

# Uganda Gorilla Trekking & Primates Safari

9 Days Scheduled safari Departure; Any day

## Highlights

- Visit the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre, UWEC Zoo
- View the remarkable orphaned chimps at **Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary** (CSWCT)
- Jungle through the rain forest of **Kibale** in search of Chimpanzees
- Through to Ishasha sector, track down the tree-climbing lions of **Queen Elizabeth National park**
- Exiting, breathtaking mountain *gorilla trekking* in **Bwindi's Impenetrable Forest**

## Overview

Uganda Gorilla Trekking is an unforgettable experience that takes you up close with the magnificent mountain gorillas of the Bwindi Forest jungle. Trek through the lush tropical rainforests in search of Mountain Gorillas, Chimpanzees, Debrassa monkeys, and many more primates! Experience the pristine and unique atmosphere of the rainforests during this lifetime chimpanzee and gorilla trekking safari!

## Important Information

### Best time for Gorilla Trekking

Rainfall is the main factor to consider when deciding the best time for gorilla tracking. Heavy rains result in slippery and challenging hiking trails. It can rain at any time of the year, but the periods of **June to August** and **December to January** have less rain and are thereby considered the best time to go. The park stays open throughout the year.

## Itinerary

### DAY 01

#### **Arrival at the Entebbe International Airport.**

Welcome to Uganda, the Pearl of Africa! We warmly welcome you on arrival at the Airport and transfer you to your hotel in Entebbe/Kampala, where we will brief you about your safari. We also guide you to exchange your money for the local currency.

### DAY 02

#### **To Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center (UWEC) and Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary (CSWCT)**

After breakfast, we visit UWEC on the shores of the largest lake in Africa, Lake Victoria, and then ride on the same lake to CSWCT. At UWEC, we will see a wide variety of indigenous

wildlife species, including chimpanzees, Rhinos, Lions, Giraffes, and Leopards, in semi-natural settings and a wide range of free-ranging birds. At CSWCT, we will view the remarkable orphaned chimpanzees in their forest habitat during either a morning or afternoon feeding. You may swim on the equator, view a neighboring fishing village, watch birds and other wildlife encounters, or sunbathe and relax.

### **DAY 03**

#### **To Kibale Forest National Park**

Early morning drive to Kibale Forest National Park. We will have lunch in Fort Portal, a town named after a British Special Commissioner to Uganda, "Sir. Gerald Portal", whose statue graces the town's main road. After that, we proceed to our overnight accommodation.

**Est. driving time:** ±6hours

**Budget Accommodation:** Kibale Forest Camp (self-contained tents) or Chimpanzee Guesthouse/Bandas (self-contained Banda)

**Luxury Tour:** Ndali Lodge or Primate Lodge in Luxury Tents

### **DAY 04**

#### **In Kibale Forest National Park;**

We will start with chimpanzee trekking at 8.00 am. The trekking takes about 4 hours, during which you may also get to see ten other primates and several bird and butterfly species.

Kibale tropical forest is home to several forest wildlife, most notably 13 species of primates, including chimpanzees and 375 species of birds. After trekking, we will have lunch and visit Bigodi wetland, a community-based project.

### **DAY 05**

#### **To Queen Elizabeth National Park:**

Early morning drive to Queen Elizabeth. We will travel through Fort Portal and reach the Mweya peninsula in Queen Elizabeth National Park at about midday, with a magnificent view over Kazinga Channel. You will check in at your accommodation, have lunch, and in the late afternoon (3.00-5.00 pm), we will go on a two hours launch cruise on the Kazinga channel, where we will view animals and birds along the waters.

**Driving time:** ± 4-5 hours

**Budget Accommodation:** Queen Elizabeth Bush Lodge (eco-friendly self-contained tents)

**Luxury Tour:** Mweya Safari Lodge or Jacana safari Lodge

### **DAY 06**

#### **To Kyambura Gorge in Queen Elizabeth National Park**

After breakfast, we will go for a 3-4 hour chimpanzee tracking in Kyambura Gorge after an early morning rise. The chimp population is quite mobile, and viewing is unpredictable, but the walk is enchanting.

Alternatively, one can go for a nature walk in Maramagambo Forest to see other primates. We shall take a game drive to Kasenyi Kob mating ground in the afternoon.

## **DAY 07**

### **To Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park**

After breakfast, we head towards the south, passing the park's southern sector. This part is called the Ishasha sector and is famous for the tree-climbing lions. While driving through verdant countryside, you will pass traditional homesteads and enjoy panoramic views. We expect an afternoon arrival in Bwindi National Park, the home to the endangered mountain gorillas. After that, dinner and overnight at a selected lodge.

**Driving time:** ± 5-6 hours

**Budget Accommodation:** Buhoma Community Rest Camp or Wagtail Eco-safari camp

**Luxury Tour:** Silverback Lodge, Buhoma Lodge, or Lake Kitandara tented camp

## **DAY 08**

### **In Bwindi Impenetrable National Park**

We will head to the briefing point at the park headquarters, and from here, you will be briefed about the do's and don'ts while in the forest with the gentle Giants. You will be provided with walking sticks and be advised to carry packed lunch and enough drinking water. The Gorillas share 95% of their DNA with us, and staring into their pondering eyes is as overwhelming as it is incredible. After tracking, we will travel back to our lodge, relax, dine, and stay overnight.

## **DAY 09**

### **End of Safari – Transfer to Kampala.**

You will take a cup of coffee or tea before you start your return journey to Kampala. After lunch in Mbarara town, have a stopover at the equator and proceed to Entebbe for the overnight.

**Driving time:** ±8 Hours.

**Budget Accommodation:** Airport Guest House, Entebbe Central Inn, or Kampala Backpackers

**Luxury Tour:** Boma Guest House, Imperial Botanical beach hotel, Acacia lodge, or Lake Victoria Hotel.