

Gerenuk ... the supermodel of the ungulate world!

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS
ANTELOPE AND
GIRAFFE TAG



MEASUREMENTS

Length: 4.5-5.5 feet

Height: 3-3.5 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 60-120 lbs



Dry woodland



East Africa

IUCN
NEAR
THREATENED

95,000
In the wild

Why exhibit gerenuks?

- Create a show-stopping exhibit with these bipedal antelope! Gerenuk consistently awe crowds with their extraordinarily long legs and neck AND with their incredible habit of standing upright on their hind legs while feeding on browse.
- Pair gerenuk in a mixed exhibit with other acacia feeders such as dik-diks, impala, kudu, or giraffes, and interpret how they all browse on different parts of the tree to avoid competition.
- Provide memorable visitor experiences with on-exhibit training sessions that showcase natural behaviors and husbandry practices, and make behind-the-scenes tours thrilling with outstanding hand-feeding opportunities!
- Highlight the biologically diverse but politically unstable Horn of Africa region, and share not only the threats facing the region, but how your zoo is working with *in situ* partners to save this species.

Stewardship Opportunities

Northern Rangelands Trust

<http://www.nrt-kenya.org/>

Care and Husbandry

YELLOW SSP: 25.32 (57) in 11 AZA institutions (2019)

Species coordinator: Christina Seely, Denver Zoo

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Social nature: Typically housed as a breeding group of one male and several females. Solitary males do well, but a companion is preferred for females. Offspring must be separated at a year old.

Mixed species: Mix best with laid-back ungulate species, like giraffe, kudus, and smaller antelope. Successfully housed with numerous ground birds like hornbills, cranes, and bustards.

Housing: A delicate species. Access to heated shelter required if temperatures are below 55°F, and gerenuk have a heightened risk of pneumonia during wet weather (often kept inside during rain).

Medical notes: Susceptible to pneumonia, hepatitis, corona virus, and abomasal ulcers. Leg trauma can be mitigated with exhibit design.

Special requirements: Fresh browse should be offered as often as possible to promote natural feeding and proper digestion.

Keeper resources: Workload is low. Training is important for reducing fractiousness and desensitizing individuals to novel stimuli.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

<http://www.azaungulates.org/>



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