

# Western Uganda & Rwanda: Culture, Adventure, and Wildlife

12 DAYS/ 11 NIGHTS, PRIVATE JOURNEY

Kampala, Jinja, Kibale N.P, Queen Elizabeth N.P,  
Bwindi N.P, Volcanoes N.P & Kigali.



Experience the most popular destinations and top features of Uganda in twelve days. Enjoy Ugandan hospitality, try local food, meet the majestic mountain Gorillas, take a safari and track the cheeky and chimpanzees of Kibale Forest. Get to immerse yourself in wildlife conservation and local culture by engaging experts and going behind the scenes. Lastly, enjoy a little taste of Rwanda before heading back home.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Cruise the Nile River
- ✓ Meet locals and get immersed in the culture
- ✓ Track Chimpanzees
- ✓ Encounter Mountain Gorillas
- ✓ Track lions on a safari

**Starts:** Entebbe, Uganda

**Ends:** Kigali, Rwanda

*Fully Escorted by a Redroad Tours' guide.*

### Day 1: Arrive in Entebbe

A Redroad Tours guide receives you on arrival in Entebbe and transfers you to your hotel in Kampala.

### Day 2: Kampala Sight Seeing

Set off from your hotel late morning and visit the Kasubi cultural tombs and King's palace, which was once a home of Idi Amin's torture chambers. The tour includes a lunch in the city. Return to your hotel in time for dinner.

### Day 3: Nile River and Community Tours in Jinja

Head east for a 3-hour journey to Jinja city, home of the source of the Nile. On your way, stop at Namawojolo for a taste of "salty chicken on a stick," a delicacy popular with locals in transit. On arrival in Jinja, take a two-hour

boat tour on the Nile. On the boat, enjoy the serenity of the Nile, and witness numerous bird species, including kingfishers. Learn how the Nile has shaped Uganda's culture and history. Your last stop is a fishing village. Disembark from the boat and take a walk through the town. Learn about their trade as well as their way of life.

After the boat tour, head to lunch at the home of a Ugandan family in a nearby community. Learn how the family has been rescued and rehabilitated by Abide family center.

After lunch, take a two-hour quad biking tour along the banks of the Nile and neighboring communities. After that, head back to your hotel in Kampala. You will set off early morning for Jinja, 3 hours east of Kampala. Dinner is included at the hotel.

#### **Day 4: Kampala Walking Tour**

Head out early morning for a walking tour of Kampala. All your senses come alive as you make your way through the hustle and bustle of Kampala. The time includes visiting a local market, the taxi park, and Uganda's oldest food market.

Return to your hotel for brunch before setting off for Fort Portal. It's a five-hour drive from Kampala. Dinner is included at the lodge

#### **Day 5: Chimp Tracking**

Fort Portal is home to Kibale Forest National Park. Head out early at 7 am to the park for a chimp tracking expedition. It's such an enthralling experience that involves hiking through the forest in search of the chimpanzees. Once you find them, you have an hour to watch and observe before heading out and back to the lodge.

Spend the afternoon at leisure. Later in the evening, head to Bigodi swamp for a swamp walk. The swamp is an excellent way of seeing the eight different monkeys found in Kibale National Park. Return to the lodge for dinner and rest.

#### **Day 6: Kasese Coffee Tour and Queen Elizabeth**

Set off early morning to the foothills of mountain Ruwenzori. Meet the Bakonjo people, and get a tour of their coffee gardens on the mountain slopes. Learn how coffee is grown, harvested, processed, and brewed. Even get to make and taste your cup of coffee.

After that, proceed to Queen Elizabeth National Park. Arrive at the lodge in time for lunch. After lunch, have an afternoon break before heading out at 5 pm for a game drive. The prominent sightings are Buffalos, Elephants, Warthogs, Antelopes, and Lions on the game drive. Leopards and Hyenas are also occasionally seen.

### **Day 7: Queen Elizabeth Lion Tracking and Game Drives**

Head out early morning with wildlife conservationists for a lion-tracking expedition. With the help of GPS technology, you will track and locate a dominant lioness which usually is in the company of its pride. It's common to encounter other predators and wildlife during lion tracking.

Return to the lodge in time for lunch. After lunch, head out for a boat safari on the Kazinga channel. The channel is a 30 km stretch of water that connects Lake Edward and Lake George. The Kazinga channel is also home to hippos and Nile crocodiles and attracts numerous other wildlife such as Elephants, Antelopes, and Birds. The boat tour is two hours long, and after that, return to the lodge for rest and dinner.

### **Day 8: Transfer to Bwindi**

Set off after breakfast and take a 5-hour drive to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Arrive at the lodge in time for lunch. After lunch meets, Dr. Gladys Kalema Zikusoka, a leading conservationist and scientist working to save the critically endangered mountain gorillas of Uganda. Dr. Gladys will give you a tour of a nearby village and the work she is doing to educate locals on how to live harmoniously with these creatures. The village walk is also a great way to learn about the traditions and cultures of the Batwa tribe that reside in the Bwindi region. Return to the lodge in time for dinner.

### **Day 9: Gorilla Trekking in Bwindi**

Head out early morning at 8 am for a full day trekking experience through the thick jungle of Bwindi. Led by Dr. Gladys and forest rangers, you will search for a family of mountain gorillas and spend about an hour observing and learning about these magnificent creatures. Return to the lodge later in the afternoon for much-needed rest and dinner.

### **Day 10: Transfer to Volcanoes National Park**

Take a 3-hour drive through the rolling hills of southern Uganda to the border of Uganda and Rwanda. Get through immigration and drive for an hour to your lodge on the slopes of the Virunga mountains. Have lunch, and then head out to the Karisoke Exhibit. Get to learn about Diane Fossey's work and legacy, as well as the current efforts being done to protect the mountain gorillas of Rwanda.

### **Day 11. Transfer to Kigali**

Spend the day at leisure. You may choose from a myriad of options available. Some of the activities are; trekking another family of gorillas, tracking the rare golden monkeys found in the Virunga, and taking a hike to Diane Fossey's grave. Later in the afternoon, travel to Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, located 2 hours away.

## Day 12: Fly Home

Take the morning to do some souvenir shopping. Later in the evening, transfer to the airport for your flight back home.

## Tour Pricing

Number of travelers	Budget	Mid-range	Luxury
2	\$4,052	\$4589	\$8,045
4	\$3,237	\$3742	\$7,012
6	\$2965	\$3460	\$6,667

## Lodging

Location	Budget	Mid-range	Luxury
Kampala	Nexus Hotel	Hotel Africana	Serena Hotel
Kibale N.P	Kibale Forest Camp	Turaco Treetops	Crater Safari Lodge
Queen Elizabeth. N.P	Bush Lodge	Ihamba Lakeside Safari Lodge	Mweya Safari Lodge
Bwindi N.P	Gorilla Valley Lodge	Rushaga Gorilla Camp	Gorilla Safari Lodge
Volcanoes N.P	Virunga Hotel	Tiloreza Ecolodge	Virunga lodge
Kigali	Hotel 2000	Onomo Hotel	Kigali Marriot Hotel

In the unlikely event that Redroad Tours is unable to provide the accommodation(s) listed, for whatever reason, Redroad Tours will substitute similar quality accommodation(s) at no additional cost to the traveler.

## Activity Rating

This tour is not suitable for anyone who is physically challenged. Most of the activities on the trip require a moderate level of physical fitness, such as walking and hiking, except for gorilla trekking. Gorilla trekking can be strenuous, and we ask that even when you are in great shape, you practice walking or even hiking in preparation for your trek.

80% - Easy

10% - Moderate (city walking, time spent in the van, bump dirt roads on safari)

10% - Strenuous (gorilla trekking)

### **Pricing for optional activities**

- Gorilla tracking in Rwanda - \$1,500 per person
- Golden Monkey tracking - \$100 per person
- Hiking to the Diane Fossey Research Camp and Grave Site - \$75 per person
- Visit the Iby'Iwacu Cultural Village - \$20 per person

### **What's included?**

- Accommodation in double occupancy (two people sharing) with an option to upgrade
- Local transportation in private customized safari vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, and 10 dinners
- All activities as described in the itinerary
- Park entry fees
- All tipping of local guides

### **Other costs not included**

- International Airfare
- Travel insurance
- Visa - \$100 per person
- Meals not included on your itinerary
- Optional activities
- Any personal expenses
- Drinks
- Gratuities for Redroad Tours' guide