



GORILLA TRACKING

IN ASSOCIATION WITH MAHLATINI

Day One

Arrive Entebbe airport where you will be met by your driver/guide for the three hour transfer to Lake Mburo. The flat river valleys of Lake Mburo National Park feature dense thickets of vegetation that offer a fascinating environment for wildlife viewing. Depending on when you arrive you should have time for some afternoon safari activities such as game drives, canoeing or walking.

Overnight Mantana Camp - Lake Mburo National Park

Day Two

This morning you will be driven through the Western Highlands of Uganda onto Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, this drive should take between 7-10 hours based on road conditions. Depending on when you arrive there should be time for an evening walk on one of the many trails in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park.

Overnight Lake Kitandara Camp - Bwindi National Park

Day Three

You depart this morning for a trek into the depths of Bwindi National Park. You will be led by experienced trackers who will bring you amongst a family of mountain gorillas. The incredible primates are extremely rare; with only 700 remaining in the wild very few people in the world are lucky enough to see them in their natural habitat.

Overnight Lake Kitandara Camp - Bwindi National Park

Day Four

Today you will be transferred back to Kampala.

Overnight at St Bruno Camp - Entebbe

Day Five

Transfer to airport

Includes:

Accommodation, Meals, Park fees, Gorilla permit and Transportation in 4x4 safari vehicle and services of driver /local guide

Excludes:

Tips, Portage, Flights, Expenses of a personal nature, Visas, and Optional excursions

Places you will visit...

Lake Mbuoro National Park

The flat river valleys of Lake Mbuoro NP feature dense thickets of vegetation offering an attractive environment for wildlife viewing. There are five lakes here which are a big draw to the wildlife. The main attractions are the plains animals such as zebra, buffalo, impala, topis and elands. Other more elusive residents include leopard, aardvark, pangolin and porcupine. There is also a lot of activity around the water with plenty of crocodiles and hippos as you might expect in African lakes! The wetlands attract some of the rarer animals such as the shy sitatunga antelope. The birding is excellent with some 357 species recorded, drawn both by the water and the acacia savannahs. These include Uganda's national bird the crested crane, the rare shoebill stork, marabou stork and bronze-tailed starling, bee eaters and even more exotic birds such as the blue-naped coucal and the Nubian woodpecker. Lake Mbuoro National Park is situated between Kampala and the southern forests where the gorilla trekking takes place, making it a convenient place to stop off en route and gives you the chance to see a variety of Ugandan wildlife even if your main focus happens to be the primates.

Bwindi National Park

West across the Albertine Rift Valley is the ancient forest of Bwindi. As you approach it is obvious why it was named the Impenetrable Forest. The deep river gorges and high ridges have remained forested for millions of years resulting in an incredible biodiversity. Bwindi has at least 90 mammal species, 350 species of birds, 324 species of trees, huge numbers of butterflies and, most importantly, it is home to probably half the world's population of mountain gorillas. The terrain is hilly, very muddy and can involve scrambling through dense vegetation, be prepared for an arduous day anything from 15 minutes to 8 hours but there is no doubt that to trek through jungle and montane forest in search of magnificent mountain gorillas is one of the most amazing wildlife experiences in the world.

Although gorilla tracking is the main focus of any visit, there are several forest trails ranging from a half hour stroll to several hours hard walking. The Ugandan Wildlife Authority has developed a partnership with local communities to encourage development through conservation. This enables local people to improve their standard of living through better agricultural practices, thus reducing pressure on forest resources. The park employs local people as wardens, researchers and rangers, local communities receive a proportion of the Park's income.

Kampala

Kampala is the capital city, social hub and the country's largest urban centre. Kampala city derived its name from the luganda word kasozi ka mpala -hill of antelopes in reference to the domestic Impala that cropped the lawns of Mengo during Mutesa's reign. Today, as you stand on the hills, the City provides magnificent evergreen trees, gently disrupted by red-tiled villas, green iron-roofed bungalows, as well as taller modern city profiles that give way to attractive views of the surrounding country side and nearby Lake Victoria.

The City has retained its traditional charm, and remains the greenest in Africa. But today Kampala is the heart of Uganda and the centre of commercial life and the seat of government. It is a vibrant modern metropolis adorned with gardens and parks providing colorful oases for its citizens and visitors alike, Hotel facilities range from the best international hotels, with state-of-the-art conference facilities, to accommodation for the more budget-minded.
