



GORILLAS & GAMEPARKS

Uganda | Rwanda | Kenya

19 nights

Day 1: Entebbe - Kampala

Jambo! Welcome to Africa. Once you have cleared Immigration & Customs, proceed to the Arrivals area and look for a driver holding The Safari Co sign. You will then be transferred to Kampala, Uganda's capital. The rest of the day is at leisure so you can relax after your flight. This evening you can dine at the hotel restaurant or go in to the city.

Accommodation: Silver Springs Hotel or similar

Day 2: Fort Portal

(B,L,D)

Leaving Kampala in the morning, we drive west to Fort Portal. This laid-back town lies in the northern foothills of the Rwenzori Mountains in a heartland of lush tea-growing plantations.

Accommodation: Mountains of the Moon Hotel or similar

Day 3 : Fort Portal

(B,L,D)

The Kibale Forest is 766 sq km and largely comprises of rainforest where 60 mammal and 335 bird species reside, as well as many different insects and plants. There are 13 primate species, of which the chimpanzees are a star attraction. Today you will be driven deep in to the forest to meet your guides who will escort you through the park to look for these fascinating primates in their natural habitat. Sometimes high up in trees, sometimes on the ground playing around – wherever you find a chimpanzee community – you will be left in awe of their strong family ties and their amazing agility. The rest of the day is free to relax at the hotel or explore the town and surrounds.

Accommodation: Mountains of the Moon Hotel or similar

Day 4: Queen Elizabeth National Park

(B,L,D)

Our destination today is Queen Elizabeth NP which is especially scenic, with two lakes connected by a channel overlooked by a high peninsula. We arrive after lunch and take an afternoon boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel. It is well worth the trip to see the thousands of hippo, the abundant bird life and busy fishing village. This evening we dine in the lodge's scenic restaurant overlooking the Kazinga.

Accommodation: Mweya Lodge or similar

Day 5: Kigali

(B,L)

We leave Queen Elizabeth NP in the morning and drive through to Rwanda, crossing the border at Gatuna. Once in Rwanda we will drive to the capital city of Kigali. Our hotel has a popular restaurant for you to enjoy this evening

Accommodation: Chez Lando Hotel or similar

Day 6: Ruhengeri

(B,L,D)

A sobering few hours will be spent at the Genocide Museum in the morning, followed by a visit to the carving and curio markets. In the afternoon we will drive through stunning scenery and steep-terraced farmland to Ruhengeri where we base ourselves for the next two days. Our hotel has a lively rooftop bar and is only 5 minutes walk from the centre of town.

Accommodation: The Pastoral Centre of our Lady Fatima Hotel or similar

Day 7: Ruhengeri**(B,L,D)**

Free day. You might like to hike in to The Volcanoes National Park to visit Dian Fossey's gravesite, take a canoe trip down the Mukungwa River through rural Rwanda or visit The Gorilla Museum set up by The Diane Fossey Fund.

Accommodation: The Pastoral Centre of our Lady Fatima Hotel or similar

Day 8: Kisoro**(B,L,D)**

A short drive this morning, back into Uganda through the border at Cyanika. Afternoon at leisure to relax, have a look around the town and prepare your gear for the gorilla trek tomorrow.

Accommodation: Ikoro Hotel or similar

Day 9: Gorilla Trekking Day**(B,L,D)**

We will be picked up early in the morning and taken to the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park entrance. From here we will be split into groups of 8 with a guide and park rangers, then begin our hike in the rain forest to see the magnificent mountain gorillas. Expect to trek between 1 to 5 hours through thick forest with overhanging vines, moss covered trees and Giant Lobelias that thrive in the tropical climate. Depending on where the gorillas are, you may have to go off the track and climb steeply through thick bush. After all the effort of your climb, you will be overawed when you finally come across a family of gorillas. There are around 900 mountain gorillas left in the world and nothing could be more of a privilege than to spend an hour watching them as they go about their daily routine of feeding, playing, cleaning and resting in their own territory. An unforgettable experience! After the trek we will be transferred to Lake Bunyonyi.

Accommodation: Bunyonyi Overland Resort – room with ensuite or similar

Day 10: Lake Bunyonyi**(B,L,D)**

The Lake is reputed to be one of the deepest in Africa and is fantastic for swimming in. The surrounding hills are the home of the Bakiga people who are cultivators by tradition. We'll spend the morning visiting a local school then back to the truck for lunch followed by a leisurely afternoon boat cruise around the islands.

Accommodation: Bunyonyi Overland Resort – room with ensuite or similar

Day 11: Jinja**(B,L,D)**

It is a reasonably long drive through to Jinja where we will spend the next few nights. The luxuriant vegetation covering the river banks and the diversity of bird life attracted by the river fish and insects, complete a stunning vista as you sip a cold drink in the camp bar overlooking the Nile river.

Accommodation: Nile Porch – permanent tent with ensuite or similar

Day 12: Jinja**(B,L)**

Free day. Mountain Biking, Quad Biking, Horse Riding, Village Walks, Birding and Fishing on the Nile are just some of the optional activities available for you to do here.

Accommodation: Nile Porch - permanent tent with ensuite or similar

Day 13: Kenyan Highlands**(B,L,D)**

Today we cross into Kenya where we'll stay up in the Kenyan highlands just outside of Eldoret.

Our river camp is a laid-back resort with a pool, shady gardens and a very vibrant bar with unique furnishings.

Accommodation: Naiberi River Camp – ensuite room or similar

Day 14: Nakuru**(B,L,D)**

This morning we travel down through the very picturesque Eldama Ravine to Nakuru, located in the Rift Valley. Our accommodation is in self-contained cottages on a working farm with

beautiful gardens and excellent facilities. You can spend the afternoon going on a farm walk and/or visit the Kenana knitters project. *Accommodation: Kembu Farm Cottages or similar*

Day 15: Lake Nakuru (B,L,D)

Today we enter Lake Nakuru National Park and spend the day game driving. This small park is packed with wildlife. The soda lake has over 400 species of birdlife - an ornithologist's paradise. It is also home to both the black and white rhino, and where some scenes from the movie "Out of Africa" were filmed

Accommodation: Kembu Farm Cottages or similar

Day 16: Lake Naivasha (B,L,D)

This afternoon we arrive at Lake Naivasha and take a boat ride on the lake viewing hippos, fish eagles and birdlife before arriving at Elsamere, the former home of the late Joy & George Adamson. Joy became world famous for her pioneering conservation work and relationship with the lioness Elsa, as told in her bestselling book and subsequent film, Born Free. After a video presentation on the life of the Adamson's, enjoy a delicious afternoon tea in the gardens.

Accommodation: Fish Eagle Lodge or similar

Day 17: Masai Mara (B,L,D)

Today we drive into the Masai Mara stopping along the way for lunch. As we get closer to the park you will see herds of goats & cows wandering in a cloud of dust through the vast plains dutifully watched by their Maasai owners. We enter the main gate by mid afternoon and drive through to Sekenani Camp, each tent is situated on a raised platform with a bathroom complete with a full-length bathtub.

Accommodation: Sekenani Camp – permanent tent with ensuite or similar

Day 18: Masai Mara (B,L,D)

We spend the day game driving around the park through vast herds of zebra, wildebeest and antelope. Hopefully we will also spot some of the The Big 5 (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo & rhino). The Masai Mara is quite simply, one of the greatest wildlife attractions in the world and at this time of year (July to Oct) we should see the migration which is spectacular. We will stop at The Mara river for a short guided walk and see what animals might be around the river at the time. In the afternoon we will visit a Maasai village to meet the locals and learn about some of their age-old customs and the way they live their semi-nomadic lifestyle.

Accommodation: Sekenani Camp – permanent tent with ensuite or similar

Day 19: Nairobi (B,L)

Today we journey through the Rift Valley and up the escarpment where we stop for photo opportunities, before continuing on to Nairobi, Kenya's capital. Tonight you might like to eat in the famous Carnivores Restaurant which is located in the grounds of our hotel.

Accommodation: Tamarind Tree Hotel or similar

Day 20: Nairobi (B)

You will be transferred to the airport today.

DEPARTURES

06 Jun 2021
17 Jul 2021
28 Aug 2021
10 Oct 2021

PRICE

NZ\$8,265 per person twin share
NZ\$1,200 single supplement (willing to share option may be available)
Prices subject to change until confirmed and paid in full.

INCLUSIONS

- 19 nights accommodation as indicated
- Meals as indicated (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- Sightseeing as indicated
- Services of experienced driver/guide plus camp/cook assistant
- Fully equipped safari vehicle, with camping / cooking equipment
- All road tolls, vehicle taxes, National Park entry fees
- Airport transfers (day 1 & day 20 only)

EXCLUSIONS

- International airfares
- Travel Insurance
- Entry Visa to all countries
- Items of a personal nature (eg. drinks, souvenirs)
- Any other optional activities you choose to take yourself
- Gorilla Permit USD\$780
- Chimpanzee permit USD\$230