

ULTIMATE UGANDA GORILLA ADVENTURE



**WILDLAND
ADVENTURES**

AUTHENTIC WORLDWIDE
EXPLORATIONS

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Itinerary Overview

Viewing gorillas in the wild is a breathtaking and humbling wildlife encounter! Follow our team of expert guides and native trackers as you bushwhack through the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in search of a family of mountain gorillas. We plan two days of gorilla tracking so you have the best chances of finding one of several gorilla groups with an opportunity for observation up-close and personal.

But, Uganda is so much more than gorillas. You hike in the Kibale Forest, take game drives and boat trips in Queen Elizabeth National Park, and visit Lake Mburo National Park to ensure that you see the full range of Ugandan wildlife and culture. We recommend an extension to Murchison Falls National Park for stunning scenery, wildlife encounters, and the spectacular falls themselves. Wildland Adventures travelers to Uganda support the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International through our Travelers Conservation Trust.

DAY	OVERNIGHT	HOTELS	MEALS	HIGHLIGHTS
1	ENTEBBE	Protea Hotel		Arrive in Entebbe
2	KIBALE FOREST	Ndali Lodge	BLD	Drive to the Kibale Forest
3	KIBALE FOREST	Ndali Lodge	BLD	Kibale Forest Chimpanzees and Bigodi Wetlands
4	QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK	Mweya Lodge	BLD	Drive to Queen Elizabeth, afternoon game driving
5	QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK	Mweya Lodge	BLD	Game driving, launch trip on the Kasinga Channel
6	QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK	Ishasha Camp	BLD	Chambura Gorge and Ishasha
7	BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST	Gorilla Forest Camp	BLD	Game drive Ishasha, drive to Bwindi
8	BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST	Gorilla Forest Camp	BLD	Gorilla Trekking
9	BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST	Gorilla Forest Camp	BLD	Gorilla Trekking
10	DEPARTURE	Lake Victoria Hotel (day room)	BD	Drive to the Kihhihi Airstrip, return flight to Entebbe and departure

Itinerary in Detail

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ENTEBBE

Upon arrival into Entebbe you will be met at the airport and be transferred to your hotel for an overnight stay. If you arrive early in the day, a visit to the Entebbe Botanical Gardens is possible. **Protea Hotel** or similar. **[meals on own]**

DAY 2: KIBALE FOREST

Driving time: Approx 7.5 hours on mostly paved roads

Morning drive westward to Kibale Forest. The route slowly ascends from the Lake Victoria basin into the lush rolling foothills of The Ruwenzori Mountains (Mountains of the Moon).

Pass through villages and farmland where every imaginable fruit and vegetable of the tropics can be seen growing. Birding is excellent with varying ecosystems including rain forest, agricultural land, papyrus swamps, scrub land, and the famous tea growing area around Fort Portal and Kyanjojo.

Overnight **Ndali Lodge** or similar. **[BLD]**



DAY 3: KIBALE FOREST

Spend a full day exploring on foot in the Kibale Forest and Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary. This morning is spent trekking for chimpanzees in the Kibale National Park. This afternoon visit the Bigodi Sanctuary, created in 1992 by a community environmental group as a way to effectively use natural resources. Hike on well-maintained footpaths with community guides. Wildlife in and around the park includes 138 species of birds and eight species of primates. Overnight at **Ndali Lodge** or similar. **[BLD]**

DAYS 4–5: QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

Scenic morning drive (approx. 3.5 hours) to the Queen Elizabeth National Park, situated in the western region of the Great Rift Valley. This park includes a remarkable variety of eco-systems from semi-deciduous tropical forests to green meadows, savannah, crater lakes and swamps. Within the park a vast array of wildlife can be found including elephant, buffalo, hippo, leopard and the famous tree-

climbing lions of Ishasha are just a few species you are likely to see. Along the shores of Lake Edward and the Kasinga Channel are over five hundred bird species, including the Shoe-bill stork, black bee-eater, eleven different species of kingfisher, and several eagles and other raptors. Many of the crater lakes are home to spectacular flocks of flamingos. The Kasinga Channel runs through the Park, joining Lake Edward with Lake George and is home to thousands of shore birds, hippo and crocodiles. Two nights **Mweya Lodge**. **[BLD]**

DAY 6: CHAMBURA GORGE AND ISHASHA

Delve deep into the Chambura Gorge this morning on a search for chimpanzees, which live in the gorge. After your trek, enjoy a scenic drive to the Ishasha region, still within QENP. This region is known for tree climbing lions, who nap in the branches of fig and other trees during the heat of the day. Other species include buffalo, elephants, kob, topi, and other antelope species. Enjoy an afternoon game drive and overnight at **Ishasha Camp**. **[BLD]**



DAYS 7, 8, 9: BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST

Enjoy a last morning game drive in Ishasha this morning before proceeding by vehicle to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, home to half of the world's population of mountain gorillas and designated as a World Heritage Site. Some of the gorilla families have been habituated to human presence, and it is possible to visit them in their natural habitat within the forest. Bwindi also contains many other primate species and offers interesting and more relaxing walks for visitors around the lower levels of the forest.

Prior to trekking, you will have an orientation at the park headquarters to become familiar with gorilla tracking ethics. It is very important that under no circumstances are the gorillas to be touched by humans. This is to protect the animals from communicable diseases to which they are very susceptible. Spend your days in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest on two full day treks to view two different families of mountain gorillas. The search, with experienced trackers leading the way, can take up to eight hours although the gorillas are usually found after two to four hours. Some hiking areas lie at altitudes above 7,500 feet over rough and muddy terrain. Although the hike can be physically demanding, the beauty of the forest and surrounding scenery make the trek worthwhile.



Once the gorillas are located, all fatigue is forgotten, as the experience is often described as the most profound natural history experience in the world. Picnic lunches are provided and it is important to take plenty of water. Cameras and plenty of fast speed film are recommended. It can rain at a few minutes notice, hence water proof clothing is a good idea, also zip lock bags for cameras and film. Return to camp for the evening meal and relaxation. Three nights' accommodations at **Gorilla Forest Camp. [BLD]**

DAY 10: DEPARTURE

Morning departure to the Kihiki airstrip about an hour and 15 minutes away. Meet a scheduled small airplane flight for a 2 hour return flight to Entebbe where you'll be met and transferred to the Lake Victoria Hotel. A dayroom is available to rest and clean up before an evening transfer to the airport for your departing flight. **[BD]**

END OF SERVICES

Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.

PRICING AND DATES:

For current pricing please click here: [Pricing](#)

For scheduled departure dates please click here: [Dates](#)

INCLUDED SERVICES

- All guided tours and excursions
- Private English-speaking naturalist guide (Gorilla and chimpanzee treks are conducted in a group of 8 with a National Parks Ranger and are not private)
- Airport-hotel transfers, land transportation
- Park Entrance fees, Chimp trekking permits
- 10 nights hotel accommodation as indicated
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Drinks with meals at Gorilla Forest Camp (excluding premium brands)
- Bottled water in the vehicle
- Wildland Adventures travel consultation and pre-departure services

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- International airfare
- Gorilla permits (listed separately)
- Tips and gratuities
- Visa fees
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Any other items not mentioned above

TRIP NOTES

Departure dates are scheduled on a private basis and subject to Gorilla Permit availability. We advise confirming this itinerary at least 6 months before your intended date of travel. Minimum age to trek for gorillas is 15. Gorilla permits are currently \$500 per person per day and two days of trekking is included in this itinerary. Trekking Permits and 20% deposit required to confirm. Both deposit and permit payment are non-refundable.

SMALL AIRCRAFT WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS: For safety reasons weight on the small aircraft flight (Bwindi to Entebbe) is limited to 242 lbs per person. This includes passenger weight and luggage weight, including carry ons. Passengers will not be weighed at the airstrip but luggage will be. **Luggage is required to be 33lbs or less, including carry on.**

Accommodations



PROTEA HOTEL

This luxurious 4-star resort hotel is ideally located on the glistening shores of Lake Victoria and conveniently from the Entebbe airport. Protea offers a wide variety of services & amenities including a restaurant serving specialties that include Tilapia and Nile Perch. Relax on the terrace or at bar with views out across the lake. With elegant furnishings and a warm, inviting feel, the hotel's decor and rooms create a luxurious atmosphere. The outside terrace, with its own special ambience and superb lake views is the perfect place to take it all in.



NDALI LODGE, LAKE NYINAMBUGA

Perched on the rim of an extinct volcano, now filled with water to create Lake Nyinambuga, this stunning lodge lies at the center of a privately owned fertile farmland still cultivated in a traditional style. Eight spacious cottages face a panoramic view of the stunning 'Mountains of the Moon'. Each is decorated with local materials in a stylish and comfortable manner and is equipped with en suite facilities and a private verandah for ultimate sunset viewing opportunities. This eco-friendly lodge provides solar lamps for the cottages and candlelight in the main lounge and dining room. Enjoy the beautiful backdrop of Lake Victoria during your

outdoor breakfast with freshly squeezed passion-fruit juice from the Ndali vines when in season. Popular activities include guided walking tours and visits to the nearby Kibale Forest National Park, famous home of the largest concentration of chimpanzees in Africa.



MWEYA LODGE , QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

Situated on a peninsula overlooking Lake Edward and Kasinga Channel, enjoy beautiful views of the park and the Ruwenzori Mountains in the background. Mweya Lodge has been completely renovated with spacious rooms, restaurant, bar area, pool, and outside dining. Hippos and warthogs are often found grazing succulent grasses on the landscaped grounds.



ISHASHA WILDERNESS CAMP, QUEEN ELIZABETH

Ishasha Wilderness Camp is situated on the Ntungwe river, an idyllic retreat for people who truly enjoy the wilderness. Each of the ten spacious tents are situated in the wooded area besides the river, and are comfortably furnished and with their own private en suite bathroom with hot water “bush” showers and an eco-friendly toilet. Solar lighting is available in the tents, and batteries and digital equipment can be charged in a central charging area. The outdoor shaded area besides the river offers al fresco dining and an evening “fireplace” venue for guests who come to enjoy this unique bush experience offered at this wilderness

camp. Hot beverages are delivered to your tent with early morning wake up calls as required, allowing you to savour the early morning sounds of the “bush” awakening.



GORILLA FOREST CAMP, BWINDI

Gorilla Forest Camp is an intimate luxury tented camp exclusively situated inside the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park. The camp consists of 8 custom designed twin rooms, with spacious queen-sized beds and each with its own en suite bathroom facilities, featuring hot and cold running water and flush toilets. A unique feature for the camp is that each room has its own private forest bath and shower, open to the lush forest, where clients can luxuriate in their surroundings. Private verandahs at each tent offer secluded privacy to guests in search of solitude. A communal bar and lounge area overlooks the rain forest for dining and social gatherings. Electricity is

provided for lighting and recharging of video camera batteries and similar appliances. This small oasis of luxury provides complete comfort - duvets and hot water bottles at night. Gorilla Forest camp is an eco-sensitive camp, constructed to have as little impact as possible on the surrounding forest and its diverse ecosystem.

Booking your Wildland Adventure

HOW TO RESERVE A TRIP

You can book online using our [Reserve a Trip form](#) or by calling 1-800-345-4453. Your space on a trip is confirmed once we receive your reservation form and initial trip deposit. All travelers must sign and submit a [Release of Liability](#).

Deposit requirements are as follows:

- 20% of land cost + Gorilla Trekking Permit Fees. This deposit is generally non-refundable. Gorilla Trekking permits are always non-refundable.

CUSTOM TRAVEL

This trip isn't exactly what you're looking for? We are happy to design a private custom itinerary to accommodate your travel dates, interests and style of accommodations. Call us at 1-800-345-4453, send an email to info@wildland.com, or use the Ask The Program Director button on the trip itinerary page on our website.

PAYMENTS, CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

Full payment of the trip balance is due 90 days prior to departure. If you must cancel before departure, money will be returned less the cancellation fees charged by WA Inc. plus any additional non-refundable cancellation fees and payments already advanced to airlines, hotels and local operators:

Days Prior to Departure: Fee per person

61 or more: Initial deposit amount

31-60 days: 50% of land cost

30 or less: 100% of land cost

PRE-DEPARTURE SERVICES

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will send you a comprehensive Pre-departure Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, and packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions and more. You will receive a final trip packet including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

REFERENCES AND QUESTIONS

Have any questions or concerns? Call us a 1-800-345-4453 or email info@wildland.com. We're here to help and are happy to provide you with references from previous Wildland travelers.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Wildland Adventures, Inc. has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary. It is however possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included. We highly recommend purchasing traveler's insurance for trip delay, trip cancellation, baggage, accident or sickness. Representatives are available for assistance at any time during your trip. If preferred hotels are not available, every attempt will be made to reserve alternative accommodations of similar quality. (If upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply.) All information and services provided are subject to our [Terms and Conditions](#).