



TRIP ITINERARY

The Best of Uganda

Uganda



Day 3

Following breakfast at the lodge, travel to National Park Headquarters to meet your guides for the day and begin your gorilla tracking experience. Experienced guides and trackers will accompany your party on an early morning trek into the dense rain forest on the mountain slopes. The journey, through dense foliage and up steep climbs, is abundantly rewarded with the lifetime experience of viewing mountain gorillas in their natural habitat. You will have an opportunity to be within meters of these magnificent apes, sharing in their daily lives and experiencing their day-to-day activities. Mountain gorillas are extremely rare with only an estimated 850 remaining in the wild. This is an experience you won't soon forget!

Following the trek, return to your accommodation and, if time allows, take a guided afternoon forest or community walk. Please note: tracking may be fairly strenuous with treks up to six hours or longer, at high altitudes, not uncommon. Also, mountain gorillas are wild animals and, as such, sightings cannot be guaranteed. However viewing success rates are over 90%.

Overnight: Buhoma Lodge

Day 4

Those with pre-purchased permits will depart for a second gorilla tracking experience following breakfast at the lodge. Guests not tracking gorillas may wish to enjoy other activities available in the area such as a forest walk, a visit to a local school/orphanage or Batwa pygmy village, and curio shopping.

In the afternoon depart Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park and travel (2-3 hours) to Ishasha in the southern part of Queen Elizabeth National Park. Time permitting, during our drive from Bwindi to Ishasha, we may visit a Community Project on the border of Queen Elizabeth National Park. Here the local people allow you to enjoy some time in their homesteads, as well as see some of the crops and curios they produce, and visit the local elephant trench project – which stops elephants coming into the village and raiding crops.

Overnight at Ishasha Wilderness Camp

Day 5

Morning and Afternoon game drives will be enjoyed in the Ishasha area, looking for the huge herds of buffalo, elephant, Uganda kob and of course the famous tree-climbing lion typically found in the area.

Overnight at Ishasha Wilderness Camp

Day 6

Spend the day enjoying game drives in the Ishasha sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Queen Elizabeth National Park spreads over 1,978 sq km in the western arm of the Great Rift Valley and is home to a wide variety of wildlife including elephants, lions, hippos, buffalo, Uganda kob, baboon, and many species of birds. With both a riverine and savannah habitat, the park includes the southern Ishasha area with its tree climbing lions and Maramagambo, one of the largest surviving natural forests in Uganda. The northern Mweya area, traversed by the equator and dominated by the scenery of crater lakes, is often occupied by large flocks of flamingos. A boat trip from Mweya along the Kazinga Channel, which joins Lakes Edward and George, provides one of the most memorable experiences offered by the park.

Overnight at Ishasha Wilderness Camp

Day 7

In the Mweya area of Queen Elizabeth National Park, also rich with wildlife, visitors will find vast numbers of Uganda's unique and strange Euphorbia, or "candelabra" tree. The many nearby crater lakes and mountain ranges provide a beautiful backdrop for your journey.

Enjoy a leisurely boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel in Queen Elizabeth National Park. You may encounter herds of elephant, buffalos and antelopes, families of warthogs, large groups of hippos, and crocodiles basking on the shore. Kazinga's shores are a haven for numerous birds, including many migratory species as they make their way south to warmer climates. The cruise also provides a spectacular view of the beautiful Mweya Peninsula and life in local fishing villages set along the banks.

Overnight at Mweya Safari Lodge

Day 8

On this day drive to Kibale Forest – a 2-3 hour drive from QENP (north) on good roads. On a clear day you may get views of the Rwenzoris in the distance.

Two nights spent in the area to allow time for chimpanzee tracking in the forest, (permits must be pre purchased). You can also do a forest walk (guided) during your stay, or simply enjoy the area and perhaps visit the Bigodi Swamps, or the Vanilla Farm close to Ndali. All meals included.



TRIP ITINERARY

The Best of Uganda

Uganda



Kibale is one of Uganda's enchanting forested parks. Here, you can hike in the park for hours observing the drama of life in a rain forest. The park contains pristine lowland tropical rain forest, montane forest, and mixed tropical deciduous forest. In addition to forest, you will also notice areas of grassland and of swamp. The forest is rich in wildlife. It is most noted for its primate population. Some of these are red-tailed monkey, diademed monkey, olive baboon, chimpanzee, black and white colobus. Some of the other mammals you might see are bushbuck, Harvey's red duiker, blue duiker, bush pig, and African civet. More difficult to spot are buffalo, waterbuck, hippo, warthog, and giant forest hog. Herds of elephant once travelled back and forth through the area. These elephants have become more and more rare, and now are seldom seen. The birdlike in the forest and grasslands of the forest is abundant. There are almost 300 species, which have been identified here. One particularly worth noting is the endemic to Kibale forest.

Overnight at Primate Lodge:

Day 9

You will either be driven or walk down to the Kibale Forest National Parks' headquarters to meet your guides for your morning's chimp tracking experience (depending which lodge you are staying at!). The forest is alive with noise and you should be lucky enough to see the habituated chimps during your trek.

Overnight at Primate Lodge:

Day 10

Depart after an early breakfast for the drive back to Entebbe, stopping for curio shopping on the roadside and a quick photo stop at the Equator. Arriving back in Entebbe, late afternoon in time for your flight home.

Includes:

- Airport transfers
- One way flight from Entebbe to Kihhihi on a scheduled flight
- 4x4 transport with English speaking local driver/guide as above
- Accommodation and meals as above (full board on safari, bed and breakfast in Entebbe)
- Bottled water in safari vehicle
- All park entrance fees, 1 x forest/community walk at Bwindi, 1 x boat cruise on Kazinga Channel, game drives in Queen Elizabeth National Park
- Full liability insurance cover
- 24 hour emergency contact

Excludes:

- Gorilla Permit of USD600 Bwindi – must be pre-booked/prepaid
- All flights and airport taxes
- Kibale Forest Chimpanzee tracking permits USD150 each

GENERAL INFORMATION – PLEASE ENSURE YOU READ THE FOLLOWING

Passports: Please ensure these are valid for travel and that you are in possession of valid visas (if required see below). You consult your doctor prior to your safari for information and advice on the use of anti-malaria medication. You take out comprehensive travel insurance to safeguard against cancellation and curtailment, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and personal belongings.

Visas: Visas can be obtained on arrival for USD50.

Health: The (www.who.int/en/) recommends that all travellers are inoculated against diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and polio as well as for Hepatitis B. Inoculation against Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Yellow Fever and Malaria tablets are also recommended by the (www.cdc.gov) for travel in Uganda. All travellers should seek advice from their local GP or travel clinic for up-to-date advice on vaccinations and different malarial options.

Insurance: As part of the Terms and Conditions of your trip with Native Escapes it is essential that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Due to a lack of access to international-standard medical facilities within the Republic of Congo, medical evacuation cover when travelling here must be for a minimum of US\$ 100 000.00 per person. Cancellation and curtailment cover is also crucial - particularly in the event that you miss the connecting flight to Odzala as you will need to pay for a private charter in full.

Native Escapes complies with the UK Package & Travel Regulations 1992. Holidays with flights included are covered by the company's ATOL Bond (Air Travel Organisers' Licence) held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). This means that in the unfortunate event that our company should fail, the CAA will arrange any necessary repatriation and any refund of monies paid to Native Escapes in advance. Our ATOL number is 9709. We have testimonials on our website: visit www.nativeescapes.com/aboutus for more information.



TRIP ITINERARY

The Best of Uganda

Uganda



- Chamburu (Kyamburu Gorge) chimpanzee permits USD 50 each
- Personal expenses such as porters, drinks, tips, visas and travel insurance
- Services/activities/meals not included above

This trip can be done on a small group or a privately guided basis, please contact us for details.

You can combine this trip with a safari in Tanzania or Kenya, or time spent on the beach in Tanzania.