

## WILDLIFE FIELD GUIDE

Join us in observing the African Wildlife of the Reserve. Check the boxes after you have identified each species.

### MAMMALS

#### ANKOLE CATTLE



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Stocky, reddish-brown cattle.
- ✦ Enormous horns.
- ✦ Horns present in males and females.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

The smooth round horns of this domesticated cattle will help you distinguish it from the wild hoofstock that it coexists with on the African savanna.

#### BONGO



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ A large antelope with a bright chestnut-red color.
- ✦ White vertical stripes on the body.
- ✦ Both males and females have lyre-shaped horns which spiral in one complete twist.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Don't be alarmed if you see shadows on the savanna at night. It could just be the shy, forest dwelling bongo browsing in the moonlight.

#### BLESBOK



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Medium-sized antelope with a dark glossy brown coat.
- ✦ White blaze on face.
- ✦ Males and females carry ridged lyre-shaped horns.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Keep a lookout in the open savanna areas for the courtship displays of the male blesbok, which include a low stretch of the neck and courtship-circling.

#### ELAND



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Largest antelope on the savanna.
- ✦ Straight spiral horns and a tan to tawny grey coat.
- ✦ A fold of loose skin, called the dewlap, hangs from the male's chest.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

If you are very quiet you may be able to hear the castanet-like clicking of the adult male eland's knee tendons.

#### GRANT'S GAZELLE



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Coat ranges from pale to dark tan.
- ✦ Dual white stripes run across their face from horn to muzzle.
- ✦ Males have thick, heavily ringed horns and females have pencil thin horns.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Is that a tommy or an impala? Similar markings and behaviors may have you confused. If they were walking side by side, however, the Grant's gazelle would look like a tommy, grown to the larger size of an impala.

#### GRANT'S ZEBRA



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Bold black and white stripes.
- ✦ The only member of the horse family found on the Reserve.
- ✦ Brush-like mane.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Watch and listen for the communications of the zebra. You may see different facial expressions, ear positions and social grooming or you may hear a variety of vocalizations, including barks.

#### GREATER KUDU



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ A large antelope with very large corkscrew-shaped horns on the male.
- ✦ A grey-brown coat with white stripes on sides.
- ✦ Big ears.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

In bachelor groups of kudu, the biggest male with the largest horns is usually dominant. Watch the herd and try to find the kudu "boss" out on the Reserve.

#### IMPALA



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Medium-sized antelope with reddish-brown coat.
- ✦ Black detailing on the rump, ear tips, and hair tufts on back of the legs.
- ✦ Ridged, lyre-shaped horns on males only.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Be on the lookout for the impala's spectacular leaps, as high as 10 feet!

#### NYALA



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ A medium to large-sized antelope.
- ✦ Females have a reddish-chestnut coat, while males are dark grey with a shaggy coat and heavy white mane down their spine.
- ✦ Lyre shaped horns present in males only.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Nyala are essentially silent animals. Their bark is strictly an alarm call, and any nyala out in the open will react to this call with instant flight.

#### RETICULATED GIRAFFE



**IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:**

- ✦ Tallest animal on Earth at heights of 15 - 20 feet.
- ✦ Patches of tan separated by a network of white lines.
- ✦ Tail ends in a long tassel of black coarse hair.

**BEHAVIOR TIP:**

Are they walking in "slow motion"? Actually, the graceful gait of the giraffe is amazingly rapid and involves swinging the two legs on the same side of the body forward at almost the same time.

## □ THOMSON'S GAZELLE "TOMMIES"



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Smallest gazelle on the savanna.
- ✦ Cinnamon brown coat with a sporty black racing stripe.
- ✦ Males have curved, ringed horns and females have pencil-thin horns.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*What was that blur? It could have been a tiny "tommy." They have the ability to run up to 80 kilometers per hour (50 mph)!*

## □ WATERBUCK □



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Large antelope with a brown, shaggy coat.
- ✦ White blaze on rump.
- ✦ Males have ringed forward-swept horns.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*You won't see the waterbuck venturing too far away from the waterhole. True to their name, these are the most water-dependent of all antelopes and need to drink daily.*

## □ WHITE-BEARDED WILDEBEEST



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Large grey antelope with a black face.
- ✦ Large, impressive, upward-turned horns on males and females.
- ✦ Sloping shape—taller at shoulder than at rump.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*At night you may observe the wildebeest sleeping in rows, which offers the security of a group while allowing each individual a quick getaway in case of danger.*

## BIRDS

## □ ABYSSINIAN GROUND HORNBILL



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Black turkey-sized bird.
- ✦ Large black bill with a "horn-like" projection on top.
- ✦ Inflatable dark blue throat pouch.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*Observe these entertainers of the savanna tossing around sticks and clumps of grass and mud. At night, listen for their deep call notes to serenade you to sleep.*

## □ MARABOU STORK □



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ A large grey and white stork.
- ✦ Bald head and neck.
- ✦ Massive bill.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*Although not known as "the beauty" of the savanna, the Marabou stork exhibits a behavior to make it attractive to other Marabou storks. Males and females can be seen inflating and deflating the large throat pouch on their necks as a courtship display.*

## □ AFRICAN SPOONBILL



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Medium-sized white bird.
- ✦ Spoon-shaped bill.
- ✦ The face, throat, legs and feet are reddish-pink.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*If you see a puddle, look for a spoonbill. They feed by wading slowly in the shallow water with their spoon-shaped bills partly or wholly submerged, sweeping it from side to side. Prey is captured in the "spoon" of their bill and swallowed with a backward toss of the head.*

## □ OSTRICH □



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ The world's largest bird at 2 m. (6-7 feet).
- ✦ Females have light brown plumage.
- ✦ Two-toed hoof-like feet.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*Contrary to popular belief you will not see the ostrich sticking its head in the sand. In reality, when alarmed, an ostrich will stand up straight and tall and use its keen eyesight to scan the horizon for any approaching danger.*

## □ EAST AFRICAN CROWNED CRANE



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Grey and white crane easily identified by its golden, brush-like crown of feathers.
- ✦ A rosy pink wattle hangs from the throat.
- ✦ The beak, legs and feet are black.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*You may hear the crowned cranes utter a variety of vocalizations, from a low purr while feeding to a loud "ka-wonk" warning call.*

## □ EASTERN WHITE PELICAN □



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Blue and yellow bill with red tip.
- ✦ White feathers with pinkish tinge.
- ✦ 8-10ft. (2.4-3.6m) wingspan.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*Watch as these birds open their bill and shake their pouch. You may also notice them spreading their wings for long periods. Both of these behaviors release heat and help them stay cool on hot days.*

## □ GREATER FLAMINGO



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ Think pink!
- ✦ Curved pink bill with black tip.
- ✦ Very long legs and neck.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*One of the most amazing sights of nature is the social displays of a flock of flamingos, which involves a series of synchronized movements. (Learn more about "their moves" from the Savanna Guides)*

## □ RUPPEL'S GRIFFON VULTURE □



### IDENTIFICATION POINTERS:

- ✦ One of the largest vultures with a wingspan of 2.4 m. (8ft).
- ✦ Scaled feather pattern.
- ✦ Bald-looking head and neck covered in short, tiny feathers.

### BEHAVIOR TIP:

*True sun-worshippers, Ruppel's vultures can often be seen spreading their wings to sunbathe. The breeze that flows through their wings cools their body temperature and also dries food particles on their feathers.*

WE HOPE THE INSPIRING AFRICAN WILDLIFE of our Savanna Reserve will capture the curiosity and appreciation of all who view it. Ultimately, the real value of this wildlife experience is that when your stay is complete, you will have come to share our commitment to conserve wildlife and wild places. Find out how you can help by supporting the Disney's Wildlife Conservation Fund.

To assist the animal care staff in maintaining the health and safety of the animals, please do not feed them or drop items into the habitats. Thank you for your help in making Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge a safe and magical place for everyone and every creature.

