

## Banda Cultural Village

Banda Cultural Village, located within Nyungwe Forest National Park, offers a glimpse into Rwandan traditional life, including traditional dances, agriculture, and local crafts. Visitors can experience a village tour, sample local food, observe basket weaving, and learn about banana beer brewing. The village is easily accessible by hiking or taking a mountain road from Uwinka Reception.

Activities and Experiences:

- **Village tours:** Explore the village, observe daily life, and learn about local customs.
- **Traditional dances:** Witness the Intore dance and other traditional performances.
- **Local food:** Sample traditional dishes and learn about local cuisine.
- **Basket weaving:** Observe women weaving baskets and potentially learn the skill.
- **Banana beer brewing:** Learn about the traditional process and perhaps taste the local brew.
- **Traditional ceremonies:** Witness traditional wedding ceremonies.
- **Guided nature walks:** Explore the surrounding forest with a guide.
- **Maize grinding:** Observe the traditional process of grinding maize.
- **Local medicines:** Learn about herbal medicine practices

## Red Rocks Rwanda

Red Rocks Rwanda is a social enterprise and ecotours company focused on sustainable tourism that benefits local communities, wildlife, and the environment, particularly around Volcanoes National Park. They offer a range of cultural and ecotourism experiences, including cultural exchange programs, traditional practices, and events that promote cultural heritage. [Red Rocks Rwanda](#) also provides budget-friendly accommodations and tours, aiming to empower underserved communities and provide them with economic opportunities through responsible tourism.

Here's a more detailed look at Red Rocks Rwanda:

Core Services and Mission:

- **Cultural and Ecotourism:**  
Red Rocks Rwanda offers a variety of tours and activities that showcase Rwandan culture, wildlife, and natural beauty.
- **Sustainable Tourism:**  
They prioritize responsible tourism that benefits local communities and the environment.
- **Community Empowerment:**  
Red Rocks Rwanda aims to empower local communities by offering economic opportunities through tourism.
- **Accommodation:**  
They provide budget-friendly options like a backpacker hostel, campsite, and heritage cultural cottages.
- **Cultural Exchange:**

Visitors can engage in cultural exchange programs, learn about traditional practices, and participate in cultural events.

### Community-Based Tourism:

- Red Rocks Rwanda collaborates with local communities to develop and thrive within the tourism supply chain.
- They support community development projects, such as kitchen garden initiatives and educational programs, to address poverty and malnutrition.
- They also promote local art and crafts, providing a platform for artists to showcase their work.

### Activities and Experiences:

- **Gorilla Trekking:**

Red Rocks Rwanda offers gorilla trekking tours, a popular attraction in Volcanoes National Park.

- **Cultural Performances:**

Visitors can experience traditional Rwandan music, dance, and storytelling.

- **Nature Walks:**

Explore the natural beauty of the area with guided nature walks.

- **Home-Stay Experiences:**

Immerse yourself in local life by staying with host families in rural villages.

- **Red Rocks Cultural Festival:**

### **Kitabi Culture Village in Rwanda**

Kitabi Culture Village in Rwanda is located near the entrance of Nyungwe National Park and offers visitors a glimpse into traditional Rwandan life. It features huts depicting how the kingdom was organized in the past and provides opportunities to participate in various activities, including learning about local medicine, honey collection, traditional dishes, and more. The village also offers cultural experiences like pottery, herbal medicine making, cooking, and cultural dances.

### Key features of Kitabi Culture Village:

- **Location:** Near the entrance of Nyungwe National Park.
- **Traditional Huts:** Depict how the kingdom was organized in the past.
- **Activities:**
  - Making local medicine and dishes.
  - Honey collection.
  - Pottery and herbal medicine making.
  - Cultural dances and plays.
- **Cultural Experiences:** Learn about Rwandan culture through various activities.
- **Community Development:** The Kitabi Eco Center, associated with the village, supports local community organizations

### **Nyungwe National Park**

Nyungwe National Park in Rwanda is renowned for its stunning natural beauty and rich biodiversity, particularly its diverse array of primates, birds,

and other wildlife. It's one of the oldest rainforests in Africa and is a significant ecological and biological area. The park offers activities like chimpanzee trekking, canopy walks, and bird watching.

Key Features and Attractions:

- **Biodiversity:**

Nyungwe is a biodiversity hotspot with a high concentration of plant and animal life, including 13 primate species, over 1,000 plant species, 90+ mammal species, and 300+ bird species.

- **Oldest Rainforest:**

It's one of the oldest rainforests in Africa, contributing to its unique and diverse ecosystem.

- **Landscape Variety:**

The park features diverse landscapes, including montane forests, marshland, savanna, and deep valleys.

- **Chimpanzee Trekking:**

A popular activity is trekking with chimpanzees, offering a close-up encounter with these primates.

- **Canopy Walk:**

The park's suspended bridge walkway provides an aerial view of the forest canopy, offering a unique perspective of the park's landscape.

- **Bird Watching:**

Nyungwe is a birdwatcher's paradise, with numerous bird species, including endemic ones, making it a prime destination for bird enthusiasts.

- **Hiking Trails:**

The park offers a network of hiking trails, allowing visitors to explore its diverse habitats and wildlife.

- **Water Source:**

Nyungwe plays a vital role in Rwanda's water resources, contributing significantly to the country's water supply.

Location and Accessibility:

- **Rusizi District:**

The park is located in the Rusizi District, southwest of Rwanda.

- **Gisenyi Gate:**

A newly re-opened gate in the north, accessible from Gisenyi, [says Inside Nyungwe National Park](#).

- **Other Gates:**

There are also gates in Butare, Ruhengeri, and Kibuye, offering various entry points to the park.

- **Day Trips:**

The park can be visited as a day trip from Kigali or other parts of Rwanda, making it accessible for various visitors.