



GREAT LAKES SAFARIS LTD

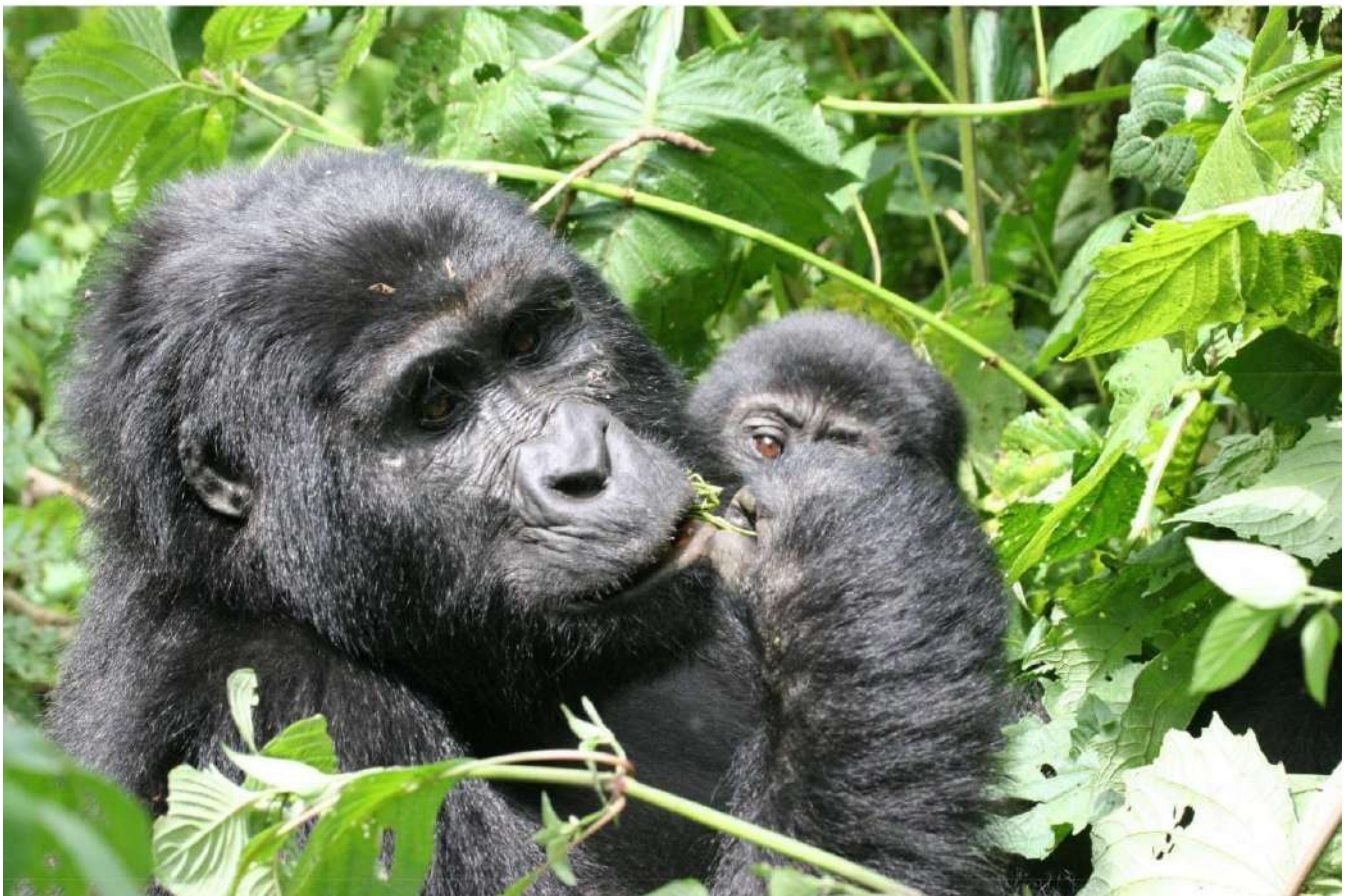
Where the journey into the wild begins

BEST OF UGANDA RWANDA

11- DAYS WITH 3 RWANDA EXTENSION

NOV 2024

- Rhino tracking at Ziwa •
- Chimp tracking in Kibale NP •
- Game- viewing drives in Queen Elizabeth NP •
- The ultimate Gorilla tracking in Bwindi NP •
- Tracking of the exclusive Golden monkeys in Volcanoes NP •
- Canopy walk in Nyungwe NP •
- Breath taking views on the shores of Lake Kivu •



Your Safari at a Glance:

DAY	MAY 2024	DESTINATION	ACTIVITY	ACCOMMODATION
Day 1	08 th Nov	Kampala	Arrival, transfer to lodge	Karibu Guesthouse
Day 2	09 th Nov	Murchison FallsNP	Drive + Rhino Tracking	Murchison River lodge
Day 3	10 th Nov	Murchison Falls NP	AM game/PM Nile Cruise	Murchison River lodge
Day 4	11 th Nov	Kibale Forest NP	Drive, Lunch en-route	Primate Lodge Kibale



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Day 5	12 th Nov	Kibale Forest NP	AM Chimps	Elephant Plains Lodge
Day 6	13 th Nov	Queen Elizabeth NP	AM Game Drive/ PM Kazinga channel	Elephant Plains Lodge
Day 7	14 th Nov	Bwindi Impenetrable NP	Drive to Bwindi	Buhoma lodge
Day 8	15 th Nov	Bwindi Impenetrable NP	Gorilla Tracking	Buhoma lodge
Day 9	16 th Nov	Volcanoes NP	Drive to Volcanoes	Tiloreza Volcanoes Eco lodge
Day 10	17 th Nov	Volcanoes NP	Golden Monkeys	Tiloreza Volcanoes Eco lodge
Day 11	18 th Nov	Kigali- Depart	Drive to Kigali	
Day 11	18 th Nov	Drive to Gisenyi	Continue to Kibuye	Cleo Kivu or Cormoran lodge
Day 12	19 th Nov	Drive Nyungwe NP	Drive to Nyungwe	Nyungwe Top View Hill Hotel
Day 13	20 th Nov	Nyungwe NP	Canopy walk	Heaven Boutique Hotel
Day 14	21 st Nov	Kigali - Depart	Departure Transfer, site inspections, visit GLS Rwanda office	

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival – Kampala. Approx. 40km/1hrs drive

Upon arrival at Entebbe International Airport, you will be met by a Great Lakes Safaris' representative and transfer to your lodge in Kampala. Check in at Karibu Guesthouse, your home for this night. Lunch and dinner is on own account.

Overnight at Karibu Guesthouse (B&B)

Day 2: Kampala - Murchison Falls National Park. Approx. 310km/5hrs drive

Today we will depart at dawn for the most beautiful protected area in Uganda: Murchison Falls National Park. En route we will make a stop at Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, home to the only wild rhinos in Uganda. The reserve was created to reintroduce rhinos to the country which have been extinct since 1982. Together with a guide you will track the rhinos and observe them in their habitat at a very close and safe distance. Have lunch at the Rhino sanctuary, and thereafter we will drive to Murchison Falls National Park.

Enjoy a guided primate walk in the lush expenses of the Budongo Forest Reserve, in search of the habituated chimpanzee family. Your guide will explain to you more about the animals and plants species that you encounter on your way. Also look out for other primates like the Black-and-White Colobus Monkeys, Red-tailed Monkeys, and different type of birds, tracks of mammals and much more. The hike takes about 2 to 4 hours depending on the movement of the chimpanzees. Once the chimps are found you will stay for an hour with these amazing creatures to watch them eating, resting and playing you will there after check in at your lodge for the overnight.

Dinner and overnight at Murchison River Lodge (B-L-D)



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Murchison Falls National Park is the largest protected area in Uganda. The waterfall for which the park is named is the most electrifying sight of its type in East Africa. The southern part is mostly covered by dense woodlands and harbors one of the most varied forest faunas in East Africa, and is a premier sight for bird watchers, as well as one of the best- and most affordable - places to track chimpanzees. The northern part is mostly covered by green grasslands with scattered acacia trees, borassus palms and riverine woodlands. . The world's longest River Nile is thronged with hippos, crocodiles, waterbucks and buffaloes. Wildlife includes lions, Leopards, elephants, giraffes, buffaloes, hartebeests, oribis, Uganda kob and so much more.

Day 3: Murchison Falls National Park

After an early breakfast we start the day with a game drive on the northern bank of the Nile, with chances of seeing Rothschild Giraffe, elephants, lions, Jackson Hartebeest, Oribis, Waterbucks, different species of the savannah woodland birds, and if lucky even the elusive leopard to top the Africa's "The Big Five" amongst a multitude of African plains game.

After lunch we will go on a Nile launch cruise to the bottom of the water falls for game viewing at close quarters, after the launch cruise we will drive to the top of the falls where you will be rewarded with amazing views of the Nile. After this activity, inspect Twiga Safari lodge, Nile safari lodge and Anyadwe safari lodge; continue to the lodge for dinner and overnight.

Dinner and overnight at Murchison River Lodge (B-L-D)

Day 4: Murchison Falls - Kibale Forest National Park. Approx. 400km/7- 8hrs)

After breakfast, check out and drive south to Fort Portal. *Fort portal rests in the shadow of the fabled 'Mountains of the Moon' and is famous for her many tea plantations.* We will stop to inspect Kyaninga Lodge and have lunch as well. Thereafter we will continue into Kibale National Park, inspect Turaco treetops and check in at Primate Lodge Kibale in time for dinner.

Dinner and overnight at Primate Lodge Kibale (B-L-D)



Kibale Forest National Park is an extensive Biodiversity National Park in South Uganda and also known as the "Primate Paradise" has one of the greatest variety and concentration of primates in Africa including our famous cousins the Chimpanzee, Red Colobus Monkeys, Vervet Monkeys, L'Hoest's, Black- and- White Colobus and the Olive Baboons. There is also a wide array of unique birds, forest elephants (smaller and hairier than the more familiar savannah elephant) and much more.



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Primate Lodge Kibale's principal edge is the location, right next door to the starting point for Chimpanzee tracking excursion as well as the incredible Chimpanzee Habituation, really, two of the most genuinely breathtaking wildlife experiences on the planet! Accommodation options include Luxury Cottages, Standard Cottages. Website: www.ugandalodges.com



Day 5: Chimps trekking - Kibale Forest NP- Queen Elizabeth National Park (185km/3hrs) Today the forest opens its doors for a **sensational chimpanzee tracking experience**. Following the pre-tracking briefing, you will walk or drive to the trailhead for the start of an unforgettable adventure – hiking in the footsteps of the habituated family of chimpanzees. En-route, your guide will enthrall you with stories and facts about the forest and her other inhabitants including other species of primates and birds and other big mammals.

Upon sighting the chimpanzees, you will spend an unforgettable one hour with them as they go about their daily life - feeding, playing, grooming, taking care of their young, howling and screeching, in their natural habitat.

Return to Primate Lodge for lunch, thereafter we begin site inspections with Ndali lodge, Isunga safari lodge and Papaya Safari lodge 45 minutes away. Enjoy sight-seeing around the **scenic crater lakes** that surrounds the dense forest of Kibale National Park. Afterwards, you will proceed south alongside the majestic Rwenzori 'Mountains of the Moon' to Queen Elizabeth National park.

As we arrive in Kasese, we shall inspect Ihamba Safari Lodge and Simba Safari Camp.
Dinner and overnight at Elephant Plains Lodge (B-L-D)

Day 6: Queen Elizabeth NP

The day begins early when we start with a morning game drive and head to the mating ground of the Uganda Kobs. We search for lions, elephants, buffaloes and other wild animals in their natural habitat. We shall return to your lodge for lunch with an inspection of Kyambura Gorge Lodge.

In the afternoon we take on a boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel, a natural channel between Lake Edward and Lake George. Thanks to the abundant birdlife that is sighted, and the elephants, buffaloes and hundreds of hippos that are cooling off at the shores, this cruise will definitely be one of the highlights of your safari. We shall return to your lodge thereafter with an inspection of Mweya Safari Lodge. Dinner and overnight at **Elephant Plains Lodge (B-L-D)**



Elephant Plains is a brand new luxury lodge located on the most spectacular view point in the whole of Queen Elizabeth National Park. Perched 941 metres above sea level, high upon the western escarpment of the Albertine rift in the north east of the park, the lodge offers panoramic views stretching for miles over the huge open grasslands to lake George. Website: www.ugandalodges.com



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Day 7: Queen Elizabeth - Bwindi National Park. Approx. 225km/3-4hrs drive

After breakfast we head towards the south, passing the southern sector of the National Park. This part is called Ishasha and is famous for the tree climbing lions. Site inspection of Ishasha wilderness camp, after a short game drive in this area we continue to Bwindi. While driving through a verdant countryside, you will pass traditional homesteads and enjoy panoramic views. In the afternoon arrival in Bwindi National Park, home of the endangered mountain gorillas.



Upon arrival check in and enjoy lunch. After some time to rest you will then embark on an evening village walk meeting the locals and engaging in the community. En route back to your lodge we shall have a site inspection of Bwindi Lodge Volcanoes and Engagi Lodge. Later return to the lodge for dinner and overnight. **Buhoma Lodge (B-L-D)**



Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, home of the rare but critically endangered Mountain Gorillas (*gorilla beringei beringei*), lies on the edge of the albertine Rift Valley in south-western Uganda, with a wide altitude range between 1,160m and 2,600m.

The forest itself, dating back to the ice ages, is one of Uganda's oldest and ecologically most diverse with almost 400 species of plants, 350 species of birds including 23 Albertine Rift endemics as well as 120 mammals species including lots of smaller ones like rodents and bats but also the Gorillas, Baboons, Chimpanzees, Elephants and Antelopes.



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Day 8: Gorilla Tracking in Bwindi Impenetrable NP (3 to 8hrs)

Arise early today and prepare for an amazing adventure; an unforgettable encounter with the gentle giants of Bwindi! Following breakfast, transfer to the park offices where participants are divided into groups of 8 and allocated a gorilla family as well as a tracking guide.

Please remember to bring your passport for registration, appropriate, water proof hiking boots and a light rain coat. To protect from stinging nettles, we recommend long pants and long sleeved tops. A pair of old gardening gloves can help grabbing onto the vegetation while most hotels/lodges provide a walking stick that come in very handy especially when hiking downhill. A small waterproof backpack is an excellent idea to carry a light snack, bottled water as well as protection for your camera.

After a pre-tracking briefing by your guide (touches on the gorillas generally, your assigned gorilla family as well as appropriate safety precautions), you drive to the trailhead for the start of your thrilling adventure – participants can expect to walk long distances in steep and sometimes muddy conditions with rain overhead, which can be tough and require a degree of fitness. Granted, the time taken can be quite unpredictable taking anything from 2 to 8hrs or longer however the thrill of coming face to face with a giant Mountain Gorilla silverback will more than compensate for the effort in their quest.

Upon sighting the gorillas, you spend the allowed one hour with them as they go about their daily life; feeding, moving, playing, raising their young and sometimes wrestling by the juveniles – it is a totally unique and unforgettable experience!

NB: Coming face to face with a giant Mountain Gorilla must truly be the most genuinely breathtaking wildlife experience on earth!

Afterwards, you hike back to base where your driver will be waiting to transfer you to the lodge for a deserved shower and lunch or dinner depending on the time taken on the trek. Thereafter we shall inspect Gorilla Forest Camp, Buhoma Lodge, Haven Lodge, Silverback Lodge and Trackers Safari Lodge time permitting. **Buhoma Lodge - FB**

Day 9: Bwindi NP – Volcanoes National Park (299km/3-4hrs)

Today you will be transferred to Cyanika- cross the Rwanda border, from there you continue to Ruhengeri while enjoying panoramic views. The town itself, located only 25km from Uganda border, is relatively a small city. The constant flow of humanity is quite remarkable. The Town has great views of the surrounding volcanoes. People are very friendly here and although a former Belgian colony (and thus French-speaking), many people speak English here.

After lunch site inspection Virunga Lodge and Five Volcanoes Lodge before you continue to your lodge for check in and relaxation. **Tiloreza Volcanoes Eco Lodge (B-L-D)**



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Parc National des Volcans

*In the heart of Central Africa, so high up that you shiver more than you sweat," wrote the eminent primatologist Dian Fossey, "are great, old volcanoes towering up almost 15,000 feet, and nearly covered with rich, green rainforest - the Virungas". Situated in the far northwest of Rwanda, **the Volcanoes National Park** protects the steep slopes of this magnificent mountain range - home of the rare mountain gorilla - and the rich mosaic of montane ecosystems, which embrace evergreen and bamboo forest, open grassland, swamp and heath. The mysterious rainforest is alive with the calls of colourful birds and chattering of the rare golden monkey, and littered with fresh spoor of the mountains' elusive populations of buffalo and elephant. Through gaps in the forest canopy, the magnificent peaks are glimpsed, easily accessible and among the highest in Africa, beckoning an ascent.*

Day 10: Gorilla Trekking or Golden Monkeys – Volcanoes National Park

Early breakfast at your lodge; today you will have a choice between a second Gorilla tracking or Tracking Golden Monkeys in Volcanoes NP.

Option 1: Golden Monkey Tracking

0630 hrs: transfer to the Volcanoes National Park HQs

0700 hrs: Registration at the Volcanoes National Park Offices followed by a transfer to your Trail head. Golden Monkeys are among the most endangered primates in Africa and is believed the only viable population of these monkeys is in the Virunga Volcanoes. The goldenmonkey is a distinct species of guenon - Cercopithecus Kandti and is endemic to the Albertine Rift. Two groups each with over 100 individuals are being habituated for visitors in the Virungas.



The Kabatwa group, found in the east of the park on the flanks of the Sabyinyo volcano and the Musongo group higher up on the flanks of the Karisimbi volcano at an altitude of about 2800-3000 meters.

Afterwards, you hike back to base where your driver will be waiting to transfer you to the lodge for a deserved shower and lunch or dinner depending on the time taken on the trek. Thereafter we shall have site inspections of one and only Gorilla's nest, Five Volcanoes Boutique hotel, Singita kwitonda lodge and Amahoro songa lodge. .

Tiloreza Volcanoes Eco Lodge - FB.

OR



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Option 2 : Gorilla Tracking



0630 hrs: transfer to the Volcanoes National Park HQs

0700 hrs: Registration, where the park staff determines which group of gorillas you will visit. The park staff discusses your fitness level and advises you of the trekking times and conditions to the various groups based upon their location in the park the previous evening. There are a total of 80 gorilla permits available each day with a maximum of eight trekkers visiting any one group.

Once the trekkers are put into groups, each group's Lead Guide briefs the trekkers of the trekking procedures as well as the "do's and don'ts" while in the presence of gorillas. After the briefing, trekkers return to their respective vehicles for the drive up the mountain to the starting point.

Porters may be hired for the trek to carry your backpack and gear. **The cost, US\$10 per person/per day. We advise that you utilize this service.** Trekking can take from two to six or more hours if the gorillas move before the park rangers locate them the next morning. The guides stop frequently to allow trekkers a chance to rest and take photos along the way.

Please remember to bring your passport for registration, appropriate, water proof hiking boots and a light rain coat. To protect from stinging nettles, we recommend long pants and long sleeved tops. A pair of old gardening gloves can help grabbing onto the vegetation while most hotels/lodges provide a walking stick that come in very handy especially when hiking downhill. A small waterproof backpack is an excellent idea to carry a light snack, bottled water as well as protection for your camera.

Afterwards, you hike back to base where your driver will be waiting to transfer you to the lodge for a deserved shower and lunch or dinner depending on the time taken on the trek. Thereafter we shall have site inspections of Sabinyo Silverback Lodge and Bisate Lodge.

Tiloreza Volcanoes Eco Lodge (B-L-D)

Day 11: Volcanoes National Park – Kigali (114 Km/2.5 hrs) – Departure

In the morning you will enjoy the scenic drive to Kigali and once arrived you will visit different hotels for inspection including Marriott Hotel, Radisson Blu, Kigali Serena, Hotel Des Mille Collines and Flame Tree Village. You will have lunch in Kigali and then transfer to the airport in time for your departure flight.



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EXTENSION OPTION TO NYUNGWE FOREST NATIONAL PARK (4 DAYS)

Day 11: Gisenyi - Lake Kivu (243 km/ 1 hour)

After breakfast at leisure, you will drive to Gisenyi in western Rwanda on the shores of Lake Kivu via Kibuye. In Kibuye you will have lunch and inspect Cormoran Lodge and Moriah Hill Resort thereafter.

Once arrived you will have a town tour of Gisenyi including a visit to the borders of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, BRALIRWA (the local brewery), the hot spring. Check into your hotel and inspect Cormoran lodge thereafter. **Cormoran Lodge – FB**

Lake Kivu is located on Rwanda's western side, one of a string of huge freshwater lakes which lie along Africa's Great Rift Valley. Dominating the border between Rwanda and the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo); Lake Kivu is Rwanda's largest lake, and the sixth largest lake in Africa.

Day 12: Kibuye – Nyungwe National Park (243 km/ 7 hrs.) In the morning after your morning breakfast, you will take part in water activities (to be paid directly, have lunch and transfer to Nyungwe National Park.

Overnight: NyungweTop View Hill Hotel- FB



Nyungwe National Park is located in the South West corner of Rwanda, **Nyungwe National Park** is an untouched natural rainforest that is filled with exciting biodiversity. Covering over 1000 square kilometers, Nyungwe is surely one of the world's most beautiful and pristine mountain rainforests. It's believed to be one of Africa's oldest forests, staying green even through the Ice Age, which explains its diversity. Home to habituated chimpanzees and 12 other primates species (including a 400-strong troop of habituated Ruwenzori Black & White Colobus), it's also a birder's paradise with over 300 species, including 16 endemics, and is home to 75 different species of mammal.

Nyungwe Top View Hill Hotel opened in February 2011 and easily has the most beautiful views in the Nyungwe Forest area. Located five minutes' drive off a main road, up a very rough and steep dirt track, it is set on top of a hill with views across numerous tea plantations, and close to the headquarters of Nyungwe National Park.



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Day 13: Canopy walk – Kigali

Today you will go for the canopy walk which offers a splendid view over the lush forest with its magnificent biodiversity. Hard wood trees dominate the upper canopy while the lower part is beautified with a large selection of orchids, flora and fauna that flourish better in the higher altitudes.

Before returning to the hotel we shall inspect Nyungwe Forest Lodge.

You will then return to the lodge for lunch and later transfer to Kigali.



Heaven Boutique Hotel – FB

Day 14: Departure

After breakfast, you will have a city tour, have lunch the transfer to the airport to catch up with your international flight back home.

***** END OF GREAT LAKES SAFARIS SERVICES *****





TOUR PRICE IN US DOLLARS PER PERSON NETT & NON -COMMISSIONABLE - VALID FOR 2024	
Tour Package Price 11 Day Uganda & Rwanda	
Based on 6 people sharing a 4WD Toyota Land Cruiser	US \$2,270
Single room supplement	US\$ 300
Tour Package Price 4 Day Extension Rwanda - Nyungwe	
Based on 3- 6 people sharing a 4WD Toyota Land Cruiser	US \$1,840
<i>NB: If we receive below 2 pax for the extension options costs will be as follows:</i>	
Based on 2 people sharing a 4WD Toyota Cruiser	US \$ 2,365
Based on 1 person in a 4WD Toyota Cruiser	US \$ 3,935
Single Room Supplement	US \$ 220
Primates Tracking Permits in Uganda (to be added to the package)	
Chimpanzee Permits in Kibale NP, Uganda	US \$ 250
Gorilla Permits in Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Uganda	US \$ 800
Optional Activities in Rwanda	
Golden Monkey Trekking in Volcanoes NP, Rwanda	US \$ 100
Gorilla permit Rwanda in Volcanoes NP, Rwanda	US \$ 1500
Canopy Walk in Nyungwe NP, Rwanda	US \$ 140
Chimpanzee Tracking in Nyungwe NP, Rwanda	US \$ 150
Colobus Monkey permit in Nyungwe NP, Rwanda	US \$ 130



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INCLUSIONS:

- Airport transfers
- Ground Transportation in a safari customized 4WD Toyota Land Cruiser, with fuel
- Accommodation as shown
- Meals where mentioned as included in the itinerary.
- All park entrance fees
- English speaking Guide / driver
- Mineral water in the vehicle; 2 liters per person daily on safari
- Medical emergency evacuation cover

EXCLUSIONS:

- International Airfares
- Optional activities unless specified as included
- Excessive baggage charges
- Entry Visa Fees; fees for International Travel Vaccinations and Inoculations
- Items of personal nature such as Room service, Beverage, Communication charges (telephone, fax, and internet). Laundry
- Postage fees
- Porterage fees
- Tips and gratuities for Guide/driver. and hotel staff
- Shopping Charges for Curios and Crafts

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Prices are subject to change. Availability of accommodations and activities is not guaranteed; reservations will be made after receiving confirmation of the final itinerary and the requested deposit. Should any of the included accommodations not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable accommodation, which might affect the final quoted price. For more clarity please consult our website www.greatlakessafaris.com for the more detailed Terms & Conditions.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS 24/7:

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VISA FEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR EAST AFRICA

Uganda Visa: Single entry visa costs US \$50 per person. Visas have to be applied for online via the [Uganda Immigration website](#).

Rwanda Visa: Single entry visa costs US \$50 per person. Visas have to be applied for online via the [Rwanda Immigration website](#). A copy of the approved application has to be presented at the entry point where the visa will then be issued and paid for. Kindly note that citizens from the following countries are required to pay visa fees but are allowed to obtain their visa upon arrival without prior online application: Australia, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, UK and USA.

East African Tourist Visa:

If you are planning to combine Uganda with a visit to Rwanda and/or Kenya it is recommendable to request for the East African Tourist Visa. This special tourist visa costs US \$100 per person and allows 90 days multiple entry to Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya. Regretfully, Tanzania is not (yet) a member of the East African community and therefore not part of this arrangement.

How to obtain the East African Tourist Visa:

- Uganda: online via the [Uganda Immigration website](#).
- Rwanda: online via the [Rwanda Immigration website](#).
- Kenya: online via the [eCitizen portal](#)

Similar to the application for the single entry visa but make sure to select the East African Tourist Visa.