

Four Tall and Curious

While on one of my safaris in Africa I was fortunate enough to spend some time at Tortilla Camp, Amboseli, Kenya. Tortillas is on top of a hill with a dirt track leading down to the animal-rich plains below. At the bottom of the hill, straddling the track is the grove of Accacia Tortillas trees for which the camp is named. Often we encountered giraffe, mostly female, browsing in these trees. Simon Thuo, our guide, took to referring to them as "The Girls". Fellow wildlife artist, Paula Fitzpatrick, my companion for this trip, is as in love with giraffe as I am with elephants, so we would park in the grove to watch them. "Twiga moments", Simon dubbed them. The giraffe would amble to the vehicle, from the trees overhead and drop their leaf litter on us. These giraffe seemed to be as curious about us as we were about them and posed for many picture. That's how I've presented them, Four Tall and Curious.