



PRIMATE ENCOUNTERS IN THE RAINFORESTS OF RWANDA

Tour Map: Gorillas and Chimpanzees Tracking Safari

Day 1: Arrival in Kigali, transfer to hotel

Upon arrival at Kigali International airport we are received by a Kibo Slopes representative and drive to Mythos Hotel to check in and overnight stay.

Accommodation: Mythos Hotel

Meals: Meals own arrangement

Day 2: Drive to Nyanza, Museum visits, lunch, Nyungwe canopy walk

After an early breakfast, our driver-guide will pick us from the hotel and drive to King's palace museum which is approximately a 2 ½ hour drive from Kigali. The King's Palace was the traditional seat of Rwanda's kingdom. On our visit, we learn about the evolution of farming and building through the centuries, and then venture into the grounds to meet the long-horned cows, known as Inyambo. A guide from the museum will accompany us around the King's Palace and then leave us to explore the main palace after which we will then drive to the Ethnographic Museum in Butare. This museum was built with help of the Belgian government, first opened in 1989 and it is a good source of information on the cultural history of the country and the region.

After lunch in Butare, we drive to Nyungwe National Park for canopy walk hike. The walk is 70 meters above the ground level and 90 meters long also the platform is above a steep and deep valley trotting across massive forest. You will be at "eye-to-eye level" during the canopy with 300 bird species, all of which are fond of inhabiting the upper scales of the forest. After the Canopy walk, we drive back to the hotel for an overnight stay.

Accommodation: Nyungwe TopHill View Hotel

Meal Plan: Breakfast, lunch, dinner



Day 3: Chimpanzee Tracking

Cyamudongo is a small forest fragment southwest of the mountain forests of the Nyungwe National Park in south western Rwanda, Cyamudongo has a population of about 30 chimpanzees that are relatively easy to track and find, since the forest is so small. We wake up as early as 4.00 AM; to be at the reception 4: 30AM and by 5 am, we drive to the starting point of the forest. The tracking can take 2 to 5 hours depending on the location of the chimpanzees, where we are allowed to spend 1 hour with them. In the afternoon, we enjoy lunch at Nyungwe Top Hill View Restaurant, to be followed by a scenic drive to Kibuye.

Accommodation: Comoran Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Day 4: Drive to Ruhengeri, lunch, afternoon traditional village visit

Today we embark on a scenic drive from Kibuye to Musanze arriving just in time for lunch for lunch. In the afternoon we visit Iby'iwacu Cultural Village where we will be entertained by an Intore dance performance; the "Intore" once the elite of the traditional Rwandan army were not only trained as military but also in high jump and dance They were also known for their remarkable technique, allowing them to jump over 2m40 (nearly 8 feet!). After the cultural experience we return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: 3B Gorilla View Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 5: Gorilla tracking, lunch, River Mukungwa river rafting

After breakfast at 7.00 am, we proceed to the visitor's reception at Volcano National Park for a briefing and be separated into groups based on which Gorilla family we will be tracking. Then the guide and scouts will lead us through the gorilla paths in the thick Impenetrable rain forests looking for the gentle giants. The trek takes 2-5 hours depending on where we find the Mountain Gorillas and once we find them, we will spend an hour observing these beautiful primates, then head back to the lodge for lunch.

In the afternoon, we shall go for a half day canoe adventure on River Mukungwa. The canoe ride offers an excellent way to tour the beautiful countryside, enjoying the magnificent views and drive back to Lodge for dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Gorilla View Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 6: Golden monkey tracking, Ellen de Generes Campus, return to Kigali

Today we are doing another trekking but this time of the golden monkeys. We arrive at the Volcanoes National Park Headquarters for briefing at 7 a.m. These striking primates are a treat for the eyes with their bright orange fur contrasting the green rainforests of the Virunga Mountains. We have a good hike and spend moments with these beautiful creatures with the guidance of our park guide. After an amazing one hour with the golden monkeys we will return to the trail head drive back to the lodge for lunch.

In the afternoon, we visit the Ellen De Generes Gorilla Campus which is dedicated to the conservation, protection and study of gorillas and their habitats in Africa. We then return to Kigali and check in at Mythos Hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Accommodation: Mythos Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 7: Kigali city tour, evening transfer for international departure

Today we have time to explore Kigali city. The tour will include the Kigali Genocide memorial and the Inema arts gallery; Kimironko Market and other city's best known landmarks. Inema Arts Center spurs creativity for personal, social, and economic growth. Here, we will witness the use of creative expression to bring the community and country alive.

We can opt to have lunch at hotel de Milles Collines, then be transferred to the airport for departure marking the end of our safari.

Includes

- Meal plan as specified in the itinerary
- Airport transfers and safari on 4x4 vehicles
- 12 days transport
- English speaking driver guides and unlimited game drives
- Park Fees
- Gorilla tracking
- Golden Monkey tracking
- Chimpanzees tracking
- Ellen de Generes Gorilla Campus
- River Mukungwa river rafting
- Canopy walk
- Visit fees to Ethnographic Museum & Kings Palace

Excludes

- International flight arrival and departure
- Meals not mentioned
- Personal expenses and tips
- Telephone
- Visa fees

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