

“Between every two pines is a doorway to a new world.” - John Muir

The Gifted Tree welcomes you to the virtual world of finding your tree planting location. As you know, someone has planted a gift tree in honor of you or someone you love. Your tree has been or will be planted in Kenya’s Kijabe Forest. This forest is a highland mosaic ‘Afro-alpine’ forest that was once dominated by trees, such as the East African pencil-cedar and African olive. Illegal activities such as the extraction of high-value timber (cedar and olive) and the production of illegal charcoal have left many areas degraded, and in some areas completely deforested. These pressures are further exacerbated by a changing climate.

Roughly one-third of the original high-canopy forest still stands and provides important habitat for biodiversity. The forest is only about 5,000 hectares, but a community of almost 200,000 people depend on it for water, wood, and agriculture. Planting trees here will help protect this vital ecosystem, promote environmental education, and foster sustainable livelihoods through seed collection and ecotourism. This project will work directly with communities to protect, conserve, and restore the forest, helping to safeguard water and other ecosystem services. Planting trees here will improve access to sustainable livelihoods by employing community members, promoting ecotourism and non-timber forest products, and providing environmental education and advocacy. The species we are planting are highly dependent on the altitudinal zones of the deforested area. The mix will include species such as *Juniperus procera*, *Olea europaea ssp. africana*, and *Warburgia ugandensis*, as well as fast growing cover species such as *Croton megalocarpus*, *Dombeya rotundifolia*, and *Sesbania sesben*.

You can view the general area of your planting by clicking the following link: <https://binged.it/3fhUGEj>

Once connected to the map, feel free to zoom in and out to get a feel of the general planting area as well as its location in Kenya, Africa and the world. Please understand that this is the general area of your tree planting. Your tree is planted among thousands of other gift trees and there is no plaque designating your gift tree.



Enjoy your gifted tree and know that it is making a monumental difference for the earth and opening a new doorway to the world for future generations. If you have any questions, please view our contact information at: www.thegiftedtree.com/contact-us/. If you would like to plant a tree for someone else, please visit our website at www.TheGiftedTree.com.

