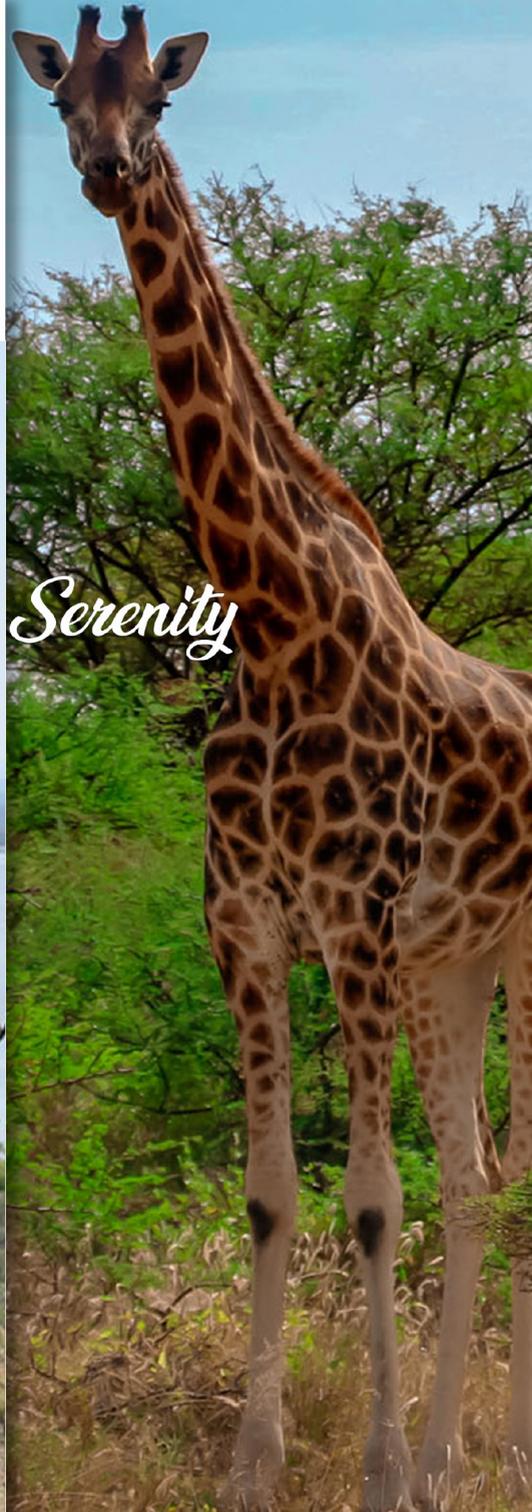


RUKO

Community Conservancy

Experience Nature`s
Wonders, Thrills & Serenity



Conservancy's

Overview

Ruko Community Conservancy, nestled on the eastern shores of Lake Baringo in the heart of the Rift Valley, stands as a testament to how conservation can become a pathway to peace. Established in 2008, Ruko was born from the combined vision of the Njemps and Pokot communities, who embraced the idea of “conservation for peace” to foster resilient livelihoods, restore the richness of their land, and drive community-led development. Together, they forged a commitment to protect their homeland and revive its natural abundance. Historically, this land was a thriving habitat for diverse wildlife. Over time, however, illegal hunting and habitat destruction led to a near-vanishing of this ecosystem. Today, the conservancy hosts various antelope species, including impala, waterbucks, and both lesser and greater kudus, as well as a rich diversity of bird species that once again grace the landscape. The crown jewel of Ruko’s conservation efforts is the reintroduction of the endangered Rothschild’s giraffe, also known as the ‘Baringo’ giraffe—an emblematic species once common here but now found only in select areas of Kenya and Uganda, with fewer than 700 individuals remaining globally. In 2011, Ruko Conservancy made history by reintroducing eight Rothschild’s giraffes translocated from the Soysambu Conservancy.



Although faced with challenges such as limited forage during dry seasons and the natural losses of some giraffes, the community’s dedication to this reintroduction marks a crucial step in preserving the genetic diversity and future of this iconic species. These giraffes now represent the only population of Rothschild’s giraffes within its native range in Kenya,

,making Ruko a keystone in species conservation.

Beyond protecting wildlife, Ruko Conservancy encompasses 14,000 hectares of land shared by approximately 4,200 people from the Njemps and Pokot communities in Rugus and Komolion. Here, local culture intertwines with biodiversity, making Ruko a living gallery of Kenya's heritage. Key resources such as flora, fauna, and rich cultural heritage draw visitors and scientists alike, helping to create a sustainable framework for the area's future.

This initiative doesn't just support the local ecosystem; it builds a database crucial for developing long-term conservation strategies for Rothschild's giraffe. The community's dedicated conservation efforts have ignited awareness, fostering protection for this rare giraffe, while the conservation of Ruko's landscapes continues to inspire resilience and unity. Through Ruko, the vision of "conservation for peace" transforms into a living reality, drawing strength from the land, its wildlife, and the indomitable spirit of its people.

KEY PRODUCTS

Flagship Species; Rothschild's giraffe – endangered, with a unique population reintroduced to Ruko, Impala, Waterbuck, Lesser kudu, Greater kudu.

Bird Species; Ruko boasts a rich diversity of birds, contributing to its appeal to birdwatchers.

Flora: Indigenous shrubs, Acacia species, common in Rift Valley landscapes, wetland vegetation, particularly near the lake.

Tourism Attractions

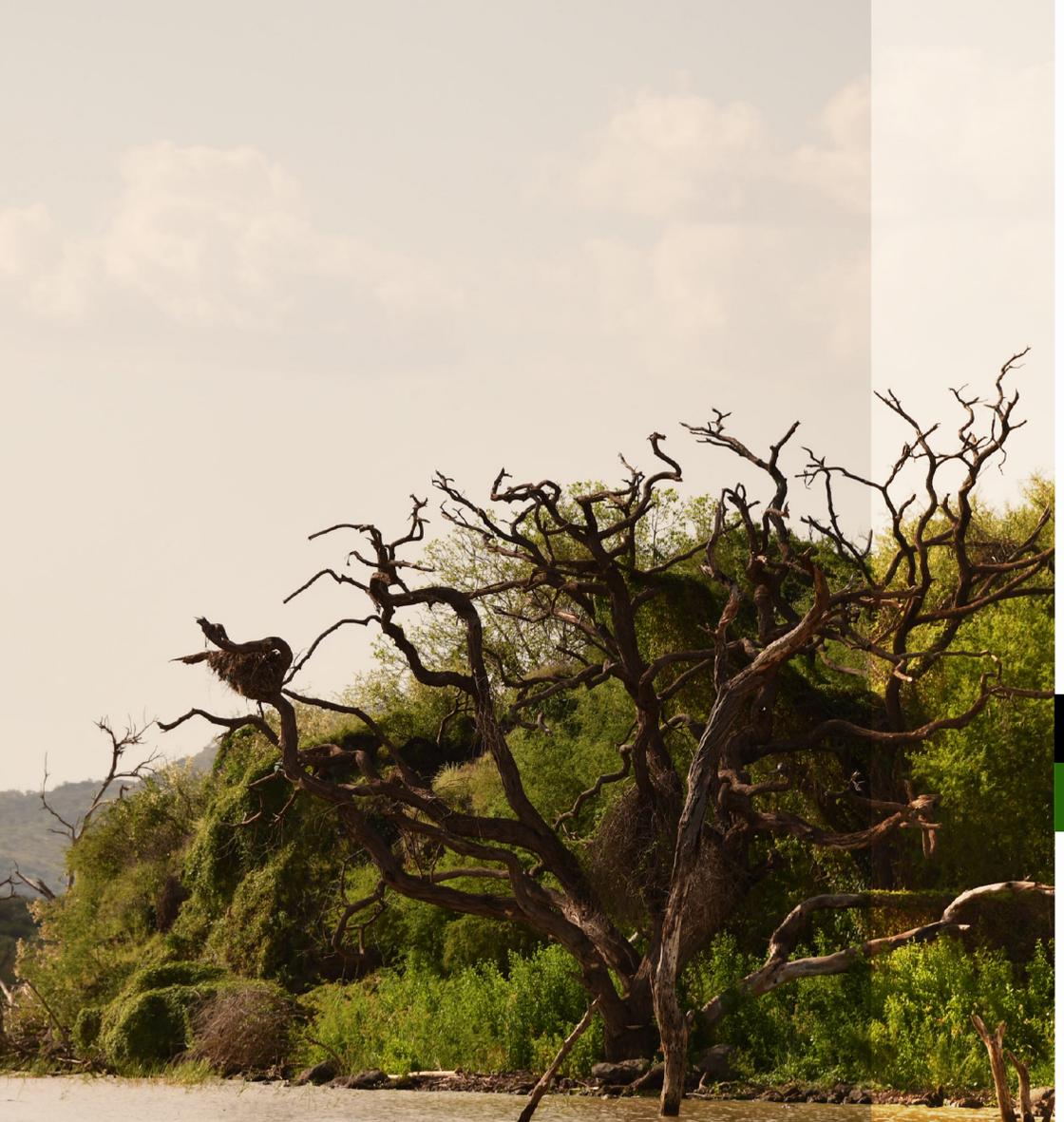
Wildlife Viewing; Observing the unique Rothschild's giraffes and antelope species.

Bird Watching; The rich variety of bird species makes it a prime destination for bird enthusiasts.

Cultural Heritage: The blend of Pokot and Njemps traditions and unique cultural experience

Scenic Lake Baringo: Situated along Lake Baringo, the conservancy offers scenic landscapes and views of the Rift Valley.





RUKO COMMUNITY WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY

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Ruko Conservancy

Baringo Conservancies