school science laboratory • Can buy a set of medical equipment for a rural medical facility
6,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can buy 2 water tanks (2,500 litres) for roof catchment for a school or women groups • Can buy one drip irrigation set for a farmers group
12,000	Can support the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds one classroom • Builds 5 toilets for a school or medical facility • Can support 10 schools develop strategic plans • Can pay for annual salaries for agriculture extension staff
16,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds a school kitchen • Can support 15 schools cultural exchange activities for one year
40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds and equips a community education resource centre • Builds a high school modern science laboratory
48,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buys a community programme vehicle for field activities • Buys a mini-bus for a school for education trips

Get Involved!

By simply paying us a visit here on the OI Pejeta Conservancy, you are making a difference. We therefore would like to thank you on behalf of the Conservancy and the community at large.

The OI Pejeta mission statement states that any surplus income generated from our operations is reinvested into conservation and community development. However the total revenues generated are insufficient to support the needs of our surrounding communities and associated conservation initiatives. Thus, when we speak of financial self-sustainability, this does not preclude the development of donor funding. OI Pejeta will continue to rely on the goodwill of individuals and organizations throughout the world to assist in achieving effective community development and poverty alleviation around us.

Therefore, if you would like to **MAKE A DONATION** towards any of the activities of the OI Pejeta Conservancy, please contact our CEO, Richard Vigne on either richard@olpejetaconservancy.org or 0722 390 007.

Alternatively you can **DONATE ONLINE** at www.olpejetaconservancy.org/support.

Kindly note that online donations to the OI Pejeta Conservancy are made via the African Wildlife Foundation's website, one of our conservation partners. However, you can be sure that your donation goes directly towards the OI Pejeta Conservancy and our conservation and community programmes.

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Join Us Online!



www.olpejetaconservancy.org

Visit our website and sign up for our monthly newsletter.

Also keep up-to-date with what's happening at the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary by following our Chimpanzee blog. And keep abreast of our latest news through RSS feeds.



www.youtube.com/olpejetaconservancy

Join us on You Tube for interesting videos clips about the innovative conservation work we are doing. Exciting events will be posted as and when they occur.

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

www.facebook.com

(just search for the Ol Pejeta Conservancy)

Become a fan of the Ol Pejeta Conservancy on Facebook to become a part of our day to day activities. Keep up to date with our latest pictures, add your own and feel free to comment.

The Twitter logo, featuring the word "twitter" in a light blue, lowercase, sans-serif font with a white outline.

www.twitter.com/olpejeta

Follow us on twitter and get daily tweets on highlights, news and events here on Ol Pejeta!

*Thank You For Visiting
The Ol Pejeta Conservancy!
Please Come Again!*