

Born Free Foundation Sculptures at Chewton Glen



Purchase our stunning lions and raise vital funds to keep wildlife in the wild!

These beautiful Born Free Foundation bronze lion sculptures, seen in Chewton Glen's stunning grounds, are available to purchase to take home!

Created by the world-renowned creative artists Gillie and Marc (Love The Last), they are a celebration of Elsa the lioness, Born Free's original inspiration and a symbol of hope for wildlife.

Every lion has their own tale to tell and each has a special affinity with Born Free. From Christian, the cub purchased from Harrods and successfully returned to the wild, to Makena, the Kenyan lioness living in the Born Free-protected Meru National Park, now with cubs of her own.

Please see below prices for first edition original sculptures, as well as T's & C's of sale. We can't wait to see a picture of one of our lions, in its new forever home, with you!

Please email Joanne Bartholomew (Joanne@bornfree.org.uk) to purchase a sculpture.

Single Bronze Lion Cubs £5,000 excl.VAT



No. 1 Length:190cm, Width: 60 cm, Height: 90cm, Weight: 210 Kg Square metres: 1.14



No. 2 Length: 190cm, Width: 74cm Height: 90cm, Weight: 238 kg Square metres: 1.41



No. 3 Length: 200cm, Width: 82cm Height: 100cm, Weight: 268 Kg Square metres: 1.64



No. 8 Length: 185cm, Width: 65 cm Height: 90cm, Weight: 210Kg Square metres: 1.20



No. 15 Length: 127cm, Width: 79 cm Height: 43cm, Weight:143 Kg Square metres: 1.00



No. 16 Length:133cm, Width: 73 cm, Height: 43cm, Weight: 139 Kg Square metres: 0.97



Born Free's Makena £5,000 excl.VAT



Makena is a much-respected member of Elsa's Pride – one of the longest established prides of lions living in Meru National Park, Kenya – our charity's heartland and where the real-life Elsa was released by Joy and Goege Adamson in 1958.

Here, Elsa's legacy lives on, and today, the park is home to between 60 and 80- lions. Makena, whose name means one who brings happiness, is one of three adult females which make up Elsa's Pride, led by males Solio and Mang'erete, and they live wild alongside their many cubs.

Thanks to generous public support, Born Free's 'Pride of Meru' monitoring team is learning so much about the 'group dynamics' of Elsa's Pride, and gaining fascinating insights into wild lion behaviour, all well as the challenges and threats they face.

Makena has given birth to a number of cubs whilst being monitored by our team in 2014. In 2020, the team spotted that Makena was heavily pregnant. Lions have a 110 day gestation so we kept a watchful eye out but, despite our best efforts, were unable to locate her again. This was actually a good sign. Cubs are born helpless, so a lioness keeps them hidden from possible threats for at least two months. You can imagine our delight when, in February, we spotted Makena with two healthy cubs, around three months old.

Makena is not only an amazing mother, she is also a grandmother! In 2021, her eldest two daughters, the Mururi Girls, both gave birth to their first cubs – two sets of twins! We named the youngsters Kiara and Kamili, and Cheri and Queen, and these new cubs are the first members of the pride's third generation since we began monitoring. In addition, Makena also recently gave birth to more cubs of her own – what a grandma!

MAKENA (No. 5) Length: 160cm, Width: 63 cm, Height: 63cm, Weight: 160 Kg Square metres: 1.03





Born Free's Christian £5,000 excl.VAT



CHRISTIAN (No. 7)

Length: 180cm, Width: 63 C, Height: 43cm, Weight: 169 Kg Square metres: 1.13

Christian became world famous when his story went viral on YouTube, and captivated the imaginations of millions of people. But did you know, the famous footage of the young lion emerging from the African brush to greet his former owners was actually filmed by Born Free's Co-Founder Bill Travers MBE, as part of his documentary Christian the Lion at World's End?

Born in captivity and purchased as a cub by John Rendall and Ace Bourke from Harrods in 1969. As he got bigger, it became obvious that Christian would soon outgrow his London home (a furniture shop in the King's Road), and after a chance meeting with Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers, a plan was hatched to get Christian back to Africa, his ancestral home. Virginia and Bill offered temporary sanctuary to Christian in their Surrey garden, where his night-quarters were a gypsy caravan, until he could be safely transported to Kenya, and placed into the care of George Adamson for rehabilitation.

George successfully released Christian into the Kora National Reserve, and nearly a year later, Rendall and Bourke visited in the hope of seeing Christian once more. To their amazement, they were greeted by an enormous, fully-grown young lion who not only remembered them, but appeared to embrace them with delight. Christian went on to become the head of a small pride. His journey to freedom symbolises Born Free's vision that every individual matters and mission to 'Keep Wildlife in the Wild.'





Born Free's Hilts £5,000 excl.VAT



'HILTS' (No. 9)

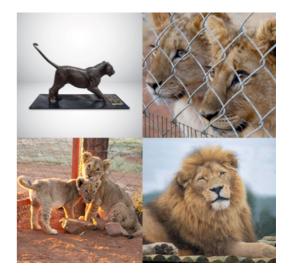
Length: 170cm, Width: 55 cm, Height: 111cm, Weight: 200 Kg Square metres: 0.94

Born in a lion breeding facility in South Africa, 'Hilts' was most likely taken from his mother when just a few days old and hand-reared by unwitting, paying volunteers. Tourists would have paid to take selfies while petting him, and when he became older, to walk with him. He would then have been used for breeding purposes.

At this stage in his life, most lions in his situation would be transferred to canned hunting facilities to be shot by paying hunters, then their bones and other body parts sold for traditional medicines.

But this is where 'Hilts' life changed. 'Hilts' was rescued in 2019 and is now safe. However, the canned hunting industry is brutal, dangerous and tough – for animals and humans. We can't reveal his real name, where he is now, or use any close-up imagery of 'Hilts', only that he is free from harm and making a good recovery from his ordeal.

When 'Hilts' was first rescued, his carers reported that he was petrified of people and spent most of his time hidden deep in the thick vegetation of his enclosure, but he gradually became more relaxed and has made good progress. He eats and drinks well, and enjoys time exploring these days, rather than hiding away.





Born Free's Iman £5,000 excl.VAT



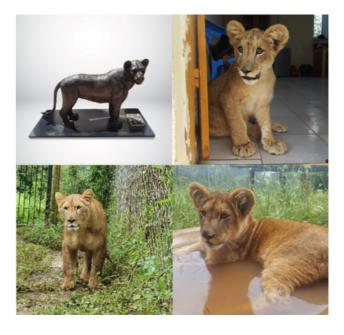
Iman is a young, orphaned lioness who was confiscated by police at the Somaliland/Ethiopia border. It is believed Iman was taken from the wild as a young cub in Ethiopia, and at just four to six weeks old, she was destined for life as an exotic pet for a buyer in the Middle East.

Initially Iman was cared for by Cheetah Conservation Fund in Somaliland, but as she grew in size, Born Free stepped in to offer Iman a lifetime home at Ensessa Kotteh, our wildlife rescue, conservation and education centre in Ethiopia. With permission from the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority and His Excellency Muse Bihi Abdi, President of the Republic of Somaliland, Iman was moved to Ensessa Kotteh in August 2019.

Located just outside Addis Ababa, the centre provides specialist care for orphaned or injured wild animals and those confiscated from illegal trade or rescued from captivity in the country.

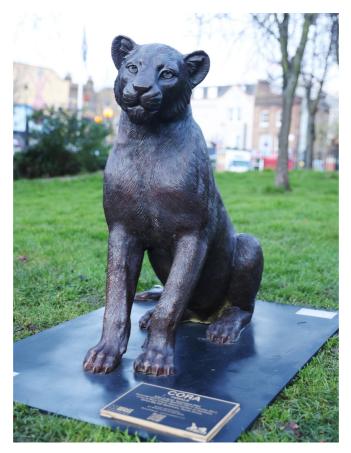
Ensessa Kotteh is currently home to a number of lions, cheetahs, hyenas, geladas, grivet monkeys, baboons and tortoises. The sanctuary also conducts conservation activities, provides outreach and environmental education and helps the Ethiopian government build capacity in wildlife management. Where possible, animals arriving at Ensessa Kotteh are rehabilitated and returned to the wild. If this is not possible, they are given lifetime care in spacious, natural enclosures.

Sadly, Iman will never be able to be released back into the wild, because she was taken from her mother at such a young age and hasn't been taught the essential skills she needs to survive. At Ensessa Kotteh, Iman has thrived, and will be able to live free from harm for the rest of her life, thanks to the team's specialist care. IMAN (No. 10) Length: 166cm, Width: 72cm Height: 98cm, Weight: 233 Kg Square metres: 1.20





Born Free's Cora £5,000 excl.VAT



Cora the lioness was born and raised in captivity and suffers from some ongoing health problems, due to the poor nutrition and cramped conditions she endured for many years. Because of a severe vitamin A deficiency, Cora walks heavily on her front legs and needs to be regularly monitored.

Believed to be around 15 years old, Born Free was alerted to her plight in December 2016, when the Pena Escrita Zoo in Almunecar, southern Spain, closed due to bankruptcy and concerns about animal welfare.

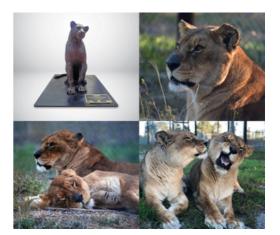
Cora and her lifelong companion, a lioness named Alpha, were collected from Spain, and brought to safety at a temporary home in Belgium called Natuurhulpcentrum wildlife rescue centre (NHC). The NHC team worked with Dutch animal rights organisation Stichting AAP to collect them from the facility, overseen by Spanish animal charity FAADA.

Whilst the lionesses were cared for in Belgium, Born Free constructed a spacious new enclosure for them in South Africa at the Panthera Africa Big Cat Sanctuary, funded by Born Free's partner, British Airways Holidays as part of their long-term commitment to animal welfare. In November 2019, they made the journey from their temporary home at NHC to the new Born Free Rescue Section at the sanctuary, 140kms from Cape Town. Their journey was supported by IAG Cargo who provided the lionesses' flights.

Alpha and Cora were released into their new enclosure where they are able to enjoy the sunshine and new space they have in their ancestral home. Alpha and Cora have lived their lives in captivity and will sadly never be able to be released into the wild, but at Panthera Africa Big Cat Sanctuary they will be given expert care.

Cora has become relaxed in her new surroundings and is enjoying the sunshine and peace and quiet. She loves spending time with Alpha and they have a very close relationship. CORA (No. 13)

Length: 135cm, Width: 95 cm Height: 108cm, Weight: 220 Kg Square metres: 1,28





Born Free's Cecil £5,000 excl.VAT



In 2015, Cecil the lion made global headlines when he was brutally killed by an American trophy hunter in Zimbabwe.

A magnificent 13-year-old dark maned male lion, and the head of two prides, Cecil was an important part of an ongoing research project, and a favourite with tourists who visited the region on safaris. The world was shocked to learn he had been lured away from the relative safety of the National Park where he lived, shot and wounded with a bow and arrow, and only finally killed several hours later.

The suffering Cecil endured touched hearts and minds. The cowardice and selfishness of the hunter generated outrage. There were strong calls for trophy hunting to be banned, for countries to prohibit trophy imports, and for airlines and other carriers to cease transporting wildlife trophies. A wide debate ensued on the ethics and morality of trophy hunting, and its purported value to local communities and wildlife conservation. Change was promised, studies were initiated, and reports and papers were published on the trophy hunting industry, its impacts, and the possible consequences of restrictions or bans.

Fast forward to 2022, and more than 5,000 lion trophies have been exported, the majority from captive bred lions in South Africa.

Born Free opposes the killing of animals for sport or pleasure, on ethical grounds. We also challenge the claims made by proponents of trophy hunting that it delivers significant conservation and community benefits, or that it positively contributes to the sustainable use of wildlife. While we respect the right of sovereign nations to manage their own wildlife, we hope that, over time, more will decide to reject trophy hunting and seek other ways of securing a future for our global wildlife heritage.

CECIL (No. 18)

Length: 155cm, Width: 84 cm Height: 82cm, Weight: 230 Kg Square metres: 1.30





Born Free's Louga £5,000 excl.VAT



LOUGA (No. 17)

Length: 175cm, Width: 74 cm Height: 90cm, Weight: 230 Kg Square metres: 1.30

Louga was just a month old when he was sold by the circus which had 'owned' him since birth, to another travelling circus in France. Along with three lionesses, Angela, Bellone and Saida, he spent his entire life travelling the country, living in cramped beast wagons, forced to perform unnatural tricks under the bright lights, terrified of the whip and the loud music, and deprived of his freedom.

Although Louga is around 13 years old, he has no mane because his former owner castrated him at a young age, to make him easier to handle and control.

Thankfully, all four lions were surrendered by the circus and moved to a temporary home at Tonga Terre d'Accueil, a rescue centre in Lyon, France. Then, Louga, Angela, Bellone and Saida arrived at their forever home at our Big Cat Rescue Centre at Shamwari in South Africa.

Louga is a large lion, and has a feisty personality. He's definitely the dominant member of this human-made pride of four, and usually instigates play with Angela and Bellone!

Now Louga and the lionesses receive lifetime care from our specialist team. They have a large natural enclosure, nutritious food, enrichment, and veterinary care. They are be able to explore their spacious surroundings, or observe from a viewing platform, sleep under a shady tree, socialise with each other or hide in the bushes if they want some privacy.





Double Bronze Lions: £10,000 excl. VAT



Double Cub Sculpture (No. 6) Length:155cm, Width: 130cm, Height: 97cm, Weight: 371 Kg, Square metres: 2.02



Double Cub Sculpture (No. 14) Length:142cm, Width: 100 cm, Height: 45cm, Weight: 211 Kg, Square metre: 1.42

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Born Free's Virginia and Bill £25,000 excl.VAT



No. 20 Length: 310 cm, Width: 150 cm, Height: 142cm, Weight: 1010 Kg Square metres: 6.82

Virginia McKenna OBE and Bill Travers MBE co-founded The Born Free Foundation, along with their eldest son Will Travers OBE, in 1984.

Virginia is a leading wildlife campaigner, actress and author. Bill, who sadly died in March 1994, was a wildlife campaigner, actor, screenwriter and director.

The couple were well known for starring as conservationists Joy and George Adamson in the 1966 film Born Free, telling the iconic story of orphaned lioness Elsa, who was successfully rehabilitated and returned to the wild. The role transformed the direction of both of their lives and careers, and helped spark a lifelong mission to protect wild animals and Keep Wildlife in the Wild.

Bill and Virginia were deeply moved by the plight of Pole Pole, the elephant – who appeared alongside them in the 1969 film An Elephant Called Slowly – who was later gifted to London Zoo by the Kenyan government following filming, and sadly died in captivity before she was able to be taken to a sanctuary. This event, along with their deep-rooted love for wildlife and nature sparked when filming Born Free, led to them setting up our charity.

Today, Virginia is still actively involved with Born Free and serves as a Trustee.





Born Free's Joy and George £25,000 excl.VAT



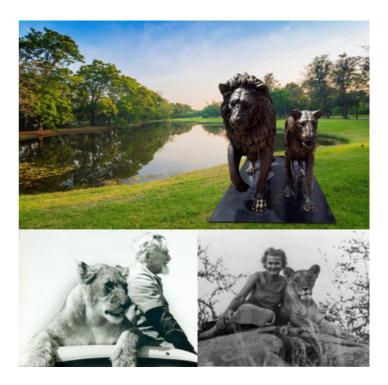
Joy and George Adamson were the real-life married couple who raised and rehabilitated orphaned lion cub Elsa and released her back into the wild, inspiring the 1966 film Born Free.

Pioneering naturalist, author and artist, Joy wrote her bestselling book Born Free in 1960, based on her husband George Adamson's diaries which documented their story.

In the film adaptation, Joy was played by Virginia McKenna OBE, whose real-life husband Bill Travers MBE portrayed George. Their experiences on set proved a life-changing experience for Virginia and Bill, and a turning point in their careers. They went on to co-found The Born Free Foundation, along with their eldest son Will Travers OBE, in 1984.

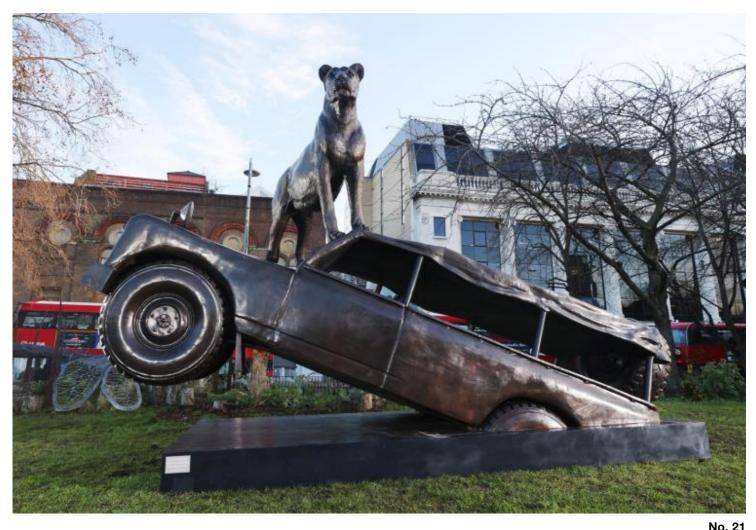
Whilst filming Born Free on location in Kenya, George was chief technical advisor, helping Virginia and Bill to work safely with lions, both on and off the set. George became known as known as Father of Lions, thanks to his devotion to Kenya's wild lion population and his ground-breaking work to rehabilitate captive or orphaned lions for release into the wild.

Joy and George eventually separated, but Joy remained an advocate for wild animals for the rest of her life. George formed a lifelong friendship with the Travers family, and later worked with Bill on a number of wildlife documentaries, including Born Free's sequel The Lions are Free, and Christian the Lion at World's End. No. 19 Length: 306cm, Width: 150 cm, Height: 175cm,Weight: 769 Kg Square metres: 4.59





Born Free's Elsa on a 4x4 Vehicle £50,000 excl.VAT



Length: 400cm, Width: 200 cm, Height: 3320 cm, Weight: 3000 Kg Square metres: 8.00

Elsa became world famous as the real life inspiration for Joy Adamson's autobiographical book Born Free (1960) and the subsequent film adaptation starring actors and Born Free Co-Founders Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers (1966), which sparked their passion for wildlife conservation.

Orphaned when only a few days old, Elsa was adopted by George and Joy Adamson, brought into their home, and cared for as she grew. Joy, who shared a special bond with Elsa, was determined that she should return to freedom in the wild, and the couple set about teaching her the essential skills that would enable her to survive on her own.

The iconic image of Elsa lying on top of a Land Rover is one of the most recognisable scenes from the film. After her eventual release into Meru National Park, Elsa successfully integrated with the wild lion population and went on to have cubs of her own.

Even though Elsa died in 1961, long before the Born Free Foundation was established, she is the inspiration for our charity and her legacy lives on through our work in Meru.







Terms and conditions of sale

•Proceeds from the sale of the statues will be used to recover the upfront costs of their creation, after which,100% of profits will be used to support Born Free Foundation's work.

•The price of all bronze sculptures are exclusive of VAT and delivery cost.

•Delivery of the sculptures can only take place after full payment has been received.

•Delivery options and associated costs (including buyers insurance) will be discussed with you at the time of payment being made and we can advise on suitable couriers or shippers. All payments to a courier and any associated transport requirements remain the responsibility of the buyer.

•Ownership of the sculpture passes to you at the time of clearance of full payment into our account. If the sculpture is not paid for in full it shall remain the property of Born Free or Gillie and Marc (artists) until payment is received.

•If payment is not received within 14 days of your offer being made for a sculpture, the sculpture will be made available for resale.

•Each installation is sold as displayed and every attempt will be made to retain the quality and integrity of each sculpture whilst in the grounds. Buyers should note that each lion sculpture is made of bronze and will naturally weather and age.

•All sculptures are fully insured by Born Free for the duration of their stay in the grounds.

Please contact Joanne Bartholomew (joanne@bornfree.org.uk) to purchase a sculpture.