

Uganda Wildlife Tour: Itinerary and Information

Entebbe to Entebbe
10 Nights: Camping
2 Nights: Cabin

Included Highlights:

- Kampala
- Equator
- Lake Mburo National Park
- Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and surrounding villages
- Gorilla trek
- Queen Elizabeth National Park
- Tree-climbing lions of Ishasha
- Village walks
- Birding walks
- Chimpanzee trek (permit included)
- Kazinga Channel
- Rwenzori (Mountains of the Moon)
- Kaniyo-Pabidi
- Murchison Falls and Murchison Falls National Park
- Victoria Nile boat trip
- Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary

Optional Activities:

- Rhino tracking on foot
- "Source of the Nile"
- Pygmy Village visit
- Nile white-water rafting
- Bungee jumping

Uganda, "The Pearl of Africa", offers a unique diversity of wildlife, natural beauty, and friendly inhabitants that all combine to make this country one of Africa's hidden gems. This tour includes the obvious attractions of trekking in indigenous forests to see wild gorillas and chimpanzees, as well as exploring vast waterways, mystical villages hidden in mist, and the lesser-known sights of tree-climbing lions, huge pods of hippopotamus, and of course, the endless variety of plains animals.

This tour endeavours to explore the scenic beauty of Uganda, its people, and its wildlife. We will cover approximately 2000km, some of it on extremely bad roads, but the rewards are unequalled.

Weather, roads, and other local conditions will influence the route chosen on each tour, and we may run the tour in reverse if required. Clients should be flexible in this

regard. Clients should be equipped with an open mind and a spontaneous disposition in order to best enjoy the superb offerings of Uganda.

Clients fly into/out of Entebbe airport. Transfers and pre-/post-tour nights can be booked for the Lake Heights Hotel near Entebbe, or Adrift Camp in Jinja. Meals are available.

DAY 1: ENTEBBE - LAKE MBURO NATIONAL PARK

Our Uganda adventure begins on departure from our hotel near Entebbe at 08h00 on day 1 of the tour. We make our way through the outskirts of the vibrant capital city, Kampala, before starting our journey west. On our route today, we visit a drum market and we also stop at the equator.

In the afternoon, we enter Lake Mburo National Park, known for its plains game and large hippo population. We camp for the night on the lake shore.

Meals: D (Lunch- Own Expense)

Distance: 247 Km

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Drum Market
- Equator
- Lake Mburo National Park

DAY 2: BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST

We start the day with a game drive/walk, and then exit the park to travel through a landscape of rolling hills that are alive with banana plantations and herds of impressive long-horned Ankole cattle.

Though the roads are rough, this afternoon we travel on some of the most scenic roads in Uganda, passing remote villages often shrouded in mist, towards the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

We set up camp for the night at the edge of the forest, and it is with great excitement that we prepare for the following day.

Meals: B L D

Distance: 247 Km

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Game drive on the way out of Mburo Park
- Scenic drive to Bwindi

DAYS 3 - 4: BWINDI GORILLA TREK

Today we experience what is undoubtedly the highlight for all: trekking in a true wilderness to spend time with the majestic mountain gorilla. We split up into small groups and, led by local guides, trek up into this true jungle to locate and spend time with a family of the few remaining wild mountain gorillas. The hike in the jungle is a real adventure and forms part of the overall experience. Guests should come prepared for a hike through dense forest and uneven terrain.

As the gorilla permits are limited, we will allow two days for the entire group to participate. Should all permits be available on day 4, we will visit Lake Bunyoni on day 3.

When not gorilla trekking, guests have the option to go on a local village walk that is led by a local guide. The forest offers fantastic birding and guests can also spend time searching for the magnificent birds inhabiting the fringe of the forest.

Meals: B L D; B L D

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Optional Activities: Forest walks, Birding walks, Pygmy Village visits

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
- Gorilla Tracking
- Bwindi Jungle

DAYS 5 - 6: QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK - ISHASHA

Leaving the mountains and forests behind us, we drop down to the grasslands of Queen Elizabeth National Park. Here we will spend two nights camping at a remote location within the National Park. Besides abundant mammal, reptile and bird species, Ishasha is renowned for its huge tree-climbing lions. Fantastic birdlife and numerous species of primates can be found in this area. We will do an extensive game drive, searching the tall fig trees and savannah plains for lions and other game. Our guide will take time to give us more information on the various wildlife species encountered in the park, which covers over 1900 km².

Meals: B L D; B L D

Distance: 143 Km

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Queen Elizabeth National Park
- Camp on the Ishasha River
- 2 nights within the Park
- Tree-climbing lions
- Massive hippo population

DAY 7: QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK – RWENZORI MOUNTAINS

Packing up camp, we travel the length of the park and through the Maramagambo Forest, and make our way to the Rwenzoris– the “Mountains of the Moon”. After an

easy walk through numerous rural villages and up to the base of the forest to the Rwenzori lookout point, we have a picnic lunch.

Rising some 5000m above sea level, the slopes of these mountains are covered in tropical forest and yet the peaks are often snow-capped- a bewildering sight considering their proximity to the equator.

After lunch, we proceed down the mountain with our vehicle towards the outskirts of Fort Portal.

Meals: B L D

Distance: 94 Km

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Drive through Maramogambo Forest
- Outskirts of Lake Edward
- Rwenzori Mountains
- Village Walk

DAY 8: MURCHISON FALLS NATIONAL PARK

After an early start, we leave the mountains behind us and travel through the luminous green tea plantations surrounding Fort Portal. We cover a vast distance today, mostly on rough roads. Our destination tonight is the Kaniyo-Pabidi Camp in Murchison Falls National Park, which provides relatively comfortable facilities.

Meals: B L D

Distance: 300 Km

Accommodation: Wood Cabins

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Murchison Falls National Park
- Accommodation at The Old Jane Goodall Institute

DAY 9 & 10: MURCHISON FALLS/VICTORIA NILE

Early this morning, we set off on a guided walk in search of a group of habituated chimpanzees. We hope to spend an hour with the animals, before returning to camp. Depending on where the chimps were last seen, we may have to drive a short distance, from where we can then start our chimpanzee track. Then it's off to Murchison Falls, a narrow gap through which the Nile River falls 40m into the Rift Valley. We will spend some time here exploring the Falls. Next, we travel downstream and cross the Nile, in order to enjoy two nights in the northern part of the park. In this section, the park opens up to wide open spaces, rolling hills, and scenery of a different kind, and also gives you the opportunity to see a different species of giraffe known as the Rothschild giraffe. We will camp for two nights in a big game-area.

Meals: B L D, B L D

Distance: Roughly 50 Km per Day

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Chimpanzee Track with Included Permit
- Murchison Falls

- Northern Part of Murchison Falls National Park
- Wild camping in big game-area

DAY 11: ZIWA RHINO SANCTUARY

Rising early, we board a boat that will take us on a leisurely cruise slowly down the Nile River. Along the way, we hope to catch a glimpse of the rare shoebill stork, as well as a multitude of other animals. At times it may not be possible to travel by boat; we will then drive by road.

Reunited with our vehicle, we exit the park and travel to the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, a project established to reintroduce rhino into their original habitat in protected areas. We camp for the night.

Meals: B L D

Distance: 204 Km

Accommodation: Camping (2-man dome tent)

Included Highlights/Activities:

- Victoria Nile boat cruise
- Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary
- Scenic drive

DAY 12: JINJA

This morning, clients who wish to, may partake in tracking rhino on foot through the thick bush (own expense). After packing up camp for the last time, we set off for Jinja, where we spend our last night in relative comfort at Adrift Camp. Tonight we enjoy dinner (own expense) at the restaurant to celebrate our adventures.

Meals: B L (D- Own Expense)

Distance: 226 Km

Accommodation:

Included Highlights/Activity:

- Drive through Many Villages
- Jinja (Adventure Capital of Uganda)

DAY 13: JINJA to ENTEBBE

The tour ends after breakfast this morning. The truck will head back to Entebbe at 14:00 to miss the peak hour of Kampala traffic. Clients are welcome to jump on this transfer at no additional cost; however, we cannot adjust this time as the guide has post-tour responsibilities to attend to.

Alternatively, the Nile River offers some of the wildest one-day white-water rafting in the world- a day's adventure not to be missed. From the Adrift Camp, clients are also able to spend a day exploring a local community project. Both of these activities are optional and at your own expense. We advise those that would like to catch our 14:00 transfer back to Entebbe to organise HALF-DAY TRIPS on this day. If you wish to simply relax at the "Source of the Nile", or spend an extra night at the camp, you are more than welcome to book a post-tour night in Jinja.

Meals: B

Distance: 116 Km

DEPARTURES

These tours depart from ENTEBBE every second Sunday.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

When required, we will run this itinerary in reverse. For this tour, an open and flexible mind is essential to deal with the detours, delays and other inconveniences encountered in Africa.

A sleeping bag, towel and pillow are required for this tour.

Visas are required by most nationalities for Uganda, and clients are responsible for obtaining these. Precautions against malaria are advisable and yellow fever inoculations are required.

A small daypack is advisable for the treks. The recommended currency for this tour is the US Dollar, in small denominations – all currency notes should be dated 2000 or later.

Our price includes all transport, accommodation, entry fees and permits, one gorilla trek and one chimpanzee trek, game drives and walks, group equipment, professional guides and most meals. Alcohol, soft drinks, bottled water, curios, tips, visas, taxes, and optional excursions are for the client's own expense.

Before departure, clients will be required to enter into an agreement pertaining to our booking conditions and general information. Clients are required to have their own comprehensive personal travel insurance.