



10 DAY UGANDA ADVENTURE

If you like close encounters with wildlife, friendly people and stunning scenery, Uganda might just be the best place to visit in all of Africa. In fact, this wonderful country offers the complete African wildlife experience with the added bonus of the gorillas. There are 10 national parks covering a significant percentage of the countryside. In the North East, you can spot the big cats, the savannah animals and an amazing variety of birdlife. Down west you'll see a plethora of elephants, hippos, chimps and more. And then there's the mountain gorillas. There are just 880 of these majestic primates left in the wild and you are assured of seeing them in their natural habitat on this tour. Put simply, Uganda offers a wildlife experience second to none.

However, its not all about the wildlife. Churchill was right... Uganda is the pearl of Africa! With stunning scenery, much of the country is on a plateau which ascends to over 5,100 metres on Mount Stanley in the south - the 3rd highest peak in Africa. The landscape is a combination of jungle, grasslands and land that has been cleared for farming. Uganda shares Lake Victoria - the largest tropical lake in the world - as its eastern border with Kenya and Tanzania.

Uganda is a land locked nation about the size of Victoria. It is predominantly a Christian country with 80% of the 30 million people being of Christian faith. The West first took real notice of Uganda in the early 70's when the dictator Idi Amin took power. Dubbed "the butcher of Uganda", Amin was a military official who, after seizing power, was responsible for the expulsion and murder of hundreds of thousands of people – namely any one who did not agree with his ways. He died in exile in 2003. Today, the country is at peace. Visitors are attracted by the gorillas which are protected from poachers around the clock. It is a safe place to visit and the hospitality industry is well trained in service with a smile.

While the recent past of this struggling nation cannot be ignored, it is well and truly open for business. You will be greatly rewarded by visiting. Not just for the gorillas, but also for the people, the magnificent scenery and the culture.



Departure, Wednesday 12th August

Depart Australia for flight to Entebbe (likely with Emirates)

Day 1, Thursday 13th August ENTEBBE

Arrive at Entebbe International Airport in the afternoon and transfer to Boma Guesthouse for one night. The guesthouse is charming and conveniently located just 10 minutes from the airport. **D**

Day 2, Friday 14th August ENTEBBE — KIBALE NATIONAL PARK

Take a short flight from Entebbe to Kasese (10:30hrs - 11:45 hrs(1 hr 15 duration). Transfer 60 km to Mountains of the Moon Lodge for a 2-night stay.



Day 3,
Saturday 15th
August
KIBALE NATIONAL
PARK

Today, the forest opens its doors for a chimp-tracking experience.
After a pre-tracking

briefing, we will start our hike adventure into the forest. Follow the footsteps of a large habituated family of chimpanzees, with over 120 individuals that have made Kibale one of the best locations in Africa for chimp

viewing. En route, your guide will explain more about the forest and its inhabitants, including other primates and birds. Upon sighting the chimpanzees, you will stay with them for an hour as they continue their daily routine – growling, grooming, feeding, and caring for the young ones. In the afternoon, we will transfer to Bigodi Village for a community walk that will bring us closer to the local tribe in this area—accompanied by a local guide who can teach us about traditional customs and lifestyles. We will follow the village path, visit a primary school and traditional homesteads, and learn more about the crops in the fields. *B/L/D*

Day 4, Sunday 16th August KIBALE NATIONAL PARK — QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, we head via the crater lakes area via Kasese



to Queen Elizabeth National Park, where we will spend two nights at Enganzi Lodge (approx 155 km, 2-3 hrs drive). We will cross the Equator as the road passes through the Queen Elizabeth National Park. This afternoon, we will enjoy a game drive in the National Park. Continue to our lodge, located in the heart of Queen Elizabeth National Park for a 2-night stay. *B/L/D*





Day 5, Monday 17th August QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

Stretching from the crater-dotted foothills of the Rwenzori ranges in the North, along the shores of Lake Edward to the

remote Ishasha River in the South, Queen Elizabeth National Park incorporates a wide variety of habitats that range from savanna and wetlands to lowland forest. Besides fantastic wildlife sightings, the park is famous for its volcanic features, including volcanic cones and deep craters. Combined with Kibale National Park in the north and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in the south, this is one of Africa's most remarkable safari regions. The morning will be spent on game drives in this prime game viewing area, with elephants, Uganda Kobs, baboons and buffalo in the grassland thickets of North Kazinga and savannah lands of the Kasenyi Plain. After lunch, we will head out to spend the afternoon on the Kazinga Channel boat cruise, where we will view the large concentration of hippos and various animals, including crocodiles, warthogs, and birds. This is a truly amazing experience that rivals other great African wildlife adventures. Return to the lodge for dinner. B/L/D



Day 6, Tuesday 18th **August QUEEN ELIZABETH** NATIONAL PARK — **BIWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST**

After breakfast, we will depart to the

southwestern part of the Queen Elizabeth National Park for a game drive in the Ishasha Plains, well known for the tree-climbing lion population. (approx 160 kms, 5-6 hrs drive). We will then head on a scenic road to Buhoma on the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. On the way to Bwindi, you will visit the Ishasha Community Upliftment Group. The community group has been set up as an organisation committed to conserving the area's biodiversity by reducing ecosystem threats. Communities struggle between growing their crops and the game incursions that raid them as an easy food source. We'll also visit a local school before arriving late in the afternoon at the village of Buhoma for a threenight stay at Engagi Lodge. B/L/D



Day 7, **Wednesday** 19th August BIWINDI **IMPENETRABLE FOREST GORILLA TREK**

Another highlight awaits us today: a meeting with the gentle

giants of Bwindi! Only 880 individual mountain gorillas exist in the wild. 400 of them can be found in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. After a very early breakfast, we'll be transferred to the nearby National Park offices, to be allocated a gorilla family and an expert tracker. After a long day in the forest, we will be driven back to the lodge for a hot shower, dinner and to compare our photographs. B/L/D



Two options today. First, you may choose to undertake



another gorilla trek (subject to permit availability) or second, to undertake a 2-3 hours scenic walk on the Waterfall trail that follows the Munyanga River through one of Uganda's most pristine tracts of rainforest passing beneath tree ferns and orchids and with chances of seeing monkeys – and ending at a 33 metres high waterfall, before retracing your steps to the lodge. The walk is mainly flat, but there are some steeper sections overall; you'll walk around 10 km. If you prefer, you can stay and relax at the lodge and/or visit the local village with its craft shops and cafes. B/L/D

Day 9, Friday 21st August **ENTEBBE**

After breakfast, we will transfer (1.5 hours) to Kihihi airstrip for a flight back to Entebbe (12:05 - 14:00 flight is 2 hours duration). Return to our



accommodation at Boma Guesthouse for a one-night stay. The afternoon and evening are at your leisure. B

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Day 10, Saturday 22nd August **ENTEBBE TO AUSTRALIA OR ON YOUR NEXT** DESTINATION

Today, depart Uganda for home. If you are heading back to Australia, your flight from Entebbe, is most likely via Dubai. For those travelling on to Malawi for the Zambia Malawi tour, flights will likely be via Nairobi (all flights to are be advised). B



