



NAIROBI NURSERY PUBLIC VISIT

FACT SHEET & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The SWT Nursery, located in Nairobi National Park, is where an orphan's journey begins — a journey that will culminate, many years down the line, in their reintegration back into the wild. Our public visit takes place every day, except 25th December, from 11am to 12 noon. During this time, we are delighted to welcome those with a confirmed booking to join us for an unforgettable hour with the Nursery herd. Funds from your visit support the rescue and rehabilitation of the orphaned elephants in our care.

Prior to requesting a booking, please review our booking and visiting protocols:

PRE-BOOKING REQUIREMENTS

- Access to the Nursery is strictly by advance booking only. We encourage guests to reserve their slots early, as we have limited daily capacity. Bookings may be made up to three months in advance of a proposed visit.
- Please only book the number of tickets you need. We have a limited number of visiting slots available each day, and we want as many people as possible to be able to enjoy the experience. For this reason, you will be required to make payment for all tickets in your confirmed booking, even if less people attend on the actual day.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR BOOKING

- Contact our Nairobi office via email (info@sheldrickwildlifetrust.org) to make a booking. In your message, state:
 - ▶ Date you wish to visit
 - ▶ Number of adult and child tickets you wish to book
 - ▶ Name of each adult attending
 - ▶ Name and age of each child attending
- Confirmation of successful bookings will be emailed to you, and must be brought with you on the date of your visit, in digital or printed form.
- Only booking confirmations issued by the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust are valid for entry. Despite what they might advertise, we do not accept any purported bookings by third-party platforms.

SWT NURSERY ENTRY DONATION

- Your visit to the SWT Nursery directly supports elephant conservation. The minimum donations for entry are as follows:
 - ▶ **Adult, aged 12 years and above:** US\$20 per person, or the equivalent in Kenya Shillings (based on the day's rate)
 - ▶ **Adult, Kenya resident:** Ksh 2,000, with proof of residency
 - ▶ **Child:** US\$5 per person aged under 12 years, or the equivalent in Kenya Shillings (based on the day's rate)
 - ▶ **Child, Kenya resident:** Ksh 500, with proof of residency
- Your entry donation is not pre-paid, but collected upon entry, in cash, on the day of your visit.
- Please note that the SWT Nursery entry donation is separate to the newly imposed KWS National Park fee and must be paid directly to Sheldrick Wildlife Trust staff upon arrival at the Nursery, which is after the KWS Mbagathi Gate.

KWS REQUIRED PARK FEES

- The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) now requires that all visitors to the SWT Nairobi Nursery must pay the Nairobi National Park entry fees, regardless of whether they will venture further into Nairobi National Park or not.
- KWS park fees are paid via the eCitizen online platform (kws.ecitizen.go.ke). Advance payment will minimise any delays you might otherwise encounter on the day of your visit.
- Please note KWS park fees are entirely separate to SWT Nursery entry donations. We are not able to process KWS park fees and paying KWS park fees does not contribute to the SWT or cover the donation to enter the Nursery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What time should I arrive for the SWT Nairobi Nursery's public visit?

The public visit takes place strictly between 11am and 12 noon. The visit cannot be delayed or extended for late arrivals. We encourage guests to arrive at or before 10:30am on their booked date, to allow ample time to pass through the KWS Magadi Gate.

What can I expect during the visit?

The public visit is timed around our Nursery herd's midday milk feed and mud bath. From a variety of viewing areas, you will see the orphaned elephants run out of the forest in groups for their much-loved bottles of specialist milk formula. Afterwards, all the orphans gather for playtime. Some wallow in the mud, while others challenge their friends to a wrestling match or indulge in a dust bath. Each day is unique among our Nursery herd.

One of our senior Keepers leads the public visit, introducing you to each orphan, sharing a bit about their stories and personalities, and teaching you about our wider conservation work across Kenya. We always set aside time for questions at the end.

Every orphan in our care will ultimately be reintegrated back into the wild. For this reason, we carefully limit their exposure to humans, and only Keepers are allowed to feed and directly interact with them. However, some of the more mischievous elephants may choose to extend a trunk in greeting or bump along the visitor cordon!

Will I see my adopted orphan?

During your visit, you will see the orphaned elephants who are currently in our care at the Nairobi Nursery and attending the midday mud bath. On our website, each orphan's profile states the location where they currently reside. Our orphans page (sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/orphans) also has the ability to filter by 'Current Location.'

It is not possible to meet Maxwell the rhino during the public visit, as he is blind and prefers a very quiet life.

Can I adopt an orphan in-person on the day of my visit?

Yes! Adoptions directly support our Orphans' Project, funding the specialist care needed to raise orphaned elephants and other wildlife. You are most welcome to adopt in-person at the end of your visit, for a minimum contribution of US\$50 per year.

As a memento of your in-person adoption, you will receive a special adoption packet that is exclusive to the public visit. This includes an adoption certificate, an elephant watercolour print, a printed book copy of the latest SWT Annual Newsletter, and a profile of your chosen orphan.

Is there a gift shop at the Nairobi Nursery?

After the mud bath, we offer for sale a small selection of SWT apparel, souvenirs, and gifts made by Kenyan artisans.

What should I bring with me to the visit?

Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the outdoor setting. It can be hot and sunny at the mud bath, so we strongly advise guests to wear sunscreen and a hat. During the rainy season (March-April and October-December), it can be muddy, so bear that in mind when visiting.

We do not offer refreshments on-site. Bring plenty of water for yourself, but leave other drinks and snacks at home.

Is Wi-Fi available at the Nursery?

There is no public Wi-Fi available at the Nairobi Nursery.

How can I continue to support and stay involved with Sheldrick Wildlife Trust?

- **Donate**: As a non-profit, our conservation projects are entirely funded by donations. Every contribution makes an enormous difference. You can support us directly in Kenya, as well as through the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust USA, a 501(c)(3), and the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust UK, a registered charity in England & Wales.
- **Adopt**: If you are in a position to give, adopting an orphan in our care is an engaging and deeply impactful way to support our work. You will receive monthly updates on your adopted orphan and our wider orphan herd throughout the year, along with exclusive access to the latest Keepers' Diaries and other special content.
- **Spread the Word**: For your daily dose of Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, follow us on social media, [@sheldricktrust](https://www.instagram.com/sheldricktrust)! We are on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter/X, YouTube, and TikTok. You can also stay in the loop through our newsletter offerings.