For the Victorian public park in Aberdare, Wales, see Aberdare Park.  
The Aberdare National Park is a protected area in the Aberdare Mountain Range in central Kenya located east of the East African Rift Valley.[1] It covers the higher areas and the Aberdare Salient to the east.  
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Overview[edit]  
The park is located about 100 km north of Nairobi and stretches over a wide variety of terrain at altitudes from 2,000 metres (6,600 ft) to 4,000 metres (13,000 ft). Established in May 1950, the Aberdare National Park covers an area of 766 square kilometers and forms part of the Aberdare Mountain Range. The park contains a wide range of landscapes - from mountain peaks that rise to 4,000 metres (13,000 ft) above sea level, to their deep, v-shaped valleys intersected by streams, rivers, and waterfalls. Moorland, bamboo forests and rainforests are found at lower altitudes.  
History[edit]  
Aberdare National Park is best known as the site where in 1952, Princess Elizabeth found out she was Queen after she learned about the death of her father King George VI, whilst staying at the Treetops Hotel.  
Aberdare National Park was established in 1950 with an aim to conserve and protect the Aberdare Mountains. Since then it has grown to a size of an area of 767 km.  
Wildlife[edit]  
Wildlife present in the protected area include lion, leopard, elephant, East African wild dog, giant forest hog, bushbuck, mountain reedbuck, waterbuck, Cape buffalo, suni, side-striped jackal, eland, duiker, olive baboon, black and white colobus monkey, and sykes monkey. Rarer sightings include those of the African golden cat and the bongo. Species such as the common eland, serval live in the higher moorlands. The Aberdare National Park also hosts a large eastern black rhinoceros population and over 250 bird species including the endangered Aberdare cisticola, Jackson's spurfowl, sparrowhawk, African goshawk, African fish eagle, sunbirds and plovers.  
Facilities[edit]  
Visitors to the park can find different types of accommodation, from the Treetops lodge, to the Ark - built in the shape of Noah's Ark - and three self-help banda sites, eight special campsites and a public campsite in the moorland. There are also five picnic sites. Both Treetops and The Ark provide excellent nighttime wildlife viewing. Animals seen include Elephants, Cape buffalo, and rhino, which come to the waterholes. The park also includes two airstrips at Mweiga and Nyeri.[2][3]  
Park entry and charges[edit]  
The park is open daily from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm. Entry on foot is prohibited and visitors are turned away after 6:15 pm.  
Entry to the park is by smart card only, obtained and loaded at the main gate.  
Charges (2020-2021)  
Visitor category Fee  
East African Citizens (adults) 250KSh  
East African students and children 200 KSh  
East African Residents (adults) 250 KSh  
East African students and children 200 KSh  
Nonresident adults USD$30[4]  
Nonresident students and children $20[5]  
^ Mwangi, P.N., Milewski, A. and Wahungu, G.M. (2004). Chemical composition of mineral licks used by elephants in Aberdares National Park, Kenya. Pachyderm 37: 59−67.  
^ "Aberdare National Park". Kenya Wildlife Service. 2014-06-29. Retrieved 2017-04-05.  
^ "The Ark". thearkkenya.com. Retrieved 2017-04-05.  
^ KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE WEBSITE  
^ KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE WEBSITE  
External links[edit]  
Wikivoyage has a travel guide for Aberdare National Park.  
Kenya Wildlife Service – Aberdare National Park  
World Database on Protected Areas – Aberdare National Park  
United Nations Environmental Programme - Aberdare Range Forests Archived 2008-03-18 at the Library of Congress Web Archives  
Kenyalogy - Aberdares  
Rhino Ark - a charity for the conservation of the Aberdare National Park, "Humans in harmony with habitat and wildlife"  
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National Parks of Kenya  
National Parks  
Aberdare Amboseli Arabuko Sokoke Central Island Chyulu Hills Hell's Gate Kora Lake Nakuru Malka Mari Marsabit Meru Mount Elgon Mount Kenya Mount Longonot Nairobi Ol Donyo Sabuk Ruma Saiwa Swamp Sibiloi Tsavo East Tsavo West  
Reserves  
Arawale Bisanadi Boni Buffalo Springs Dodori Kerio Valley Kakamega Forest Kisumu Impala Lake Bogoria Maasai Mara Mwaluganje Mwea Samburu Shaba Shimba Hills Witu Forest  
Marine National Parks  
and Reserves  
Kisite-Mpunguti Kiunga Malindi Mombasa Watamu  
Sanctuary  
Kisumu Impala  
Former National Reserves  
Tana River Primate National Reserve  
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