

Day 2, Sunday, 9 Dec 2001

Getting started.



We awoke to the magnificent sight of Mt. Kenya outside our verandah

Breakfast began early with coffee at 6:30 in our rooms and reconvened at 7 on the verandah of Anna's house. Mary Locke was interested in coming up with a ritual for the morning, and she suggested knocking on our heads. It never really caught on, but we had porridge every morning. Alison said no thank you because she felt it would go right to her butt. Thereafter, it was known as "butt porridge" and I don't think I will ever think of it as anything else.

The animal sightings have now become so numerous, that I will only note new or unusual sightings. On the way to meet with James, the Community Development Director at Lewa, we spotted an African drongo, a small group of Grevy's zebras consisting of a territorial male, a lactating female, and a filly foal.



James was an interesting and enthusiastic speaker about Community Development and about Lewa and conservation in general. He was kind enough to come in on his day off to speak with us, and each of us was awed and impressed with the continuing development work that is going on under the Lewa Wildlife Conservation umbrella.

After our meeting with James, we encountered Somali Ostriches, Sacred Ibis, Jackson's Hornbill, Vervet monkeys, a grey woodpecker, Defassa Waterbuck, Hadada Ibis, Egyptian Goose, African Hoopoe, white Rhino (wide mouth grazer) with a resident oxpecker, dragonflies, a giraffe baby, a tortoise, Grant's Gazelle, Eland, Impala, Cape Buffalo, Crowned Plover, Fiscal Shrike, an immature hawk, a Kori Bustard, and a Tawny Eagle.



We came across the carcass of a recent lion kill. This was a Grevy's Zebra, a territorial male that was easily identified by severely deformed hind hoofs which were about 6 to 8 inches long and curled forward and upward. The carcass was picked clean on the side facing up, but the skin and ear on the down side were still present. One foreleg was missing altogether.



We concluded our day with Yoga on the verandah facing Mt. Kenya, led by Colleen. We finished watching the stars and had another early night.