

AFRICA'S GIRAFFE



Did you know that there are four different species of giraffe and not only one?

CAN YOU SPOT THE DIFFERENCE?

Masai giraffe

Giraffa tippelskirchi

The Masai giraffe has two subspecies.



Luangwa giraffe *G. t. thornicrofti*

The Luangwa giraffe's colouring and patterns are similar to the Masai giraffe.

Patches: Large and dark-brown. Shaped distinctively like vine leaves. The edges are jagged. The patches are surrounded by a creamy-brown colour.

Lower legs: The same creamy-brown which surrounds the patches, there are no patterns.

Masai giraffe *G. t. tippelskirchi*

This giraffe is recognisably darker than other species.

Patches: Large and dark-brown. Shaped distinctively like vine leaves.

The edges are jagged. The patches are surrounded by a creamy-brown colour.

Lower legs: The same creamy-brown which surrounds the patches, there are no patterns.



Northern giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

The northern giraffe has three subspecies.



Kordofan giraffe *G. c. antiquorum*

Patches: Pale and irregular.

The patches are surrounded by an off-white, creamy colour.

Lower legs: Noticeably white with no patterns.



Nubian giraffe *G. c. camelopardalis*

Patches: Large and rectangular. Chestnut-brown.

The patches are surrounded by an off-white, creamy colour.

Lower legs: Noticeably white with no patterns.

West African giraffe *G. c. peralta*

This giraffe is noticeably light in appearance.

Patches: Rectangular and tan coloured.

The patches are broadly surrounded by a creamy colour.

Lower legs: Noticeably white with no patterns.



Southern giraffe

Giraffa giraffa

The southern giraffe has two subspecies.



Angolan giraffe *G. g. angolensis*

Patches: Large, uneven and irregularly notched. Light brown.

The patches are surrounded by a pale cream colour.

Lower legs: Randomly speckled with uneven spots.



South African giraffe *G. g. giraffa*

Patches: Star-shaped and various shades of brown.

The patches are surrounded by a light tan colour.

Lower legs: Randomly speckled with uneven spots.

Reticulated giraffe *Giraffa reticulata*

Patches: Rich orange-brown.

The patches are surrounded by a network of striking white lines.

Lower legs: Often, the broad, striking white lines that surround the patches continue the entire length of their legs.



The Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF) is dedicated to a sustainable future for all giraffe populations in the wild. GCF is the only NGO in the world that concentrates solely on the conservation and management of giraffe in the wild throughout Africa.

giraffeconservation.org

