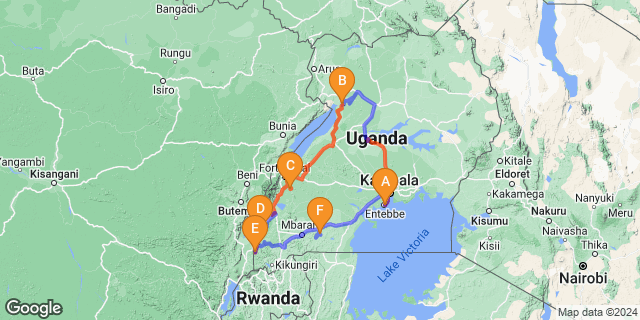


# 14Day Game, Chimps and Gorillas

*Entebbe - Murchison Falls National Park - Kibale Forest National Park - Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park - Queen Elizabeth National Park - Ishasha Sector - Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park - Lake Mburo National Park*  
*14 Days / 13 Nights*



## Introduction

This safari is a great itinerary for those interested in visiting the highlights of Uganda including game activities in Murchison Falls National park,  track our closest relatives - the chimpanzees - in Kibale Forest see the tree climbing lions in Ishasha - Queen Elizabeth National Park and also track the endangered mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, and who also want explore the magical  savannah grass plains of Ishasha in search of the famous tree-climbing lions.

This trip will create memories that will surely last a lifetime!

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Accommodation** | **Destination** | **Basis** | **Duration** |
| The Boma Hotel Entebbe | Entebbe | B&B | **1 Night** |
| Twiga Safari Lodge | Murchison Falls National Park | FB | **3 Nights** |
| Turaco Treetops | Kibale Forest National Park | FB | **2 Nights** |
| [Ishasha Wilderness Camp](https://wetu.com/iBrochure/16456_61483_35622) | Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park | FB | **2 Nights** |
| [Mahogany](https://wetu.com/iBrochure/16456_61483_22381) Springs Lodge | Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park | FB | **3 Nights** |
| [Mihingo Lodge](https://wetu.com/iBrochure/16456_61483_20386) | Lake Mburo National Park | FB | **1 Night** |
| The Boma Hotel Entebbe | Entebbe | B&B | **1 Night** |

**Key**  
B&B: Bed and Breakfast  
FB: Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

## Price

Please see separate quote for additional price details.

## Included

* Airport transfers (Entebbe/return)
* 4x4 transport with English speaking local driver/guide
* Accommodation and meals as above (full board on safari, bed and breakfast in Entebbe)
* Bottled water in safari vehicle
* Scheduled Waterfall boat trip
* Kazinga Channel Cruise
* Nature walk in Lake Mburo
* Bigodi Swamp Walk
* Top of the falls Hike
* Scheduled Delta Trip
* Chimp Integration Progarm
* All park entrance fees
* Activities as quoted

## Excluded

* Chimpanzee Trekking Permit – USD250
* Gorilla Trekking Permit – USD800 Per permit
* Optional activities
* All international flights and airport taxes
* Personal expenses such as porters, drinks, tips, visas and travel insurance
* Services/activities/meals not included above

**Day 1: The Boma Hotel Entebbe, Entebbe (Tue, 1 July)**

### Entebbe

Set on the shores of Lake Victoria, Entebbe is a small town that is easy to explore on foot or local boda bodas (motorbike taxis).  Explore the markets, hunt for souvenirs or crafts, meander through the Botanical Gardens or relax with a boat cruise on Lake Victoria. You’ll find a wide variety of restaurants, bars and clubs where you can sample the local beer, catch a game of football and meet the friendly locals.

### Day Itinerary

Arrive at Entebbe International Airport where you will be met by a UUJ representative and transferred to your accommodation.

Entebbe is a small, quiet town located on the shores of Lake Victoria and is easy to explore on foot or local transport on motorbikes known as “boda bodas” or local taxis.  Visit the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre where you can see and learn about Uganda’s native wildlife, local markets to buy clothes and crafts, curio shops for souvenirs, and the Botanical Gardens on Lake Victoria where you can walk among beautiful trees, watch monkeys moving through the canopy above, and spot many indigenous bird species.  Entebbe has a wide variety of restaurants serving many different cuisines as well as several bars and clubs where you can sample the local beer, catch a game of football and chat with the local Ugandans, known for their open and friendly nature.

### Overnight: The Boma Hotel Entebbe

The Boma Hotel is Entebbe’s original and most exclusive hotel, set in tropical gardens in a leafy suburb, a few minutes drive from Entebbe International Airport. Our rooms combine the modern comforts one expects today with the charm and character of the original 1940’s home. The Boma is an ideal stopover for all travellers and airline passengers, and we will arrange all your airport transfers. Our staff and management team ensure guests receive a personable service and enjoy hospitality standards which are in keeping with the tradition of this charming lakeshore town.

The residents-only bar and dining area overlooks the pool area and provides a delightful and relaxed country house experience. The main house includes a private dining veranda and living room for overnight guests. Other hotel facilities include the swimming pool, Gym, Free WiFi, 24-hour security and car parking. We offer a laundry service for overnight guests and there is a small craft shop on site. We can organise local taxi hire and day trips to the nearby attractions.



### Activities

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| Entebbe |

#### Entebbe

Set on the shores of Lake Victoria, Entebbe is a small town that is easy to explore on foot or local boda bodas (motorbike taxis).  Explore the markets, hunt for souvenirs or crafts, meander through the Botanical Gardens or relax with a boat cruise on Lake Victoria. You’ll find a wide variety of restaurants, bars and clubs where you can sample the local beer, catch a game of football and meet the friendly locals.

### Basis

Bed and Breakfast

### Included

* Transfer from the airport to your hotel

### Excluded

* Drinks
* Lunch/Dinner
* Optional activities

## Day 2: Twiga Safari Lodge, Murchison Falls National Park (Wed, 2 July)

### Murchison Falls National Park

Murchison Falls National Park lies at the northern end of the Albertine Rift Valley, where the sweeping Bunyoro escarpment tumbles into vast, palm-dotted savannah.  First gazetted as a game reserve in 1926, it is Uganda's largest and oldest conservation area, hosting 76 species of mammals and 451 species of birds.

The park is bisected by the Victoria Nile, which plunges 45 metres over the remnant rift valley wall, creating the dramatic Murchison Falls, the centrepiece of the park and the final event in an 80 metre stretch of rapids.  The mighty cascade drains the last of the river's energy, transforming it into a broad, placid stream that flows quietly across the rift valley floor into Lake Albert.  This stretch of river provides one of Uganda's most remarkable wildlife spectacles.  Regular visitors to the riverbanks include elephants, giraffes and buffaloes while hippos, Nile crocodiles and aquatic birds are permanent residents.

### Day Itinerary

After breakfast meet your guide and depart for Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, approx. 3-4 hours drive for a close up encounter with the only rhinos in Uganda.  The sanctuary provides trained rangers who will ably guide you to observe the rhinos at a very close and safe distance. Following their extinction in 1983, local wildlife authorities and international conservationists worked hard to bring the rhino back to Uganda. In 2001 the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre received funding to bring two white rhinos from Kenya to the rescue facility as a start to this challenging process. Later, in 2005, Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary welcomed its first four rhinos from Kenya.  Through an extremely successful breeding program, Ziwa’s rhino population has since grown to fifteen southern white rhinos with two babies born within just the past two years.  The success of Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary will ultimately lead to a comprehensive reintroduction program allowing rhinos to once again roam wild in Uganda.

After lunch continue approx. 2 hours to Murchison Falls National Park and en-route to your lodge visit the Top of Murchison Falls and embark on a short hike to the Murchison Falls where the force of the mighty Nile River narrows to flow through a seven meter gap, cascading down a forty meter cliff to the vast gorge below.  The power of the falls and the scenic views from the top are breath taking. Walk along the top of the falls and feel the spray of the water and bask in the cool mist around you.

### Overnight: Twiga Safari Lodge

Twiga Safari Lodge aims at providing clients with comfortable accommodation in the serene and relaxing environment of Uganda’s wildlife. Twiga Safari lodge provides a scenic vantage point for viewing Uganda’s wildlife lounging in the river during the day and grazing on land at night around the lodge. The accommodation design fuses camping tents with African thatched cottages elevated off the ground. This provides a heightened experience with nature in which clients are able to hear and view some animals all the while from the safety and comfort of their cottage.



### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

## Day 3: Twiga Safari Lodge, Murchison Falls National Park (Thu, 3 July)

### Day Itinerary

In the morning depart with your guide to the northern sector of Murchison Falls National Park, an area rich in wildlife including lions, elephants, buffalo, giraffes, oribi, hartebeest, and countless reptiles and birds, including one of the park’s more difficult species to spot, the rare shoebill stork.  Crocodiles are also plentiful in this park.

In the afternoon visit the park’s most popular attraction since the 1950s, where the force of the mighty Nile River narrows to flow through a seven meter gap, cascading down a forty meter cliff to the vast gorge below.  The power of the falls and the scenic views from their base are breath taking. Large resident populations of hippos float in the water along the way, groups of crocodiles bask on the shore, and herds of elephant, buffalos and other antelope can be seen moving along the riverbanks searching for food.  The river offers a spectacular opportunity for bird watchers, with a wide range of water birds and vibrant bee eaters nesting in the cliffs along the river’s banks.

### Activities

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| Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive |
| Murchison Falls Boat Trip |

#### Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive

The Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive takes place in the Murchison Falls National Park. The main areas of the drive are the Delta, Buligi Peninsula and the southern section which is known as the heart of Murchison. The Delta allows visitors an opportunity to see Lions, while the triangle of grassland in the Buligi Peninsula provides an opportunity to see elephant, buffalo, antelopes, and giraffes. This grassland is bound by the Victoria Nile entering Lake Albert with the Albert Nile flowing out of it. Lions, leopard, and waterbirds along with hippos can also be spotted here. Much of the southern part is populated with dense bush and forest, where lions and giraffes can also be seen.

#### Murchison Falls Boat Trip

Launches run from Paraa to the base of the fall. The three hour return journey is for many a highlight of a trip to Murchison. Along the river there are thousands of hippos, enormous crocodiles, amazing bird life a possible sighting of the rare shoebill.

A boat trip from Paraa to the Delta where the Victoria Nile enters Lake Albert offers excellent game viewing and birding opportunities and takes about five hours.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Included

Morning Game Drive

Afternoon schedule Waterfall cruise

### Excluded

Drinks

## Day 4: Twiga Safari Lodge, Murchison Falls National Park (Fri, 4 July)

### Day Itinerary

After breakfast, embark on a half day boat trip into the Victoria Nile Delta, a 20 km cruise downstream from the park’s headquarters. Home to a wide variety of wetland and papyrus endemic bird species, including the elusive shoebill stork, this three to five hour cruise offers a unique opportunity to spot rarely found birds and animals such as hippo, elephants and large crocodiles. Travelling through the centre of Murchison Falls National Park, guests can experience the constantly changing scenery of the Nile River as it winds its way to Lake Albert.

In the afternoon enjoy a game drive through the Delta region of Murchison Falls National Park.

This is Uganda’s largest national park, named for the dramatic Murchison Falls where the Nile, the world’s longest river, explodes violently through a narrow cliff in the Rift Valley escarpment to plunge into a frothing pool 40 meters below.  The Nile River is home to one of Africa’s highest hippo and crocodile populations as well as a dazzling array of water birds, including the rare and elusive shoebill stork.  The lush borassus grassland to the north of the river offers frequent sightings of elephants, buffalos, giraffes, a wide variety of antelopes and sometimes even an encounter with lions or leopard.  Rabongo Forest in the southeast part of the park provides a lush tropical habitat for chimpanzees, monkeys and many other rainforest species.

### Activities

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| Murchison Falls Delta Cruise |
| Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive |

#### Murchison Falls Delta Cruise

The Victoria Nile delta, a 20km voyage downstream from Paraa is home to rare wetland birds including the elusive shoebill and papyrus endemic species. This leisurely cruise aboard a Kingfisher/Alligator boat down to Lake Albert offers the opportunity to spot elephant, hippo and large Nile crocodiles. The trip lasts approximately 4-5 hours and departs at 7 am from a jetty at Paraa on the South Bank of the Nile River.

#### Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive

The Murchison Falls National Park Game Drive takes place in the Murchison Falls National Park. The main areas of the drive are the Delta, Buligi Peninsula and the southern section which is known as the heart of Murchison. The Delta allows visitors an opportunity to see Lions, while the triangle of grassland in the Buligi Peninsula provides an opportunity to see elephant, buffalo, antelopes, and giraffes. This grassland is bound by the Victoria Nile entering Lake Albert with the Albert Nile flowing out of it. Lions, leopard, and waterbirds along with hippos can also be spotted here. Much of the southern part is populated with dense bush and forest, where lions and giraffes can also be seen.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Included

Scheduled Delta Cruise

Afternoon Game Drive

House Drinks

### Excluded

Drinks

## Day 5: Turaco Treetops, Kibale Forest National Park (Sat, 5 July)

### Kibale Forest National Park

Kibale National Park contains one of the loveliest and most varied tracts of tropical forest in Uganda. Forest cover, interspersed with patches of grassland and swamp, dominates the northern and central parts of the park on an elevated plateau.  
  
The park is home to a total of 70 mammal species, most famously 13 species of primate including the chimpanzee.  It also contains over 375 species of birds.  
  
Kibale adjoins Queen Elizabeth National Park to the south to create a 180 kilometre long corridor for wildlife between Ishasha, the remote southern sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park, and Sebitoli in the north of Kibale National Park.  
  
The Kibale-Fort Portal area is one of Uganda's most rewarding destinations to explore.  The park lies close to the tranquil Ndali-Kasenda crater area and within half a day's drive of Queen Elizabeth, Rwenzori Mountains and Semliki National Parks, as well as the Toro-Semliki Wildlife Reserve.

### Day Itinerary

Depart Murchison and drive to Kibale Forest approx. 6-7 hours.

Kibale National Park, known for its superb chimpanzee tracking and bird watching, is home to over 60 different mammal species.  With the greatest variety and concentration of primates of any forest in East Africa, the 766 sq km park extends south from Fort Portal all the way to Queen Elizabeth National Park.   Dominated by tropical forest, interspersed with patches of grassland and swamp, the park reaches altitudes of 1100-1590 meters. This diverse habitat and climate provides the perfect environment for Kibale’s rich primate populations including nine diurnal primates.  Visitors to the park have the opportunity to encounter vervet, red tail, H’oest and blue monkeys, grey cheeked mangabeys, red and black and white colobus, olive baboon, chimpanzees and a wide variety of birds and other mammals.

### Overnight: Turaco Treetops

Turaco Treetops is located in Kibale National Park. The lodge offers comfortable rooms with en-suite bathrooms with flushing toilets and hot showers. Guests can enjoy delicious meals at the on-site restaurant and have refreshing drinks at the bar. Other facilities include a lounge with a cosy fireplace, an outside terrace, and a first-floor lounge with spectacular views over the forest.



### Activities

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| Kibale Forest National Park |

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### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Included

* Picnic Lunch

### Excluded

* Drinks
* Optional Activities

## Day 6: Turaco Treetops, Kibale Forest National Park (Sun, 6 July)

### Day Itinerary

Walk approx. 5 minutes to National Park Headquarters to meet your guides for the day and begin your chimpanzee tracking experience.

Experienced guides and trackers will accompany your party on an early morning trek into the forest to view wild chimpanzees as well as several other species of primates in their natural habitat.  You will have an opportunity to be within metres of these amusing and very social apes, sharing in their daily lives and experiencing their day-to-day activities.  Chimpanzees, our closest cousins, are extremely endangered with only an estimated 5000 remaining in Uganda.

After lunch depart for Bigodi Swamp, considered one of Uganda’s best bird watching locations.  Bigodi’s rich ecosystem makes it a spectacular venue for viewing numerous primate and bird species in their natural habitats. This two to three hour walk can be tailored to your individual schedule and interests.

### Expert Tips

Wear long trousers and a long sleeved shirt over the top of a t-shirt.

Strong, 'worn-in' hiking boots with long socks into which you tuck in your trousers.

Day bag with waterproofs, 2-3 litres of water and your packed lunch.

No flash photography is allowed when photographing the chimpanzees.

Includes a boardwalk so it can be slippery if wet, sturdy footwear with a good grip is advisable.

Please note: tracking may be fairly strenuous as the chimpanzees are highly mobile as they search for food throughout the forest. Also, chimpanzees are wild animals and, as such, sightings cannot be guaranteed. However viewing success rates are over 70%.

### Activities

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| Morning | Kibale Forest Chimp Tracking |
| Afternoon | Bigodi Swamp Walk |

#### Kibale Forest Chimp Tracking

The most favourite of Kibale’s walks embarks on from the Kanyanchu Visitor centre in the morning and afternoon and normally lasts around 3 to 4 hours. Chimpanzee are the most sought after primate by visitors, but you should look out for the black & white colobus, red tailed monkey or the grey cheeked mangabey. The forest is alive with noise - chimpanzees are very active and may move quickly through the treetops… or, if you are very lucky, you may find them resting or eating on the ground. The trek is primary on well-maintained trails and paths through the forest and it’s an exhilarating walk, in beautiful scenery.  Sightings of the chimps cannot be guaranteed even though the chimps are habituated to humans. Your guides will be able to show you different bird species and will give details of the plant species within the forest. The trek allows you to spend 1 hour observing the chimps once you have found them.

#### Bigodi Swamp Walk

Considered one of Uganda's best bird watching locations, Bigodi Swamp's rich ecosystem makes it a spectacular venue for viewing numerous primate and bird species in their natural habitat. This two to three-hour walk can be tailored to individual schedules and interests.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Included

* Picnic Lunch
* Bigodi Swamp Walk

### Excluded

* Kibale Chimp Trekking Permit at 250 USD per permit
* Drinks

**Day 7: Ishasha Wilderness Camp, Southern Queen Elizabeth** **National Park (Mon, 7 July)**

### Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park

Surrounded by other wonderful parks in the western region of Uganda, the Queen Elizabeth National Park is known for its rich biodiversity, wildlife and history. In the southern part of the park, the remote Ishasha sector is home to tree-climbing lions who spend long lazy days dozing in the pretty fig trees. The Uganda Kob, which they watch from the branches, graze the plains, enjoy game watching - make sure to look out for elephants, topi, and perennial and migratory bird species.

### Day Itinerary

After breakfast, depart Kibale Forest and drive approx. 3-4 hours to the northern Mweya sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park.

The Mweya area of Queen Elizabeth National Park is rich with wildlife including warthog, water buck, bush buck, leopard, Ugandan kob, elephants, countless bird species and even the rare giant forest hog.  In the Mweya sector of the park, visitors will find vast numbers of Uganda’s unique and strange Euphorbia, or “candelabra” tree.  The many nearby crater lakes and Rwenzori mountain range provide a beautiful backdrop for your journey.

Enjoy a leisurely boat cruise along the spectacular Kazinga Channel in Queen Elizabeth National Park.  You may encounter herds of elephant, buffalos and antelopes, families of warthogs, large groups of hippos, and crocodiles basking on the shore. Kazinga’s shores are a haven for numerous birds, including many migratory species as they make their way south to warmer climates. The cruise also provides a remarkable view of the beautiful Mweya Peninsula and life in local fishing villages set along the banks.

After lunch continue to Ishasha the southern sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park, approx. 2-3 hours.  Afternoon game drives.

### Overnight: Ishasha Wilderness Camp

Ishasha Wilderness Camp is an idyllic retreat for people who truly enjoy the wilderness, coupled with superb accommodation and exceptional service.

The thatched central lounge and dining area provides a cosy and relaxed space for guests, although meals are often served ‘al fresco’ beside the river. In the evening, the outdoor fireplace beside the river is the perfect place for guests to relax over sundowners and share their day’s experiences.

Each of the ten spacious framed canvas rooms, privately nestled along the riverbank, is comfortably furnished and feature en-suite bathrooms. Wake to the delicious aroma of morning coffee served on your private verandah.

Resident troops of Black-and-White Colobus and Vervet monkeys abound and if you are lucky you’ll spot Henry, the lone hippo, wallowing lazily below our viewing deck. Game roams freely through camp, with Elephant making frequent guest appearances.

Designed to respect and complement the environment, this low impact, eco-sensitive camp is really something special, and after a few days unwinding here, you may well not want to leave.



### Activities

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|  | Kazinga Channel Kingfisher Boat |
| Afternoon | Ishasha Sector |

#### Kazinga Channel Kingfisher Boat

Enjoy a leisurely boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel. Passengers may encounter herds of elephant, buffalo and antelope, families of warthog, large groups of hippo, and crocodiles basking on the shore. Kazinga's shores are a haven for numerous birds, including many migratory species as they make their way south to warmer climates. The cruise also provides a spectacular view of the beautiful Mweya Peninsula and life in local fishing villages set along the banks.

#### Ishasha Sector

The Ishasha Sector lies near the south-western edge of Queen Elizabeth Park and is known primarily for its incredible and unusual tree-climbing lions. Watching these massive beasts claw their way up to sunny spots, often with prey in tow (such as Buffalo, Topi, and Uganda Kobs) is a spectacle of note. It is said they do this in order to get better viewpoints, and for protection from the winds. However, the sector provides plenty more to do and see. This untouched area of savannah and rivers, decorated with fig, acacia, and cactus trees, is a wonderful place to enjoy game drives, guided nature walks, and traditional community tours. Ishasha is one of the best bird-watching destinations in the country and is also home to elephants, hippos, and zebras.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch   
All Local Brands (Spirits, Wine and Beers) Included

### Included

* Kazinga Channel boat cruise
* Game Drives
* House Drinks at Ishasha W. Camp

### Excluded

* Premium Drinks

## Day 8: Ishasha Wilderness Camp, Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park (Tue, 8 July)

### Day Itinerary

Morning and afternoon game drives with Sundowner drinks & snacks.

The Ishasha area of Queen Elizabeth National Park, rich with wildlife including warthog, water buck, bush buck, leopard, Ugandan kob, elephants, countless bird species and even the rare giant forest hog.  The Ishasha sector of the park is known for its famous tree climbing lions sometimes found lying about in the branches of the native fig trees.

### Activities

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|  | Ishasha Game Drives |
| Afternoon | Ishasha Wilderness Camp Sundowner Drinks |

#### Ishasha Game Drives

Enjoy exploring this savannah wilderness in your safari vehicle, looking for the huge herds of buffalo, elephant, Uganda kob and of course, the famous tree-climbing lions. Seeing these mighty predators fast asleep up a fig tree, with their bellies hanging over the branches is a truly magnificent sight!

#### Ishasha Wilderness Camp Sundowner Drinks

Guests can enjoy late afternoon sundowners beside the Ntungwe River, or from a scenic viewing point along the ridge overlooking Ishasha. The activity includes local drinks and snacks, and also invites guests to drink in the vast vistas and atmosphere of this beautiful area of the park.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch   
All Local Brands (Spirits, Wine and Beers) Included

### Included

* Morning and Afternoon Game Drives
* Scheduled Sundowner drinks & snacks
* House Drinks

### Excluded

* Premium Drinks

## Day 9: Mahogany Springs Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park (Wed, 9 July)

### Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park

The Bwindi Impenetrable National Park lies in south-western Uganda on the edge of the Rift Valley.  Its mist-covered hillsides are blanketed by one of Uganda's oldest and most biologically diverse rainforest, which dates back over 25,000 years and contains almost 400 species of plants.  More famously, this "impenetrable forest" also protects an estimated 460 mountain gorillas - including several habituated families.   
  
This biologically diverse region also provides shelter to a further 120 species of mammal, including several primate species such as baboons and chimpanzees, as well as elephants and antelopes.  There are around 350 species of birds hosted in this forest, including 23 Albertine Rift endemics.

### Day Itinerary

Depart Ishasha after breakfast and drive to Bwindi Forest approx. 2.5 hours.

Bwindi National Park, located in south western Uganda on the edge of the Great Rift Valley, is considered the most diverse forest in Uganda. The area, one of the few large expanses of forest in East Africa, where lowland and montane habitats meet, contains a dense ground cover of herbs, vines, and shrubs.  Home to over 120 mammals, 345 species of birds, 200 species of butterflies, and 160 species of trees, Bwindi is one of the richest ecosystems in East Africa.  The park contains almost one half of the world’s population of the endangered Mountain Gorilla, making it an extremely valuable conservation site. Bwindi is also home to several endangered bird species with very limited ranges, and acts as an important catchment area for many rivers, supplying water for agriculture in the surrounding region.

### Overnight: Mahogany Springs Lodge

Mahogany Springs is situated in one of the most intimate, secluded, beautiful and most importantly natural settings in the world and only around 2 minutes away from the Gorilla tracking starting point.

All the rooms at Mahogany Springs are high end suites. All Suites can be twin, double or triple. There is 24/7 power in all the rooms. All rooms have large en-suite bathrooms with a gorgeously designed open terracotta shower.

All 12 luxurious suites have their own private terrace with magnificent panoramic views over the grounds, river and surrounding areas.

The main dining area is exquisitely furnished and with panoramic views beyond the lodge’s own gardens you will enjoy dining in a tranquil and unrivalled setting. The service provided is as much an art form as the food therefore, the staff are trained to very high standards. Within the main building there is a stunning bar where guests can sit all day and night trying one of the many cocktails or simply a bottle of fine wine. Most of the produce used at Mahogany Springs is grown on site to provide guests with the freshest ingredients.



### Activities

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|  | Agartha's Taste of Uganda Tour |
| Afternoon | Bwindi Impenetrable Forest |

#### Agartha's Taste of Uganda Tour

Ishasha Community Uplift Group has been set up as an organisation committed to conserving the bio-diversity of the area by reducing threats to the eco systems through increased economic opportunities for local community members.

The Community is situated in area bordering the Southern Ishasha Sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park in South West Uganda.  Being along the main route between Bwindi (where visitors view the mountain gorillas) and QENP it is ideally suited for a stopover for an interesting and fulfilling visit to the community from which visitors can be engaged to have a broader understanding of the local communities of the area and their challenges.  In particular, we are focusing on those communities which border the park and fight a continual battle between growing their crops and the game incursions which raid them as an easy source of food.  We offer a guided tour with some of the community members of this agricultural area which incorporates different areas of interest to visitors including experiencing Agartha’s Taste of Uganda Tour and learn about what she farms and how grains and millet are processed for her family’s use. You may also pass via the elephant trench which is a means to reducing animal crop raiding, and can visit the local school where Wildlife Clubs has been initiated, if interested.

#### Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park

The Bwindi Impenetrable National Park lies in south-western Uganda on the edge of the Rift Valley.  Its mist-covered hillsides are blanketed by one of Uganda's oldest and most biologically diverse rainforest, which dates back over 25,000 years and contains almost 400 species of plants.  More famously, this "impenetrable forest" also protects an estimated 460 mountain gorillas - including several habituated families.   
  
This biologically diverse region also provides shelter to a further 120 species of mammal, including several primate species such as baboons and chimpanzees, as well as elephants and antelopes.  There are around 350 species of birds hosted in this forest, including 23 Albertine Rift endemics.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch   
All Local Brands (Spirits, Wine and Beers) Included

### Included

* Ishasha Community Visit
* House Drinks

### Excluded

* Drinks
* Optional Activities

## Day 10: Mahogany Springs Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park (Thu, 10 July)

### Day Itinerary

Following breakfast at the lodge, travel to National Park Headquarters to meet your guides for the day and begin your gorilla tracking experience. Experienced guides and trackers will accompany your party on an early morning trek into the dense rain forest on the mountain slopes.

The journey, through dense foliage and up steep climbs, is abundantly rewarded with the lifetime experience of viewing mountain gorillas in their natural habitat.  You will have an opportunity to be within meters of these magnificent apes, sharing in their daily lives and experiencing their day-to-day activities.  Mountain gorillas are extremely rare with only an estimated 880 remaining in the wild.  This is an experience you won’t soon forget!

After your gorilla trek either spend the time relaxing at the beautiful lodge overlooking Bwindi Forest, or spend the time exploring some of the optional activities available in the area.

### Expert Tips

Wear long trousers and a long sleeved shirt with a t-shirt underneath.

Sturdy, well-worn-in walking boots with long socks.

Day bag to carry your waterproofs, water and packed lunch.

Gardening gloves can prove useful to protect your hands from thorns and stinging nettles.

Secure the services of a porter to carry your day bag and help you with the terrain.

### Activities

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Morning | Gorilla Trekking Bwindi Impenetrable Forest |

#### Gorilla Trekking Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

Coming up close to endangered Mountain Gorillas in the forests of Uganda is a thrilling lifetime experience that surely ranks on most people’s travel bucket list. Trekking at high altitude (should we say between 1400 – 1900metres) which is much lower than Rwanda….through dense forests and up steep terrain can be challenging, especially in the African heat, but the hour you get to spend with these gentle giants is worth every step.

Only 8 guests may trek one gorilla family, at a time.  One trek per day/per family.

Trekking - is managed fully by Uganda Wildlife Authority, with a head ranger, security personnel (who are armed as a precaution against wildlife etc) and trackers, with optional porters – who walk with the guests until a family is located.  Once the gorillas are found, the rangers only take the guests closer to the gorillas – and your viewing time commences – which is one hour.

Porters – they are from the local communities, rotated for revenue sharing which goes directly to them.  Recommended at least 1 per person trekking.  Fees are usually additional to your tour, and paid directly.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch   
All Local Brands (Spirits, Wine and Beers) Included

### Included

* Picnic Lunch
* House Drinks

### Excluded

* Gorilla Trekking Permit at 800 USD per permit
* Optional Activities
* Premium Drinks

## Day 11: Mahogany Springs Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park (Fri, 11 July)

### Day Itinerary

Transfer back to the park for your second gorilla trek in Bwindi Forest National Park.

### Activities

|  |
| --- |
| Gorilla Trekking Bwindi Impenetrable Forest |

#### Gorilla Trekking Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

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Porters – they are from the local communities, rotated for revenue sharing which goes directly to them.  Recommended at least 1 per person trekking.  Fees are usually additional to your tour, and paid directly.

### Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch   
All Local Brands (Spirits, Wine and Beers) Included

### Included

* Picnic Lunch
* House Drinks

### Excluded

* Gorilla Trekking Permit at 800 USD per permit
* Optional Activities
* Premium Drinks

## Day 12: Mihingo Lodge, Lake Mburo National Park (Sat, 12 July)

### Lake Mburo National Park

Situated in the south-western region of Uganda, Lake Mburo National Park is an easily accessible, compact little gem. Renowned for its impressive biodiversity, Lake Mburo National Park shelters almost seventy mammal species and over 300 avian species in its forests, swamps and grasslands. This spectacular landscape features open plains of savanna interrupted by rocky ridges, forested gorges and lush dense woodland. Crocodiles, hippos and a myriad of water birds are found in and around the five lakes, of which Lake Mburo is the largest. Other commonly spotted wildlife include: impala, oribi, eland, zebra, buffalo, Defassa waterbuck, leopard, hyena, hippo and reedbuck.

### Day Itinerary

After breakfast drive to Lake Mburo National Park drive time 5-6 hours.

Lake Mburo, gazetted in 1982 as Uganda’s fourth National Park, consists of 260 sq km of grassland, wetland, and acacia woodland habitat. At the center of the park lies Lake Mburo which, along with 14 other lakes in the area, forms part of an extensive wetland system.  Lake Mburo National Park is home to several animal species including topi, eland, klipspringer, zebra, buffalo, oribi, sitatunga, leopard and a variety of water and acacia savannah bird species such as the marabou stork, bronze tailed starling, and Uganda’s national bird, the beautiful grey crowned crane.  Lake Mburo provides a unique opportunity to see the park on foot and the chance to view vast numbers of diverse hoofed animals.

Night game drives are an option in Lake Mburo and are a chance for unique wildlife viewing. You will be equipped with a spotlight to try sighting the more nocturnal animals such as leopard, hyena and perhaps even a bush baby if you are lucky! Talk to us about this optional activitiy if you are interested.

### Overnight: Mihingo Lodge

Mihingo Lodge is a peaceful and exclusive retreat adjacent to Lake Mburo National Park and features twelve comfortable rooms which are built on wooden platforms. Each luxury tented room is nestled on a private piece of the lodge's property, enabling guests to enjoy the tranquil environment in complete seclusion. Placed in varied settings, some rooms are situated in a forest, some with a lake view, and some on rocky outcrops. The lodge offers a variety of amenities that include a cosy main dining area as well as an infinity swimming pool. Aside from lounging by the pool, enjoying the sounds of nature, or watching nearby wildlife, guests can also avail themselves of the numerous activities offered by Lake Mburo National Park and Mihingo Lodge that include boat trips on Lake Mburo, savannah walks, walking with giraffe, game drives in Lake Mburo National Park, and horse back safaris.



### Basis

Bed and Breakfast

### Included

Park Entry

Night Game drive

### Excluded

Drinks

Optional activities

## Day 13: The Boma Hotel Entebbe, Entebbe (Sun, 13 July)

### Entebbe

As previously described

### Day Itinerary

**Day Nature Walk in Lake Mburo**

In the company of a ranger guide, embark on a nature walk in Lake Mburo where you may have the chance of viewing the grazers like the Zebras, bush bucks, elands, Impalas, grazing local cattle and a vast number of birds. Visit the salt lick area where a number of animals gather to enjoy the salty taste of soil.

 Drive for approx. 6hrs to Entebbe and transfer to your guest house for overnight.

Overnight at Boma Guest House

### Overnight: The Boma Hotel Entebbe

The Boma Hotel is Entebbe’s original and most exclusive hotel, set in tropical gardens in a leafy suburb, a few minutes drive from Entebbe International Airport. Our rooms combine the modern comforts one expects today with the charm and character of the original 1940’s home. The Boma is an ideal stopover for all travellers and airline passengers, and we will arrange all your airport transfers. Our staff and management team ensure guests receive a personable service and enjoy hospitality standards which are in keeping with the tradition of this charming lakeshore town.

### Activities

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| --- |
| Nature Walk in Lake Mburo |

#### Nature Walk in Lake Mburo

Unusually, the whole park is open to walkers as long as they are accompanied by a ranger guide. At Rwonyo, a guided walk leads to a salt lick where many animals are attracted to the salty rocks. Walks on the western side of the lake begin in the morning, making it easier to encounter hyenas returning to their dens and hippos retreating to the lake. Hikes through the woodland provide an opportunity to sight forest birds and mammals, while the walk to the top of the hill rewards visitors with a spectacular view of 9 of the region’s 14 lakes. Normally the walk is best in the morning and lasts 2-3 hours.

### Basis

Breakfast and Lunch only

### Included

Nature Walk in Lake Mburo

### Excluded

Drinks

Dinner

## Day 14: End of Itinerary (Mon, 14 July)

### Day Itinerary

After an early breakfast, transfer to UWEC for the chimp integration activity.  Transfer back to your guest house to freshen up and thereafter transfer to the airport to check-in for your international flight out.

End of services.

### Activities

|  |
| --- |
| Chimpanzee Integration Program |

### Optional

|  |
| --- |
| Entebbe |

#### Chimpanzee Integration Program

Taking place at the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre, Chimpanzee integration program offers visitors a chance to embark on a highly moving and unique experience whereby they get close with the endangered chimpanzee species. Visitors can join the younger chimpanzees for part of their daily exercise routine in a stretch of the natural forest and be mesmerised as they interact with each other and guests. The experience offers guests a rare opportunity to bond with man's closest relative while learning about the dangers that they are currently facing in the wild.

#### Entebbe

Set on the shores of Lake Victoria, Entebbe is a small town that is easy to explore on foot or local boda bodas (motorbike taxis).  Explore the markets, hunt for souvenirs or crafts, meander through the Botanical Gardens or relax with a boat cruise on Lake Victoria. You’ll find a wide variety of restaurants, bars and clubs where you can sample the local beer, catch a game of football and meet the friendly locals.

### Basis

Bed and Breakfast

### Included

Airport Transfer

Chimp Integration Program

### Excluded

* Optional Activities
* Drinks
* Lunch & Dinner