

8 Day - Jewels of Uganda Luxury Safari

Highlights of this tour

- Meet the Chimpanzees in Kibale National Park
- Search for the Tree climbing Lions in Ishasha
- Get in touch with the Gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest



The many national parks and game reserves testify the natural beauty of Uganda. In the national parks of the country you can experience the real, yet untouched wilderness. There you will find an extraordinary biodiversity, where Mountain Gorillas and Chimpanzees live beside Sitatunga Antelope and Forest Elephant. Uganda is home of over 1.000 species of birds and attracts many professional bird watchers every year. The glaciers of the Rwenzori Mountains and their formation at Lake Mutanda in southwestern Uganda are also impressive and a paradise for Mountain climbers.

Visitors return to Uganda's welcoming people and the temperate climate.

The 52 tribes and their different languages, culture and dances, all living peacefully next to each other, set the country apart.

You can get in touch with the native people and the real rural life in one of the many community projects. Or follow the historical tracks of the great Explorers like Speke, Stanley or Livingstone and visit the Source of the Nile. Not to forget the many adventure sports opportunities like the 5-grade white water Rafting,

ManyA Africa Tours | www.manyaafricatours.com | info@manyaafricatours.com

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Mirembe Villas Kigo, Kigo Road, Kampala, Uganda

Member of AUTO Association of Uganda Tour Operators

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Bungee Jumping, squad biking or horse riding along the River Nile. Let Uganda inspire you!

Day 1: Arrival to the Pearl of Africa

On your arrival at **Entebbe International Airport** you will be met by your Manya Africa Tours guide who will greet you and transfer you to your hotel. This will take between 15 to 40 Minutes depending on traffic.

Overnight at Lake Victoria Serena (B&B)



Day 2: Depart for Kibale Forest

This morning we will drive to **Fort Portal** and explore the area around the base of the Rwenzori Mountains with an (optional) visit to the world-famous Rwenzori Mountain Sculpture Foundation.

Optional you can also fly with Aerolink to Kasese. Please see costs at the end of this program.

Later we drive to Kibale Forest National Park, in **Western Uganda**. Kibale Forest National Park, a multi-faceted forest of 795 square kilometers is home to over 335 species of birds (some very rare and only found here), and 13 species of primates including chimpanzees, red colobus monkey, the rare L'Hoest monkey,

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blue monkey, grey mangabey, black faced vervet monkeys, baboons, pottos and bushbabies.

Cleverly constructed walking paths lead you through Papyrus that towers above your head in Bigodi Wetlands Sanctuary, a few minutes' drive from Kibale Forest. With over 130 bird species, multicolored butterflies, eight different types of primates and the rare, semi-aquatic Sitatunga (antelope), this is community tourism at its best.

Set against the stunning backdrop of Lake Kyanninga and the Rwenzori Mountains beyond, **Kyanninga Lodge** is the spectacular result of one man's vision and six years of unwavering commitment to creating an experience of Africa's beauty unlike anything else.

You can experience the beauty and romance of this unexplored region, while staying in the height of luxury and elegance. Nine exclusive cottages made from hand carved logs, superb dining, and a wealth of adventures await.

Overnight Kyanninga/Primate Safari Lodge (FB)



Day 3: Chimpanzee-Tracking in the Jungle (Kibale Forest National Park)

After breakfast, we report to the Ranger Headquarters of the **Kibale Forest National Park** at 8 AM to set out to find the **chimpanzees** living there. It's great fun to watch this active apes play and roam in the fruit trees.

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The experienced ranger will introduce you to the various family members of the chimpanzee family and show you many more inhabitants of the forest. As you walk through the forest on small trails, you will be told how the locals use the woodland plants, e.g. also to combat some diseases. Even the elusive forest elephant, which is smaller and bears more coat than its brother from the savannah, moves in the Kibale Forest. Sometimes even large mammals such as buffalo, large forest pigs and various antelope species can be admired.

In the afternoon, we will visit the neighboring Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary. Cleverly constructed walking paths guide you through the papyrus that grows above your heads. With over 130 species of birds, colorful butterflies, eight species of primates and the rare semi-aquatic sitatunga antelope, this area is a showpiece of responsible tourism.

Overnight Kyaninga/Primate Safari Lodge (FB)

Day 4: Drive to Queen Elizabeth Nationalpark (Queen Elizabeth National Park)

Your Guide will drive you through Kasese towards **Queen Elizabeth National Park**, which is at the foot of the Rift Valley. From time to time even the peaks of

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the Rwenzori Mountains can be seen on the horizon. The landscape of northern Queen Elizabeth consists of several dozen craters. With more than 600 species of birds, Queen Elizabeth National Park offers even greater diversity than other national parks in Uganda. On the way to the lodge you can observe a large variety of wildlife such as elephants. Keep your eyes open for the hard-to-find leopards! Today's accommodation is high above the Kichwamba Ridge and offers breathtaking views over the bottom of the Rift Valley. While the foothills of the Rwenzoris are in front of you, the eight mighty Virunga volcanoes rise to the other side.

Overnight at Katara Lodge or Mweya Lodge which both offer panoramic views of the whole park (FB)



Day 5: Boat safari on the Kazinga Channel

Start your day early with an early morning game drive. Please ask the hotel staff to pack for you breakfast so that you can find a nice spot en route. A popular route for the game drive is the Kasenye sector, well-known for its lions that prey on Queen Elizabeth's large population of Uganda Kob (antelope). If you are very lucky, you may spot a Giant Forest Hog, Africa's largest pig. Keep your eyes peeled to spot an elusive leopard!

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You could also opt for a **balloon ride and enjoy** a bird's-eye view over the Savanah (optional costs at the end of this program).

After your game drive, you will head back to the lodge for a few hours' relaxation by the pool and lunch.

In the afternoon, you will take a boat for a **water safari** on the Kazinga Channel at Mweya that connects the two lakes of Edward and George. This is likely to be a big highlight of your trip! The expert Uganda Wildlife Authority guides will identify many of the Channel's 100 bird species and you're likely to see African Skimmers, Great White Pelicans, Spoonbill and a few Bee-eater species. Hippos wallow at the edge of the water, huge Nile crocodiles bask in the sun and elephants come down to drink.



The Kazinga Channel boat ride is a brilliant opportunity to take some close-up wildlife shots.

Overnight Mweya/Katara Lodge (FB)

DAY 6: In Search of the tree climbing lions - Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

Today we drive to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and on the way take a short game drive through **Ishasha**, the southern sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park. On the vast plains of the Ishasha you will find a famous inhabitant, the tree-climbing lion. A sighting is not guaranteed, however, in the large low-hanging Fig Trees of Ishasha there are far better chances to see the lion, like in the rest of Africa.

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Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is regarded as a UNESCO-Natural-World-Heritage and is one of the richest biological and botanical regions in the world. With its south-west position at the edge of the western Rift-Valley, this forest covers 331 km². The treasures of Bwindi are the approx. **400 wild Mountain gorillas**. They contribute to about half of the world population of these gentle human apes.

After a few hours in the car, you can take a relaxing afternoon walk in the village of Buhoma (your home in Bwindi) and visit one of the many craft markets. Or you can visit the Batwa tribe who live in the middle of the forest. Your current accommodation is elevated and from there you can overlook the breathtakingly beautiful Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park.

Mahogany Springs offers privacy and serenity blended with optimal comfort in a spectacular setting. With some of the most luxurious accommodation in East Africa the feeling that you will experience when staying here is beyond compare.

Overnight Mahogany Springs Lodge (FB)

Day 7: In touch with the Gorillas (Bwindi Impenetrable National Park)

Get up very early for your gorilla tracking and have a well-balanced breakfast in preparation for the day. After the registration at the Uganda Wildlife Authority Ranger Station and a short briefing, your incredible gorilla tracking starts.

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Once you've located the gorilla family, you'll be asked to leave all your belongings behind and slowly approach these gentle giants armed with only your camera. The guide interprets the behavior of the animals for you. Females and their young ones, young males and even the dominant **silverback** can be seen feeding, playing and interacting with each other or just relaxing! You will never forget this experience with the gorillas. You can be sure that they are very curious to see you. You have exactly one hour with the gorillas before you return to the base station.

After the exciting encounter with the gorillas you will return to the village. In the afternoon, you will have the opportunity to see the Batwa, the indigenous people of the forest.

Overnight Mahogany Springs Lodge (FB)

Day 8: Depart for Entebbe

After breakfast, we start our journey back towards Entebbe. Here we will stop for a picnic lunch and a fun photo opportunity at the Equator.

Optional you can also fly with Aerolink from Kihhihi to Entebbe. Please see costs at the end of this program.

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A dayroom will be organized for you to shower and change in Entebbe. After a farewell dinner, your Manya Africa Tours guide will transfer you to **Entebbe International Airport** for your outbound flight.

Please note that check-in for international flights should be done two hours prior to flight departure. The departures area of the airport has a small restaurant, several duty-free shops and a seating area.

Dayroom at Lake Victoria Serena (FB)

Luxury

price per client	\$	\$4,423.00	\$3,847.00	\$3,725.00	\$823.00
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2 pax	4 pax	6pax	single
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Optional Balloon ride \$380 per person

Flight with Aerolink one way \$273 per person or return \$452 per person.

For Uganda itineraries and costs - customised to your specification and price range - *please get in touch with Manya Africa Tours!*

Please note:

1. Prices are valid for 2022 and 2023.
2. The Gorilla Tracking included in this safari depends on the availability of gorilla trekking permits at the time of booking. These permits are strictly limited and sold out in advance, especially during peak seasons of Christmas and school holidays. We therefore strongly recommend booking early.
3. The safari indicated here is essentially an offer. Changes in the course of the journey, the duration of your tour, the number of travelers, as well as the choice of accommodation are subject to availability, although we always endeavour to stick as closely as possible to this programme. For the majority of itineraries, we can offer luxury, midrange or budget versions of this safari upon request.

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4. Sometimes it is not possible to adhere to the travel plan as described in this itinerary, due to weather and road conditions, authority regulations, organizational requirements, etc. Occasionally, the planned route of the tour has to change according to the situation on the ground. We must therefore explicitly refuse liability for adherence to the journey plan.
5. By booking this safari, the client accepts ManyA Africa Tours' terms and conditions of business, available to read on our web site.
6. For FAQs, including what equipment to bring for your Gorilla tracking, please visit our website.

Included

- All accommodation on Half Board (HB), Full Board (FB) or Bed and Breakfast (B&B) basis as quoted in the text
- Safari vehicle and fuel
- English speaking tourist guide
- 1 gorilla permit per person
- 1 chimp permit per person
- Game drives and walks
- Entrance fees to the national parks
- All boat tours
- Taxes
- Free mineral water in the vehicle during the tour
- AMREF emergency evacuation insurance

Excluded

- Visa fees
- Drinks / alcoholic drinks
- Additional meals
- Tips
- Activities not part of the described programme
- International travel insurance

Optional

- German or another language speaking Safari-Guide
- Other activities highlighted as optional in the itinerary