



TRIP ITINERARY

Gorilla Safari

Congo



This, small, expertly guided tour is aimed to introduce you to the diversity of the region and in particular allow you to track Lowland Gorilla in the large forest clearings as well as meeting the researchers involved in their conservation. You spend your nights at luxury Camps, which allows you to relax each night in the rainforest. This is not for everyone but for those looking for an untamed environment in a little visited part of the World, this gorilla safari to Congo will be absolutely perfect.

At Native Escapes, we select adventures and accommodation according to particular interests, season of travel, budget and availability. We have travelled extensively in Africa, and have a good level knowledge of the destinations and things to do. Because we have visited many of the accommodations, we can make personal recommendations. We have on-the-ground services by way of ground handlers, who provide an excellent service in the event of emergency. Because we purchase accommodation through ground handlers who sell to agents such as ourselves around the world, we have access to excellent rates which are not available for direct bookings; you should pay no more for direct bookings than if you book through us. Our ground handlers' contact number will be included in your final documentation for you to contact should you require assistance during your trip.



Day 1 (Wednesday)

Arrive Brazzaville, where you will be met and transferred to your overnight accommodation at the Radisson Blu Hotel on a B&B basis.

Overnight Radisson Blu Hotel

Day 2 (Thursday)

Private flight from Brazzaville to Mboko airstrip in Odzala-Kokoua National Park (departs 1pm, Mondays & Thursdays, approx. 2-hour flight). On arrival at the airstrip in Odzala-Kokoua you are welcomed by the Kamba team and the adventure begins with a safari drive (2-3 hours) through the park's savanna and rainforest to your home for the next 3 nights, Ngaga Lodge.

This evening you'll join your guide around the fire for a conservation and gorilla track briefing to prepare you to set off on foot early in the morning in search of Western Lowland Gorillas. Spend 3 nights at Ngaga Lodge with guided activities and all meals & drinks included. 2 Gorilla Tracking Permits included in the 7-night Journey.

Days 3 & 4 (Friday & Saturday)

During your time at Ngaga, track Western lowland gorillas in the closed-canopy forests around the lodge (2 gorilla

TRIP ITINERARY

Gorilla Safari

Congo



tracks included). Get to know the forest and all its inhabitants by way of guided forest walks, night walks, village visits (on request), and enjoy spectacular sundowners.

Day 5 (Sunday)

After lunch, set off on kayaks down the Lekoli River on a gentle safari where you may encounter monkeys, elephants, forest buffalo, and a colorful array of birds along the river edge as you drift past and make your way to Lango Bai. Finish the journey on foot and arrive in time for a refreshing sundowner and revel in your surroundings. Lango Lodge, situated on the edge of Lango Bai, offers one of the most arresting views of any camp in Africa, wraparound walkways and elevated chalets maximize the views.

Spend 2 nights at Lango Lodge with guided activities and all meals & drinks included.

Day 6 (Monday)

Time at Lango Lodge is about getting up close with nature, walking in the footsteps of elephants on well-worn trails through streams, bays, and forests. Get in touch with this pristine landscape by getting wet and muddy on foot, or seek drier adventures in the forests that surround the bai. Watch flocks of green pigeons coming to roost, forest buffalo grazing, and if you are lucky encounter an elusive bongo or shy forest elephant and you may hear chimps call in the distance as you wade through the water in the bai and waterways in Lango's mystical forests.

Day 7 (Tuesday)

Set forth as the dawn breaks on an early morning walking safari followed by breakfast before you depart Lango. Follow a raised wooden walkway through the wetlands and hop on the vehicle for a game drive transfer to Mboko Lodge, situated where the forest meets the savanna. After lunch, enjoy a forest walk or a relaxing afternoon in camp on the river deck, followed by a late afternoon river cruise. Mboko is set along the Likeni River which leads into a network of waterways with surrounding savannas; cruise the winding waterways with a new view around every bend in the river. Spend 2 nights at Mboko Lodge with guided activities and all meals & drinks included.

Day 8 (Wednesday)

Mboko Lodge is the home of adventure. A combination of wide-open grasslands, gentle rivers, and towering forests provides a place of peace & adventure in equal measure. Alongside your guide, explore riverbanks and forests looking for colorful birdlife, forest elephants and buffalo, spotted hyenas, charismatic monkeys, and the shy bongo antelope and hippos found in this part of Odzala- Kokoua National Park.

At Mboko Lodge, activities are a combination of walking, boating, and kayaking through some of the Congo Basin's most beautiful habitats. Take a dip or cool your feet in the quiet, crystal streams found at Mboko. Relax on the river deck which offers a unique vantage point to look for birds, you may also see monkeys or flutters of butterflies while you enjoy the tranquility of the river babbling past.



TRIP ITINERARY

Gorilla Safari

Congo



Day 9: (Thursday)

Depart after breakfast on a game drive through the savanna to Mboko airstrip. Kamba's private plane will be waiting to fly you back to Brazzaville to connect with your international flight.

Please Note: Activities described above are an example of what might happen from day to day. Local climatic and other conditions occasionally dictate changes to this in order for our guests to have the best possible chances of seeing desirable species. Adaptations to these activities can also be made on request where this is required for specialised group bookings. Each group of guests has two opportunities to track gorillas.

Contact us for more information.

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 remain the responsibility of the guest. Note that for the Congo specifically:

- All guests must obtain a visa prior to arrival - no country is exempt. A "Letter of Invitation" is required to apply for a visa. We need a scanned copy of the guests' passport to complete this letter, which includes information regarding date of arrival, voucher numbers, trip code.
- Once the letter is complete, we forward this to our ground team in Brazzaville, along with a copy of the passport, to action accordingly.
- All letters need to be stamped by a Congo Customs Official and there is a charge of US\$ 40.00 per person for this service which is added to your quote.
- A stamped copy of this letter will then be sent to you and must be given to the guest to apply for their visa.
- All guests must carry a printed copy of this letter of invitation with them, along with the visa, when they travel to Congo.

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 and Typhoid is also recommended by the (www.cdc.gov) for travel in South Africa. Depending on the area visited, anti-malarial drugs may also be recommended. 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.