



WILD FACTS

GIRAFFE CONSERVATION



Dear Patricia

Let's celebrate the longest legs in the world! [Giraffes](#) are extraordinary and unique animals. They might look fragile, but are strong and fast. Their giant size and their 50cm long tongue help them eat treetop leaves out of reach for smaller animals. Incredibly, their tongue is tinted blue to stop sunburn!

Giraffes only need to drink every few days as most of their water comes from leaves. To drink they have to spread their legs and bend down to the water's edge, making them vulnerable to predators. These vast vegetarians spend 75% of each day feeding and play a vital ecological role. By dispersing seeds in their dung they help plants to grow and stop desertification. What a remarkable species!

From

Laura

Laura Gosset
Wild Crew



Have we overlooked Africa's giants?

Giraffes are under threat due to habitat loss, poaching and climate change. Today fewer than 70,000 adults remain, but Born Free is working hard to protect them. We help support the world's rarest subspecies in the western African country of Niger with our friends at the [Giraffe Conservation Foundation](#). These giraffe are adapted to a dry climate, but conflict with people can be a problem. There were just 49 in 1995 but today there are more than 600 of these special giraffes!



Stick your neck out for giraffes!

Our partners at the Giraffe Conservation Foundation started [World Giraffe Day](#) to raise awareness of Africa's giant. Every year, on 21st June, the longest day here in the UK, we celebrate the longest-necked animal in the world! If you are wild about giraffes why not hold your head high and create your own 'I love giraffes' poster. Please share your creation with family and friends and if you would like to send us a copy you can email it to education@bornfree.org.uk. We would love to see it!

IF YOU ARE AGED 13 OR UNDER PLEASE ASK PARENTAL PERMISSION TO FOLLOW BORN FREE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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