



BARINGO GREAT RIFT VALLEY - ASPIRING GEOPARK KENYA

Ling'ok Hominin Footprints: Walking Across a Rift Valley Shore

A Walk That Lasted Thousands of Years

Beneath your feet lies a rare moment from the past – footprints left by humans thousands of years ago.

These impressions were made in soft, wet mud along the edge of an ancient lake. Over time, the mud dried, hardened, and was buried by new layers of sediment. Today, those layers have turned into rock, preserving the tracks.

Why They Matter

These footprints give us a direct glimpse of past human activity – how people moved, where they walked, and the environments they lived in. Ling'ok is one of the few places in the world where ancient human footprints are preserved in such remarkable detail, offering a rare opportunity to quite literally walk alongside our early ancestors.



How did they form?



Humans and animals walked across wet ground near a shallow lake shore and their footprints pressed into soft mud



The lake receded during the dry season and the mud dried preserving the footprints and mud cracks



During the wet season the lake level rises again and sediments quickly covered and protected the tracks



The sediment layers hardened into rock over thousands of years



Upper layers of the sediments are removed to uncover the ancient footprints

Pleistocene
Holocene

