



CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY OF  
CALIFORNIA  
TAKING ACTION FOR WILDLIFE

OAKLAND ZOO



## Uganda & Rwanda

Gorilla and Chimpanzee Safari



## Itinerary



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**19 Days • 18 Nights**

Prices as listed on page 10 (excludes flights and donations).

This is a true wildlife odyssey - A fantastic opportunity to see some wonderful national parks and experience gorillas, chimpanzees, primates and numerous safari animals like no other. You'll be taken through a variety of habitats, trail through the tropical rainforest and experience the landscapes of both Uganda and Rwanda.

## Itinerary

### Day 1: 30th Nov: Arrival

Arrival at Entebbe International Airport. Meet your local safari guide and driver who will warmly welcome you and transfer you to your hotel. Your guide will brief you about your safari and get everyone comfy and settled. Recover from your jet lag in a beautiful place.

**Accommodation** (or similar): 2 Friends Beach Resort, Entebbe

Meal plan: Dinner

### Day 2: 1st Dec: Ngamba Island Adventure

Today we start our adventures, with a visit to **Ngamba Island, a Jane Goodall Institute Project**. Surrounded by the serene waters of Lake Victoria, this astounding 100 acres of land forested island is a home to 48 orphaned and rescued chimpanzees as well as an assortment of plants, trees, birds and reptiles. Enjoy an exceptional chance to view chimpanzees in their regular habitat because of the supplementary eating times



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that bring the chimpanzees close to special guests. There are some great photo opportunities at this world-renowned sanctuary for chimpanzees.

**Accommodation** (or similar): 2 Friends Beach Resort

Meal plan: Full board

### Day 3: 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec: Zziwa Rhino Tracking – Transfer to Murchison Falls National Park



After breakfast we depart by road for Murchison falls National Park. This scenic drive to the North takes approximately 6-8 hours (excluding stops) giving you a good insight on Uganda's way of life with plenty of wildlife & birds en-route. We shall visit and track Rhinos at **Zziwa Rhino Sanctuary**. This sanctuary has now been established to breed black and white rhino, and restore Rhino populations in Uganda's protected areas in a later stage. The sanctuary provides trained rangers who will ably guide you through this expedition. You will have the opportunity to observe the rhinos at a very close and safe distance. While at the sanctuary you will also encounter a range of other wildlife species including Uganda kobs, bush bucks, oribis, rich bucks, hippos and crocodiles.

We then continue North, where we can marvel at the "Top of the falls" - the breathtaking sight of the raging Nile as it forces its way through a rocky gap that is only six meters wide.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Paraa Safari Lodge

Meal plan: Full board

### Day 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec: Game drive – Boat Cruise

After an early breakfast we will set off for our first game drive of the trip as we head further into Murchison Falls National Park.



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The park includes wetland, savannah as well as tropical forest, and among the big mammals found on the savannah are Rothschild's giraffe, lions, warthog, cape buffalo, Uganda kob, hartebeest and elephants. It is also home to over 360 species of birds.

We will head back to the lodge in time for lunch and relaxation before heading out again, this time on a boat safari on the Nile delta.

Another fantastic wildlife experience where you will have the opportunity to see a large concentration of Nile crocodile, hippos and numerous water-birds including kingfishers, fish eagle and the rare shoebill stork.



**Accommodation** (or similar) Paraa Safari Lodge

Meal plan: Full board

**Day 5: 4<sup>th</sup> Dec: Budongo Forest Nature Walk**

After breakfast take a final game drive in Murchison Falls NP before transferring to Masindi Town, the base from which you will visit the Budongo Forest. Budongo has extremely high biodiversity with 24 species of small mammals of which 9 are primates; 465 species of trees and shrubs; 359 species of birds; 289 species of butterflies; and 130 species of moths. Primate species include chimpanzees, pottos, black and white colobus monkeys, olive baboons, vervet monkeys, blue monkeys, and red tailed monkeys.

**Accommodation** (or similar): New Court View Masindi

Meal plan: Full board

**Day 6: 5<sup>th</sup> Dec: Project day**

Today we are special guests of the Budongo Snare Removal Project, a project that started with the help of Oakland Zoo, and of which Oakland Zoo is the sole supporter. We will meet the staff at the Budongo Conservation Field Station, the snare removers, educators and vets. We will trek into the forest looking for snares and take part in the work that we are so proud of.

**Accommodation** (or similar): New Court view Masindi

Meal plan: Full board

**Day 7: 6<sup>th</sup> Dec: Project day**

Today we will visit the community that is part of the Budongo Snare Removal Project. Our adventures may take us to local schools, forest clubs, community meetings and a session of giving medical treatments to the goats that are part of the program. It's going to be a wild and wonderful day!

**Accommodation** (or similar): New Court view Masindi

Meal plan: Full board



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## Day 8: 7<sup>th</sup> Dec: Transfer to Kibale National Park

After an early breakfast, you will depart for Kibale National Park. You will drive via the Albertine Escarpment of the western Rift valley, this will be a drive south via Hoima to Fort Portal, passing through verdant countryside and traditional homesteads and farms. Fort Portal rests in the shadow of the legendary “Mountains of the Moon.”

Kibale Forest boasts one of the highest densities of primate species in the world, with 13 species including chimpanzees, black and white colobus as well as red colobus monkeys, pottos, red-tailed monkeys, L’Hoest’s monkeys, grey cheeked mangabeys and others. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon, breathing in the tranquility of the lodge and its surroundings.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Kibale Forest Camp Nature Lodges

Meal plan: Full board

## Day 9: 8<sup>th</sup> Dec: Project day

Today will be spent visiting the Kibale Fuel Wood Project. This is their Competition Day, which is part of their special festival weekend! Learn about habitat conservation, meet the community and make new friends with educators and artisans as we venture deep into conservation in action. You will be utterly inspired by the ingenious and compassionate solutions to deforestation.

**It’s Movie Night in one of the four Kibale Fuel Wood community villages and WE are invited!**

**Accommodation** (or similar): Kibale Forest Camp Nature Lodges

Meal plan: Full board

## Day 10: 9<sup>th</sup> Dec: Chimpanzee Trekking and Bigodi walk



We set off early this morning and report to the ranger station in Kibale National Park to track habituated chimps. A network of shady forest trails provides much to delight botanists and butterfly lovers, while birders



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are in for a treat with 335 species recorded including the endemic Prirogrine's ground thrush. The elusive forest elephant, smaller and hairier than its savannah counterpart, moves seasonally into the developed part of the park, while other terrestrial mammals include buffalo, giant forest hog and a half dozen antelope species. The forest is also home to over 13 species of primates including red Colobus monkey, the rare L'Hoest, blue monkey, grey mangabey, pottos, black faced vervet monkeys, baboons and also bush babies.

We will also go for a guided walk in Bigodi Wetlands Sanctuary, a community developed and managed conservation program. The sanctuary is home to a huge variety of bird and animal species like the Shining Blue Kingfisher, Blue Throated Roller and other rare species and also the fruiting trees, which attract Narina Trogon, Pied Hornbill, Yellow Spotted, Hairy Breasted and Yellow-Billed Barbets.

In the evening we again visit our fabulous conservation partners, the Kibale Fuel Wood Project!

**Accommodation** (or similar): Kibale Forest Camp Nature Lodges

Meal plan: Full board

### Day 11: 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Transfer to Queen Elizabeth NP and night game drive

After breakfast, depart for Queen Elizabeth National Park. With beautiful lakes and rich grasslands set deep in the crater valley, this is truly the most breathtaking scenery in the park. Queen Elizabeth is host to a large variety and volume of wildlife. At night we have a special game drive with our wonderful partners, the Uganda Carnivore Program. UCP does not offer this opportunity to standard tourists.

**Accommodation** (or similar) Kasenyi Safari Camp

Meal plan: Full board

### Day 12: 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: Game drive and boat cruise



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An early start for a morning game drive with UCP to catch up with early risers and predators returning to their hideouts. During the game drive, you will be likely to meet grazing hippos, elephants, lions, spotted hyenas, bushbucks, water bucks, striped jackal, leopard and of course the several warthogs.

Photo alert! After lunch, take an afternoon boat trip along on Kazinga channel. This will give you the opportunity to experience hippo's huff and spray mere feet away from the boat and buffalo lingering in the shallows. The shores of the channel are home to a wide an array of birds including pink backed pelicans, pied and malachite kingfishers, saddle billed stork and many others. After this wonderful afternoon, a slow drive back to the lodge.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Kyambura safari lodge

### Day 13: 12<sup>th</sup> Dec: Project day

Community is a huge part of successful conservation. Today we see the human side of the Uganda Carnivore Program. We will visit a UCP village and help support the **Lion Appreciation Day!** What an honor to be part of such a wonderful and critical predator initiative.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Mweya safari lodge  
Meal plan: Full board

### Day 14: 13<sup>th</sup> Dec: Transfer to Rwanda

Depart after breakfast for Rwanda with packed lunches. A beautiful drive to a new, and fascinating country.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Mountain Gorilla View Lodge  
Meal plan: Full board

### Day 15: 14<sup>th</sup> Dec: Project day

A special day as we are guests of the Mountain Gorilla Vet Project and the Virunga Artisans Project. Here we will meet the veterinarian heroes who heal, protect and monitor this incredibly endangered great ape. Our artisan partners are another inspiration of talent and heart. Shopping for a cause has never felt so good.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Mountain Gorilla View Lodge  
Meal plan: Full board



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## Day 16: 15<sup>th</sup> Dec: Mountain Gorilla trekking



**Prepare to have a day that will change your life!** Rise early to depart for PNV headquarters, where you will be briefed by park rangers before leaving for gorilla trek. The magic of the bamboo forest will be first indication that this will be a day like no other. Difficulty of tracking depends on movements of gorillas, but you can join a group that is right for you. Regardless, observing these gentle and humanlike creatures in their natural habitat will be one of the most incredible experiences of your life! Gorillas, here we come.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Mountain Gorilla View Lodge

Meal plan: Full board

## Day 17: 16<sup>th</sup> Dec: Relaxation / Self-catered activities

This is a free day for you to do as you please. Choose the trek to Dian Fossey's research site, Karisoke, and her burial place next to Digit. (\$75 fee); a golden monkey hike (\$100 fee) or an additional day of gorilla trekking (\$1500 fee), in case you couldn't get enough. Also a great day to rest and relax in the surroundings of the beautiful mountains. Please note that a second day of gorilla trekking should be arranged by you in advance.

**Accommodation** (or similar): Mountain Gorilla View Lodge

Meal plan: Full board

## Day 18: 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Tour to Genocide Memorial centre - shopping

In Kigali visit the [Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre](#), where victims of the Rwanda genocide are remembered. This is a beautiful and moving look at world history in a gorgeous setting. Exploration of Kigali Town and last minute shopping (Rwandan crafts are beautiful).

**Accommodation** (or similar): Hotel Des Miles Colines

Meal plan: Full board



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## Day 19: 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: Departure

Breakfast and thereafter be transferred to Kigali Airport for your outbound flight. Good bye, Africa.

Meal plan: Breakfast

### Included activities

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- Transport in a 4WD with excellent safari view;
- All fuel for the tour;
- Ferry crossing fees;
- English speaking Ugandan driver/guide;
- 2 Oakland Zoo staff;
- Full board accommodation as listed in the program;
- Park-entrance fees according to the program;
- All activities described in the itinerary;
- Complementary water in the safari vans;
- Arrival and Departure Transfer on group basis;
- Activities as follows;
  - Ngamba Island visit
  - Ziwa Rhino trekking
  - Game drives in Murchison Falls NP
  - Nile River Cruise
  - Entrance Fees Budongo National Forest
  - Visits within Budongo Forest
  - Entrance Fees (Kibale NP, QEP NP, Murchison Falls NP)
  - Bigodi Walk (Kibale NP)
  - Chimpanzee tracking (Kibale NP)
  - Visits with Kibale Fuel Wood Project
  - Crater Lakes visit
  - Game Drives Queen Elizabeth NP
  - Kazinga Channel boat trip
  - Gorilla Permits in Rwanda for one trek
  - Special Visits with Mountain Gorilla Vet Project and Artisan Projects
  - Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre



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## Exclusions

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- Any meals not mentioned in the above itinerary
- Tips/Gratuities to Drivers/Guides/Tour Leader
- Travel Insurance
- International Airfare
- Optional activities
- Spending money
- Pre or Post Accommodation
- Non-group Transfer



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