

Day 1: We start this safari on 27 August, arriving in Entebbe, Uganda. We'll spend the night in Kampala, the capitol city. We'll have cocktails and dinner as a group to meet each other and talk about the trip. Get plenty of rest...we have a big trip with lots of fun coming up!

Day 2: We'll head out early in the morning to transfer to our stunning Eco-Lodge in Kibali, set next to a stunning crater lake, high in the mountains. After a late lunch, we'll take a guided walk through the Bigodi Wetlands, learning about the ecology of the area and looking for the 8 species of monkeys that reside in the forest: baboons, Red Colobus Monkeys, Blue Hoest Monkeys, Black and White Colobus Monkeys, and more. Our gourmet dinner made with fresh, local ingredients will be waiting after the walk.

Day 3: After breakfast, we'll set off to Kibale Forest Park Headquarters to meet our Rangers and brief before Chimpanzee tracking. We'll hike through the forest until we find a group of the over 120 wild chimpanzees that reside in the mountains, then watch their social interactions and photograph them in the dappled forest light. Karen's Africa Geographic photo, "Gazing Back," was taken here. Lunch will be waiting after our time with the Chimpanzees, and you'll have the afternoon to paddle a canoe around the lake, sit by the pool and sip a cocktail, or go for another walk in the Bigodi Wetlands. Our previous clients wanted extra time at this stunning Lodge, and this is your chance to enjoy it!

Day 4: After breakfast, we'll stop at the Equator for photos and crafts (there are some outstanding artists selling here!). We'll drive to Queen Elizabeth National Park to look for iconic tree-climbing lions, elephants, and other African wildlife. After lunch, we'll enjoy a 2-hour sunset boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel between Lake George and Lake Edward for some of the best wildlife and bird viewing in the Park. We expect to see elephants, hippos, buffalo, crocodiles, and more, plus dozens of 110 wetland species of birds including kingfishers, fish eagles, skimmers, spoonbills, and more. Part of the cruise takes us by a traditional fishing village. If we are lucky, we'll see people tending the nets and preparing their boats for launch. There are lots of photographic opportunities on the water, and of course we'll have a Sundowner Cocktail on the water! We'll check into our water-side Lodge with an incredible view of the Kazinga Channel and Lake Edward in time for a decadent dinner and a good night's sleep.

Day 5: After a nice breakfast, we'll head back into QE Park in search of topi, kob, elephants, leopards, lions, and other African wildlife. We'll stop at Savanna Hotel for a lunch break, then climb the winding roads into the mountains, past tea and coffee farms, as we proceed to Bwindi. We'll arrive at our beautiful Eco-Lodge in time for dinner and cocktails, then an early night because tomorrow....it's time to track Gorillas!

Day 6: We'll be up early for a quick breakfast and grab a packed lunch, then head to Park Headquarters. We will be greeted with song, be briefed about the do's and don'ts while with the gorillas, and meet our Rangers and Porters. Then, it's into the mountains as we track endangered Mountain Gorillas. We'll spend time with the

Silverback, watch the subordinate males wrestle, hope to see infants and juveniles with their gentle mothers, and watch them as they eat and play. After our exhilarating hour with this endangered species, we'll return to the Lodge to refresh. We can go on a community visit where you will discover more about the local Batwa people, who were the original forest dwellers. We will also stop by a local school to meet some of the children and learn about their lives in the forest. We'll stop at some of the local craft shops, then back to the Lodge for our final dinner together.

Day 7: After a leisurely breakfast, we'll leave our new friends and transfer to Kigali, Rwanda on 2 September. The drive is through beautiful tea and coffee farms in the mountains. If we arrive in Kigali early enough, we'll enjoy a city tour, visit the Genocide Museum, and stop at a couple of local markets before either going to the airport or a hotel if you would like to refresh before flying out (we can organize a reservation if you request it). Most international flights leave after 7pm.

END OF TOUR

This trip tags neatly with our Serengeti and Ngorongro Crater Safari in Tanzania, 18-24 August. Ask about double booking discounts!

Price includes your Gorilla and Chimpanzee trekking permits, Park fees, transportation in a SuperComfort safari van, lodging, meals, water, game drives, river cruise, and photography coaching from Ernest and Karen. Maximum 8 fun guests, prices are double occupancy (solo is available, just ask about pricing). Children over 15 are welcome (age limit for trekking).

Most safari companies maximize profit by putting 10 people into the van. We've found that this is uncomfortable since this trip involves a lot of driving, so we've limited our vehicles to 6 clients so that everyone gets a window seat and has the middle seat for snacks, cameras, etc. With up to 6 clients, we will take only one van, and either Ernest or Karen will guide this safari. With 7-8 clients, we will have two vans, and both Ernest and Karen will guide.

\$1000 deposit secures your Gorilla and Chimpanzee Permits. Permits are very restricted and we must ensure that you'll have a permit to go on the gorilla trek. PM or email us for information and book now to reserve your spot!

Not included: transportation to/from the trip, lodging before/after the trip (we can help you plan and book everything!), drinks other than water, personal purchases, gratuities (mandatory for Chimp and Gorilla Rangers, and Gorilla Trek Porter), entry visa for Rwanda/Uganda (\$100)