

Classical Uganda Scheduled Tour

Bwindi Impenetrable Forest –

10 Days / 9 Nights

Queen Elizabeth National Park – Kibale Forest



This ten day safari includes a thrilling visit with the Mountain Gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park, chimpanzee tracking in both Kibale National Park and Kyambura Gorge, multiple game drives in Queen Elizabeth National Park and boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel.

Uganda boasts some of the best bird watching in Africa, with over 1000 different species, including the rare shoebill and the remarkable grey crowned crane. Luxury accommodation, professional guides and custom-made safari vehicles – this safari will be the trip of a lifetime.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Hotel No.5	Entebbe	Breakfast	1 Night
Buhoma Lodge	Bwindi Impenetrable Forest	Full board including local drinks	3 Nights
Ishasha Wilderness Camp	Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park	Full board including local drinks	2 Nights
Mweya Safari Lodge	Northern Queen Elizabeth National Park	Full board	1 Night
Primate Lodge Kibale	Kibale Forest National Park	Full board	2 Nights

Itinerary:

Day 1: Hotel No.5, Entebbe

On arrival at Entebbe International Airport you will be met by our representative and transferred to Hotel No.5, or similar, for overnight.

Set on the shores of Lake Victoria, Entebbe is a small town that is easy to explore on foot or local boda bodas (motorbike taxis). Explore the markets, hunt for souvenirs or crafts, meander through the Botanical Gardens or relax with a boat cruise on Lake Victoria. You'll find a wide variety of restaurants, bars and clubs where you can sample the local beer, catch a game of football and meet the friendly locals.

Overnight: Hotel No.5 [View iBrochure](#)

Nestled in the leafy suburbs of Entebbe, is the new and stylish boutique hotel, Hotel No.5. From the moment you arrive, you are warmly welcomed and cared for. With luxurious rooms opening onto the garden and swimming pool, this is a great option for guests looking for an intimate stay in a tranquil setting.

Make yourself at home – unwind beside the swimming pool, pamper yourself with a spa treatment, or work up a sweat in the hotel gym. For one of the most flavoursome dining experiences in Entebbe, carefully planned menus are paired to an international wine list, and served with pride.

Attention to detail and an attentive guest experience are synonymous with Hotel No. 5, making it the perfect choice for a restful stay in this busy town.



Day 2: Buhoma Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

This morning's flight on a light aircraft to Kihiihi airstrip takes just over an hour. Transfer through local villages and along mountain roads to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, a World Heritage site (a drive of +- 90 mins).

Considered the most diverse forest in Uganda, Bwindi is one of the richest ecosystems in East Africa and home to over 120 mammals, 345 species of birds, 200 species of butterflies and 160 species of trees.

The park contains an estimated one half of the world's population of the endangered Mountain Gorilla, making it an extremely valuable conservation site.

Nestled at the gateway to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Buhoma Lodge is one of only two lodges set within the national park, and is the perfect lodge of choice when embarking on your bucket-list Gorilla trekking adventure.

Renowned for its warm welcome and attentive service, guests love the homely ambience of this Africa inspired lodge. Constructed using sustainable materials, the elevated central lounge, bar and dining area (serving delicious multi-course meals) offers a cosy spot for guests to unwind, and offers amazing uninterrupted views over the forest. The crackling fireplace adds a mystical atmosphere to cooler evenings.

Tranquil and cosy, the ten spacious eco-friendly wooden chalets offer a private escape. Fall asleep to the sounds of the forest and awaken to chattering birds and monkeys as day breaks. Enjoy morning tea/coffee on your private verandah with sweeping views over the primal forest – what better way to start the day.

With Buhoma set just steps away from the trek start point, gorillas have been spotted popping in for an occasional visit, while our resident L'Hoest's monkey troupe visit the gardens in front of the lodge almost daily, much to the delight of our guests.

Overnight: Buhoma Lodge [View iBrochure](#)



Day 3: Buhoma Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

Gorilla Tracking - Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park

Few words can describe the thrill of today's lifetime experience! Coming face to face with mountain gorillas is a rare wildlife encounter that is exhilarating, humbling and enthralling. Experienced guides and trackers will accompany your party on an early morning trek into the dense rain forest on the steep mountain slopes.

Please note that gorilla tracking is strenuous with treks ranging from 45 mins up to eight hours, at high altitudes in hot African conditions. The thrill of the hour you spend quietly observing these gentle giants once you find them is so worth the trek to get there! Although mountain gorillas are wild animals and sightings cannot be guaranteed, viewing success rates are over 95%.

On our scheduled departures, we typically buy permits for Buhoma & Ruhija, which are accessible from Buhoma area. One of the Buhoma families, and the Ruhija families, require a road transfer to the start point.

This does not deviate from the enjoyment of the trek (and could be considered as enhancing your trip as you are seeing a different part of the region). Your permit may be organised for day 3 or 4 of your safari - depending on availability at the time of purchase.

Head back to Buhoma Lodge for a complimentary massage after your trek, or explore the surrounding Bwindi community.

Overnight: Buhoma Lodge



Day 4: Buhoma Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

Those with additional pre-purchased permits will depart for a second gorilla tracking experience. Guests not tracking have the day free to explore the Bwindi area – optional activities include forest walks, a visit to a local school/orphanage/ hospital or Batwa pygmy village, and some local curio shopping.

Overnight: Buhoma Lodge

Day 5: Ishasha Wilderness Camp, Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park

Depart Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park this morning and travel to Ishasha in the southern part of Queen Elizabeth National Park (a 2-3 hour drive), with a brief stop en route at a community project near Ishasha Village.

Located in the western arm of the Great Rift Valley, the park is home to a wide variety of wildlife including elephants, leopard, lions, hippos, buffalo, Uganda kob, baboon, and many species of birds. With both a riverine and savannah habitat, the southern Ishasha area includes the massive Maramagambo, one of the largest surviving natural forests in Uganda, and is home to the tree climbing lions typically found in the area. Afternoon game drives will be enjoyed in the Ishasha area, looking for the huge herds of buffalo, elephant, Uganda kob and of course the famous tree-climbing lion typically found in the area.

Ishasha Wilderness Camp is an idyllic retreat for people who truly enjoy the wilderness, coupled with superb accommodation and exceptional service.

The thatched central lounge and dining area provides a cosy and relaxed space for guests, although meals are often served ‘al fresco’ beside the river. In the evening, the outdoor fireplace beside the river is the perfect place for guests to relax over sundowners and share their day’s experiences.

Each of the ten spacious framed canvas rooms, privately nestled along the riverbank, is comfortably furnished and feature en-suite bathrooms. Wake to the delicious aroma of morning coffee served on your private verandah.

Resident troops of Black-and-White Colobus and Vervet monkeys abound and if you are lucky you'll spot Henry, the lone hippo, wallowing lazily below our viewing deck. Game roams freely through camp, with Elephant making frequent guest appearances.

Designed to respect and complement the environment, this low impact, eco-sensitive camp is really something special, and after a few days unwinding here, you may well not want to leave. Highly recommended to book in advance are the bush sundowners and the bush breakfast, both unique experiences in beautiful settings.

Overnight: Ishasha Wilderness Camp

[View iBrochure](#)



Day 6: Ishasha Wilderness Camp, Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park

Spend the day enjoying game drives in the Ishasha sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park, rounding things off with scenic bush sundowners including drinks and snacks. This is what memories are made of!

Overnight: Ishasha Wilderness Camp

[View iBrochure](#)

Day 7: Mweya Safari Lodge, Northern Queen Elizabeth National Park

Head north toward the 'Mweya' sector of the park which is rich with wildlife, visitors will find vast numbers of Uganda's unique and strange Euphorbia, or "candelabra" tree. The many nearby crater lakes and mountain ranges provide a beautiful backdrop for your journey.

In the afternoon enjoy a leisurely boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel, a 32-kilometre long natural channel linking Lake Edward and Lake George. Kazinga's shores are dotted with herds of lazy buffalo, pods of hippos wallowing without a care, and countless bird species.

Drift past local fishing villages and soak up the peaceful tranquillity of this beautiful African day. (Cruise normally departs at 14h00, although this depends on availability when booking and is subject to change – no drinks/ snacks included on boat).

You may encounter herds of elephant, buffalos and antelopes, families of warthogs, large groups of hippos, and crocodiles basking on the shore. Kazinga's shores are a haven for numerous birds, including many migratory species

as they make their way south to warmer climates. The cruise also provides a spectacular view of the beautiful Mweya Peninsula and life in local fishing villages set along the banks.

Mweya Safari Lodge offers visitors an unforgettable experience. Located on a peninsula within the heart of the Queen Elizabeth National Park, Mweya Safari Lodge is surrounded by the magical Rwenzori Mountains aptly described as the 'Mountains of the Moon' and overlooks the Kazinga Channel which links two of the Nile's great lakes – Lake George and Lake Edward.

Overnight: Mweya Safari Lodge

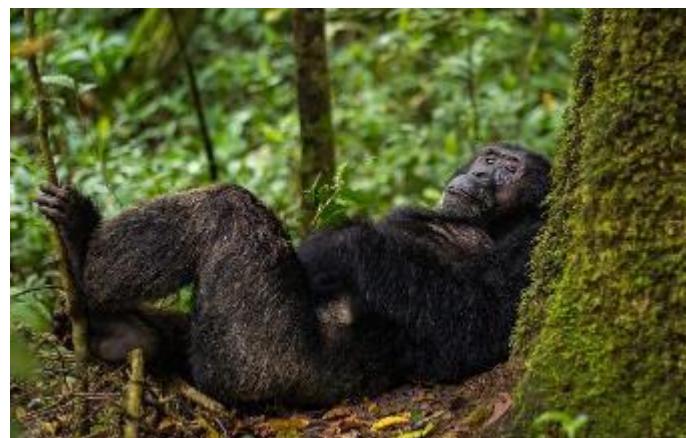
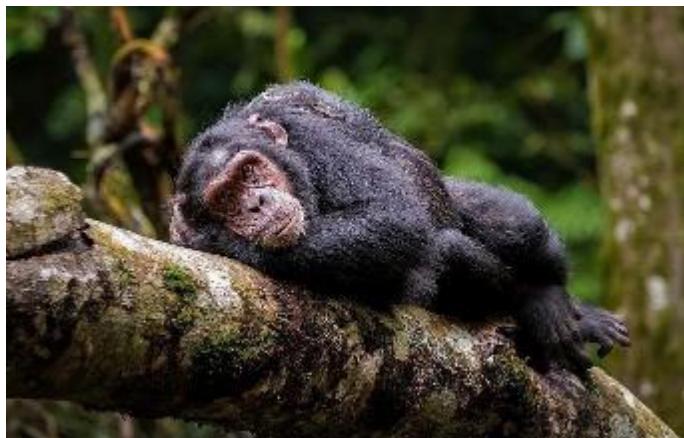
Day 8: Primate Lodge Kibale, Kibale Forest National Park

We will have an early start this morning, with the highlight being your chimpanzee tracking in the Kyambura Gorge. The forest is alive with noise! Chimpanzees can be quite active and may move quickly through the forest canopy... or, if you are lucky, you may find them resting or eating near the forest floors. It's an exhilarating walk, in beautiful scenery. As with gorilla tracking, sightings cannot be guaranteed even though the chimps are habituated to humans.

After this activity, 3-4 hour drive takes you to Kibale Forest, comprising an interesting blend of lowland tropical rain forest, montane forest, and mixed tropical deciduous forest. In addition to forest, you will also notice areas of grassland and of swamp. The forest is rich in wildlife and is most noted for its primate population. These include red-tailed monkey, diademed monkey, olive baboon, chimpanzee, and black and white colobus. The birdlife is also abundant, with close on 300 species identified here. The forest is also home to 144 species of butterfly and a diverse population of moths and other insects

Primate Lodge in Kibale is an exclusive eco-lodge situated in the heart of Kibale Forest National Park. It is surrounded by a lush tropical forest that is home to 13 different species of primates, including the chimpanzees. Privately secluded in the rainforest, this safari lodge offers you a truly authentic jungle experience and is the perfect gateway for tracking the primates in Uganda. Whether you wish a high level of luxury and comfort, rather stay in a midrange cottage or want to bring your own tent, Primate Lodge Kibale is the ideal place for you. Primate Lodge Kibale was awarded with the Chimp Award 2008 for Investment in Eco-Tourism by Uganda Wildlife Authority.

Overnight: Primate Lodge Kibale [View iBrochure](#)



Day 9: Primate Lodge Kibale, Kibale Forest National Park

Your Kibale Forest chimp trek will generally take place in the morning. The forest is alive with noise! Chimpanzees can be quite active and may move quickly through the forest canopy... or, if you are lucky, you may find them resting or eating near the forest floors. It's an exhilarating walk, in beautiful scenery. As with gorilla tracking, sightings cannot be guaranteed even though the chimps are habituated to humans. Your guides will be able to show you different bird species and will give details of the plant species within the forest. The trek allows you to spend 1 hour observing the chimps once you have found them.

Rest of the day at leisure.

Bigodi Swamp Walk (Optional extra)

Considered one of Uganda's best bird watching locations, Bigodi Swamp's rich ecosystem makes it a spectacular venue for viewing numerous primate and bird species in their natural habitat. This two to three-hour walk can be tailored to individual schedules and interests.

Overnight Primate Lodge (or similar)

Day 10: End of Itinerary

Depart after an early breakfast for the drive back to Entebbe, arriving late afternoon. (If you are departing Entebbe tonight please do not book a flight before 19h00)

End of safari.

Request current Rates

Included

- Meet & greet at Entebbe airport
- Airport transfers throughout
- 1 night accommodation at Hotel No.5 or similar including breakfast
- Return domestic flights from Entebbe to Kihiihi/ Mweya on a scheduled flight (light aircraft)
- 4x4 transport with English speaking local driver/guide as above
- Bottled water in safari vehicle
- 3 nights accommodation at Buhoma Lodge including all meals and local drinks
- Community visit en route from Bwindi to Ishasha
- 2 nights accommodation at Ishasha Wilderness Camp including all meals and local drinks
- 1 night accommodation at Mweya Safari Lodge including all meals (no drinks)
- All park entrance fees
- Boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel

- Game drives in Queen Elizabeth National Park
- 2 nights accommodation at Kibale Forest Lodge including all meals (no drinks)
- Full liability insurance cover
- 24 hour emergency contact

Excluded

- Gorilla Permit of USD 700 per trek Bwindi (as from 01Jul21)
- Additional permits at USD 770 per permit
- Kyambura chimp permit: USD 50 per permit
- Kibale chimp permit: USD 200 per permit (as from 01Jul21)
- All international flights and airport taxes
- Personal expenses such as health requirements, visas, travel insurance (compulsory), porters and gratuities.
- Services/activities/meals/ drinks not included above

Forest walk & park fees Bwindi
Community Visit – Bwindi
Batwa (Pygmies) Community Visit
Bigodi Swamp, Kibale

POPULAR TRIP EXTENSIONS:

MURCHISON FALLS: River Nile, game drives, chimpanzee trekking, fishing, bird-watching.

KIBALE: Chimpanzees and other primates, forest walks, crater lakes.

JINJA: Source of the Nile, adventure activities including white water rafting, quad biking.

ENTEBBE: City life and local craft shopping, boat cruises or fishing on Lake Victoria, Botanical Gardens, Uganda Wild Life Education Centre/ Ngamba Island.

We offer 6, 8 and 10 day small group, set departures as well as combination Uganda/Rwanda trips. We are also experts at designing your own tailor made trip to meet your exact personal interests.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

Please contact us for updated Covid-19 regulations/ requirements to ensure you have the latest information

Yellow fever inoculation is compulsory & malaria prophylactics are recommended. For gorilla trekking it is imperative that you are healthy and free of any disease or virus – officials do have the right to refuse entry if you are found to have or show any signs of communicable illnesses. Should you opt to spend time participating in any UWEC Wildlife Integration programme, you may require additional inoculations and health clearances.

VISA REQUIREMENTS:

Most nationalities require a visa to enter Uganda. All visitors who require a visa should apply through the online application system prior to arrival at <https://visas.immigration.go.ug>. Cost is USD 50, single entry. Passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months after return date of travel, and have at least 3 blank pages in it. The newly established EAC Visa allows entry into Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya for one fee of USD100 – handy if you are visiting all three regions.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Is compulsory for all guests travelling with Africa Discovery.

