

5 DAYS –GORILLA ADVENTURE SAFARI (ROAD OPTION)



This amazing adventure takes us to ‘Bwindi Impenetrable Forest’ in Uganda’s mountainous far southwestern tip where you will have the opportunity to track Mountain Gorillas.

Highlights:

- Discover the southern region of the Pearl of Africa.
- Unforgettable encounter with the Mountain Gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park
- Meet, explore and learn from the local communities.
- Support sustainable tourism initiatives.

Your Safari at a Glance

<u>Days</u>	<u>Routes/activities</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Meal Plan</u>
Day 1	Arrival at Entebbe international airport, meet and greet transfer to the Guest House	Papyrus Guest House	B,B
Day 2	Drive to Nkuringo via the Equator and Lake Bunyonyi.	Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge	B, L, D
Day 3	Gorilla Tracking - Nkuringo or Rushaga Gorilla groups	Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge	B, L, D
Day 4	Optional activities in Nkuringo	Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge	B, L, D
Day 5	Drive back to Entebbe	Optional day room use in Entebbe.	B,



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ENTEBBE & OPTIONAL MABAMBA SWAMP TOUR

Upon arrival as per your international flight details, Clear immigration, collect your luggage with assistance from our airport support who will lead you to arrivals to meet our representative and driver and transfer to the Guest House driving for approx.20mins upon exiting the airport.

Optional Extra: In the afternoon, You depart by car and transfer to the docking point for about 10mins, settle in the speed boat crossing to the swamp(40mins) and then move to a canoe that will comfortably maneuver in the swamp as you search for the rare shoebill and other bird species.

NB, the activity duration ranges from 1- 4 hours but depends on the day's location of the Shoebill and the client's interest in other bird species. (usually takes longer for clients specifically interested in birds) Mabamba Swamp, one of the best places for spotting rare shoebill storks, although due to their scarce population, sightings are not guaranteed. Return to the boat and enjoy a relaxed cruise on Lake Victoria.

- Overnight at Papyrus Guest House <https://papyrusguesthouse.com/>
- Room type – Garden Room
- Meal plan – No Meals included

DAY 2: DRIVE TO BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST – SOUTHERN SECTOR (500KM -9-10HOURS)

Enjoy an early breakfast and travel to Western Uganda across the beautiful landscape of central Uganda made of rolling hills and cultivated terraces with a coffee break at the equator crossing.

The journey is long but grants the opportunity to admire the beautiful nature and the Ugandan countryside. Expect to bypass forests, towns, lakes, rivers, markets and local farms with photography and stretching stops.

- Overnight at Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge <https://www.mountaingorillalodge.com/>
- Room type – Deluxe cottage
- Meal plan – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner – Includes all soft drinks, local beers and house wines

DAY 3: GORILLA TRACKING IN BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, at around 7:30 am, with packed lunch and drinking water you will be transferred to the briefing point for the briefing on the dos and the don'ts while with the gorillas. You then continue to the forest for the start of the actual gorilla tracking in a group of 8 participants accompanied by escorts/guides and rangers from Uganda wildlife Authority.

The duration of the trek is only determined by the location of the primates on the day of tracking, and the time taken to find the gorillas can take from an hour to a full day, after spotting them, spend 1 hour of viewing and hike back, meet the vehicle and drive back to the lodge.

The beauty of this rainforest is spectacular. The area offers a dramatic, steeply forested landscape and is incredibly dense, but crisscrossed by numerous animal trails, allowing access to tourists. The time taken and the terrain vary as per the movements of these great primates. The thrill of spending time observing these gentle and endangered giants is an awesome, exciting experience to be long savoured. Many find it to be a rare and moving opportunity. The tracking can take place at Nkuringo or at Rushaga (1hr drive from Nkuringo), as per the gorilla permits obtained.

Upon return, relax at the lodge and, for those who like, at 5.00 pm either stroll through the community center or drive up to the "Top of the World" - the name given to the football field, high up in Nkuringo which offers amazing views over the peaks and forests around Nkuringo. A great way to stretch your legs after the gorilla tracking and to enjoy a sundowner.

- Overnight at Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge
- Room type – Deluxe cottage
- Meal plan – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner – Includes all soft drinks, local beers and house wines

DAY 4: DAY IN NKURINGO VILLAGE, WITH OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES.

On this day, you will either relax at the lodge while enjoying the stunning views of the volcanoes and the forest OR you can opt to engage in the optional activities available. For example:

NETT RATES

Buninga Batwa Experience (\$50 pp): an informative project run by USAID and the local Batwa community - the Batwa tribe was forced to leave their home in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park in 1991 when it was declared a UNESCO Heritage site for gorillas only. They had been living in the forest as nomadic hunter-gatherers for millennia, in perfect balance with the flora and fauna around. Moving out and suddenly living in communities with a completely different way of life has proven to be a huge challenge. They now survive as best as they can and earn a living explaining their previous life in the forest and their rich heritage.

Lake Mutanda hike and canoe (\$75 per person)

This morning after an early breakfast, drive to Rubuguri Junction (10km) to start a nice **hike across beautiful landscapes and local communities** - a great opportunity to experience authentic village life (9km – 2/3 hours hike). Upon arrival at **Lake Mutanda**, you then “settle” in a dugout canoe for 1.5-2 hours of gentle relaxed cruising across the lake, enjoying the beautiful panorama, enjoy a picnic lunch and drive back to the lodge.

Of course, you could also drive from the lodge directly to the lake (20k - 90 minutes), enjoy the canoe ride around the lake and drive all the way back to the lodge again. Guests decide!

Other possible activities <https://www.mountaingorillalodge.com/activities/>

- Overnight at Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge
- Room type – Deluxe cottage
- Meal plan – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner – Includes all soft drinks, local beers and house wines

DAY 5: DRIVE BACK TO ENTEBBE (500KM -9-10HOURS)

After an early breakfast enjoy another glimpse of the misty jungle then start the drive back to Entebbe airport. If you didn't get a chance to view Lake Bunyonyi on day 1, you will have the chance to see it today. Lunch at Igongo cultural center then continue via the Equator.

- Meal Plan: Breakfast and Lunch

Depending on your departure flight either enjoy day room/overnight at your hotel or guest house or wait for your departure flight at the Airport.

Kindly note that to be on the safe side we recommend to book only night flights or to overnight in Entebbe

RATES IN USD PER PERSON SHARING IN A TWIN /DOUBLE

VALIDITY 01.01.26 – 31.12.26.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	NET RATES IN USD PER PERSON SHARING IN TWIN/ DOUBLE ROOM					
	HIGH SEASON (January, February, June, July, August, September, December)			LOW SEASON (March, April, May, October, November)		
	SAFARI ARRANGEMENT	PERMITS & PARK FEES	TOTAL COST	SAFARI ARRANGEMENT	PERMITS & PARK FEES	TOTAL COST
2Px	2512	800	US\$3312	2084	800	US\$2884
4pax	2167	800	US\$2967	1854	800	US\$2654
6pax	2052	800	US\$2852	1624	800	US\$2424
Single Room supplement	US\$450			US\$324		

Supplement for a French speaking guide - \$200 per vehicle per trip (maximum 6pax)

Included in the above quotes:

- Accommodation and meal plan as described.
- 1 Gorilla tracking permit per person.
- Park/Forest Fees
- Drinking water in the vehicle (1litre per person per day).
- All the excursions and activities indicated above under the supervision of a professional experienced English-speaking guide.
- Private Transfers in 4x4 vehicle (Landcruiser) with experienced English-speaking driver-guide
- AMREF Evacuation Insurance cover.
- Government taxes

Excluded from the above quote:

- Uganda Entry Visa fee
- International air flights
- All activities indicated as optional such as Hike and canoe activity on Lake Mutanda (\$75 per person), Mabamba Shoe bill excursion on day 1 (\$150 pp), activities in Nkuringo on day 4 etc
- Any optional activity not indicated in above program.
- All drinks
- Day-use room or extra night in Entebbe the last night
- Gratuities and Tips

TOUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A 30% deposit of the total tour price will be required to secure a booking, the balance being due 45 days before the tour departure date.

Bookings not secured by the appropriate deposit will be released.

Cancellation between 90 and 45 days of tour departure will incur a 30% of tour price penalty charge. Confirmed bookings cancelled within 45 days of the tour departure date or no show will incur 100% of tour price penalty charge.

Availability of accommodation and activities is not guaranteed; reservations will be made after receiving confirmation of the final itinerary and the payment of the requested deposit. Should any of the quoted accommodation not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable option, which might affect the final quoted price.

All clients who participate in this tour must be adequately covered by medical insurance as well as travel insurance to protect them in case of unforeseen circumstances.

Rates specified for this tour are subject to change without notice, however every effort will be made to maintain them. In the event of any change of Government taxes or operating conditions that affect the rates we reserve the right to pass on these charges.

*** UGANDA GORILLA PERMIT CANCELLATION POLICY**

(different and separate from the tour cancellation policy)

Gorilla Permits will be guaranteed ONLY upon receipt of the full deposit since we need to immediately pay Uganda Wildlife Authority Offices in order to secure the permits.

Cancellations received on full payment:

More than 90 days before the tracking date, 25% cancellation fee

89 to 46 days before the tracking date, 50% cancellation fee

45 to 9 days before the tracking date, 75% cancellation fee

8 to 0 days before the tracking date, 100% cancellation fee

Important: the minimum age required for gorilla tracking is 15 years and in case of flu or of any other airborne disease the person will not be allowed to meet with the gorillas.