

The Ultimate Uganda and Rwanda Gorilla Safari

Trip Code: URG

Version: URG Uganda & Rwanda Gorilla and Wildlife Safari



WILDLIFE



GUIDED GROUP



LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Gorilla tracking in Bwindi or Mgahinga, with further opportunity in Rwanda's Virunga National Park
- Rhino Sanctuary visit and Murchison Falls on the shores of the Nile
- Chimp trek in Kibale, Ishasha tree climbing lions & game drives

- Visit the lovely Lake Bunyonyi and Queen Elizabeth National Park

AT A GLANCE

- 13 days wildlife/safari and activities
- Max altitude 2500 m
- Join at Entebbe, End in Kigali

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 13 Breakfasts
- 13 Dinners
- 12 nights Lodge
- 1 nights Guesthouse

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This fabulous wildlife safari holiday to Uganda and Rwanda focuses on tracking the endangered Mountain Gorillas as well as the wildlife highlights of these countries. Our adventure begins with a 'Rhino Walk' at the Ziwa Sanctuary to see these beautiful and also endangered giants. We then move to the Murchison Falls National Park where we enjoy boat rides, game drives on the shores of the River Nile, and see the famous waterfalls. Hippos, elephant and giraffe are all found on the river banks and gives us a lovely start to this two-week wildlife holiday. We then track chimpanzees in Kibale National Park (loads of elephants here as well) with its splendid views over to the Rwenzori Mountains, and pop to the Bigodi Wetlands for some further monkeys and to see its prolific birdlife.

Continuing south we cross the Equator and enter Queen Elizabeth National Park for some classic game drives to see lion, leopard, buffalo, Kob, elephants and much more. We include Ishasha where the lions, unusually, hang out in the trees. From our hotel base on Lake Bunyonyi we track the gorillas in their forest habitat - a most humbling of wildlife experiences. A couple of days later we are in Rwanda in Virunga National Park, where we have a free day to take advantage of a list of further awesome wildlife to see - we can purchase a further gorilla permit and see them here, near Dian Fossey's famous hide-out in the forest. Or we can go see the golden monkeys, before we have time at Lake Kivu, Gisenyi and Kigali for a city tour and our flight home. These two countries are both beautiful, they contain some very special wildlife and this holiday will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Is this holiday for you?

Everything in Africa is on a big scale, and to cover the ground necessary our journey includes a few long drives accompanied by Uganda's spectacular scenery. Such drives, including your game drives, can often be on dirt tracks, graded roads and also tar highways. Our toughest day will be when we are gorilla tracking and we could be in the forest between 2-6 hrs depending on their location. As gorillas don't follow paths and the terrain can be rough and steep. It might also be wet and muddy (but don't be put off the rewards are immense). The accommodation on this journey will range from lodges and hotels through to permanent tented lodges with en-suite facilities. The lodges usually have a bar and restaurant to relax at, and some have a swimming pool. This journey is suitable for the adventure traveller looking to experience some of Africa's most special safari experiences!

Itinerary

Version: URG Uganda & Rwanda Gorilla and Wildlife Safari

DAY 1

Meet at the group guesthouse. A transfer from Entebbe Airport is provided.

On arrival at Entebbe you will be met by the guide or a representative of the local agent. A transfer to the nearby accommodation is provided.

Meals: **D**



Accommodation
Guesthouse

DAY 2

Drive to Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary for a rhino trek and continue to Murchison Falls National Park.

After a breakfast we depart heading northwards. We pass through Kampala, the capital of Uganda, as we drive to the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary. We arrive at the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary just before lunchtime. This 7000 hectare private reserve was set up in 2004 with 6 rhinos, since then at least 9 baby rhinos have been born here. The sanctuary aims to work with the community to conserve the Rhino and support the reintroduction program. Currently this is the only place in Uganda where you find rhino. There were hunted and poached to extinction in 1982 in Uganda. The rhinos have 24hr surveillance from the anti-poaching team who work hard to ensure their safety in the sanctuary. On arrival we have an on foot rhino trek to see the Southern White Rhinos. We are taken by the well trained guides through the bush to where the rhinos are on the day of the visit. Here we get the opportunity to watch these magnificent, endangered animals in their natural habitat. A pretty awesome sight and extremely exciting - what a start to the trip! Leaving the park in the afternoon we continue our drive further north to Murchison Falls National Park. Overnight Murchison Falls National Park

Drive time: Entebbe to Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary approx. 4hrs / Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary to Murchison Falls approx. 2hrs 30mins

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 3**A full day at Murchison Falls National Park. Morning game drive and afternoon boat ride.**

We have an early breakfast so that we can make the most of the best wildlife sighting conditions on our morning game drive in the park. Murchison Falls National Park is the largest, and one of the first parks in Uganda, it is also one of the most famous as the River Nile squeezes through a narrow gorge to produce the Falls. In the park we can see elephant, giraffe, buffalo, leopard, waterbuck, topi and lion, as well as several species of antelope (including the Uganda Kob) and bird species. On our game drive we travel through some beautiful and peaceful landscapes from sweeping savannah grasslands to the delta. We relax in the heat of the middle of the day and then in the afternoon we enjoy a 3hr boat journey on the River Nile to the splendid Murchison Falls. Along the banks of the river we hope to see elephant, giraffe and buffalo whereas in the river we may see the Nile Crocodile, hippo and several species of water bird. It is also possible that we see the rare shoe-billed stork on our boat journey this afternoon. In the late afternoon we return to our lodge. Overnight Murchison Falls National Park.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 4**Transfer southwest to Kibale National Park. Overnight at guest farm near Fort Portal.**

Today we have a long transfer as we drive to Kibale National Park, passing the Ugandan Rift Valley Escarpment. Much of our drive is along the savannahs and past various smaller parks and reserves as we head southwest parallel to Lake Albert. We pass many small villages and the countryside presents a rich tapestry of colours, from the vibrant dress of the local people to the varied greens and browns of the lush farmland and forest which we pass through. There are many roadside markets along this road and we will have the chance to stop off and meet the Ugandan people and check out the produce that is for sale. Tea and banana plantations are amongst the most important types of agriculture. We arrive in Fort Portal the last town before Kibale National Park where we check into our accommodation. Our accommodation is a guest farm outside of the town in very peaceful surroundings, here we stay in self-contained bungalows. The gardens include a mini rain forest which is home to a family of black and white colobus monkeys and grey vervet monkeys, there are also a large number of birds here. We spend a peaceful afternoon here, and after a swim in the pool you can take a little walk around the forest before some pre-dinner drinks with stunning views of the Rwenzori Mountains. Overnight outside Fort Portal. Drive time: Approximately 8 hours

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 5**Chimpanzee trekking in Kibale National Forest and Bigodi Wetlands Sanctuary.**

After an early breakfast, we make the short transfer southwards through a beautiful tract of countryside, dominated by a string of spectacular crater lakes. It is just a 30 kilometre (20 mile) drive to the Kanyancu Reception Centre, our gateway to the Kibale Forest National Park, which is home to around a dozen different species of primates. There are black and white colobus monkeys, red colobus and galagos here. However, the main attraction of Kibale is its several hundred chimpanzees. After a briefing, we will set off for a 2 to 3 hour guided walk in the forest. The chimpanzees are usually to be found feeding at the top of one of the giant fig trees. Kibale Forest also has a relatively large population of elephants and incredible numbers of butterflies and birds. In the afternoon we visit and walk in the Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary home to many different species of the monkeys and some visiting chimps from next door Kibale. It is also a haven for birds, namely the splendid Great Blue Turaco - with its bright blue and yellow feathers, black mohican and yellow beak. Time permitting we have a community visit this afternoon. We walk through a local village and chat with the people and visit the school. We then transfer back to our accommodation near Fort Portal. Overnight outside Fort Portal.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 6**Cross over the Equator and drive to the Queen Elizabeth National Park. Evening game drive.**

We cross over the Equator (stopping for some photos at the sign) and drive to Queen Elizabeth National Park. On arrival in the afternoon we have a game drive and check into our lodge for the next 2 nights. Drive time: Approximately 2-3 hours

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 7**Day in Queen Elizabeth National Park. Morning game drive, afternoon boat trip.**

We have an early start today for a game drive in the park. Aiming to cover a cross-section of the park habitats, we should be able to see many of the most impressive wildlife species, notably; elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, topi, waterbuck, giant forest hog and Uganda kob. After a stop for lunch, we will take a

trip by motor launch down the Kazinga/Mweya Channel (the natural waterway between Lake Edward and Lake George), which is an excellent way to get close to the rich animal and bird life. We can expect close encounters with hippos, crocodiles and elephants. It is said to contain the world's largest concentration of hippos in the world! Amongst the bird species are pelicans, saddlebill storks, African skimmers, fish eagles and the Ugandan national bird, the crowned crane. A tremendous experience and possibly a highlight of the whole trip! We then return to our lodge. Overnight Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 8

Transfer to Ishasha to see the famous tree climbing lions. Overnight in a nearby hotel.

After breakfast we check out of our lodge and drive to the southern part of Queen Elizabeth National Park. Here we arrive in Ishasha which is famous for its tree climbing lions. There are only 2 populations of lions who do this on a day-by-day basis, with the other in Lake Manyara NP in Tanzania. The reason they do it is unknown, some say to get away from the tsetse flies on the ground, others say to get away from the heat and find a breeze - however what we do know is that they are easier to find when they are in the trees than amongst the grasses! They are usually lazing around on the branches in the afternoon, snoozing or looking at the Kob grazing on the plains. Lions are such beautiful wild animals. They have such grace and presence, let's hope we'll see them here in the trees. We check into our hotel nearby. Overnight Ishasha.

Drive time: Approximately 3hrs (not including game drive)

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Lodge

DAY 9

Travelling south we arrive at Lake Bunyonyi - one of the loveliest places in Uganda.

Known by the locals as the most beautiful place in Uganda, Lake Bunyonyi actually means a 'place with many small birds'. Along the journey we pass many agricultural terraces which cover the Ugandan mountains in this area. This area is called 'Switzerland of Africa'. The lake is the second deepest in Africa. Depending on our stops along the way we have some time to relax at the accommodation. The accommodation here is superb, with a swimming pool overlooking the lake and a truly relaxing

atmosphere. This is our base for our Gorilla Tracking....which we look forward to tomorrow. Overnight Bunyonyi.

Drive time: Approximately 3 - 4 hrs

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Lodge

DAY 10

The big day - Mountain Gorilla Tracking. Awesome.

These days there are many things which are classified as 'once in a lifetime experiences' - but honestly, today really will be. Tracking the Mountain Gorillas must be one of the most exciting wildlife experiences on earth. The trek will take between 2 to 6 hrs, and you should expect a tough day, but the rewards are huge. Once we have found the gorillas we spend some time quietly observing them, an hour can go very quickly. Our expert rangers will take us to the gorillas and give us details about them and the surrounding flora and fauna. To find the gorilla family group the guide will lead you to where they were the day before and then track them through the forest. As these gorillas don't follow paths the terrain can be rough and steep. It might also be wet and muddy - these gorillas may not make it easy for you - of course it can be a totally different experience, we just like to prepare you for the worst conditions. It will help to have long sleeves, long trousers and even gloves. Another tip is to bring some snacks and water in case it's a long walk. We have one hour with our gorillas once we have found them. Compared to the chimpanzees the gorillas are calm as they lie in the sun cleaning each other and eating bamboo. A magical experience. Overnight Bunyonyi.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Lodge

DAY 11

Drive to the border and cross into Rwanda, continue to Ruhengeri and Kinigi.

Today we say farewell to Uganda and drive into Rwanda. It's around an hour's drive to the border. After completing the paper work, the first sign in Rwanda states "We warmly welcome you" with an iconic statue of a family of 3 gorillas. Rwanda is fondly known as the 'Land of Thousand Hills'. The landscape is pretty stunning as we continue our drive today. It's approximately another hour or so to our destination, the town of Ruhengeri/Musanze and then onwards to the next town of Kinigi. This area is the gateway to the Virunga Volcanoes National Park. The thick forest clad mountains form a beautiful backdrop to this African town. In the afternoon we can visit a market and perhaps do some souvenir shopping at the colourful stalls. Overnight Kinigi

Drive time: Approximately 2-3 hrs

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Lodge

DAY 12

Options today. Gorilla Tracking, Dian Fossey tombs, Golden monkeys or Mt Bisoke. Drive to Gisenyi.

We have options today - the first is a second Gorilla Tracking experience (additional permit/cost required, see 'spending money'). Volcanoes National Park is 120 km square and part of the Virunga Conservation Area. Within this area there are around 380 mountain gorillas. Walk options differ from 3 to 8 hours. Again, accompanied by expert trackers we climb up into the bamboo zone and the terrain can be steep, muddy and involve bending and crawling through vegetation. If we decide that we would like to see something different today then we can visit the tombs of the famous gorilla researcher Dian Fossey. This is approximately a 2hr walk. Another wildlife option is to go to see the habituated Golden Monkeys - another rare and exciting sight. This is another tracking experience similar to the Gorillas, however usually the terrain is slightly easier. When we find the Golden Monkeys they are up in the trees and don't stay still - unlike the Gorilla families. If we are feeling very energetic we can walk up Mt Bisoke (3711m). This is a steep and potentially muddy ascent, around 6-8hrs walking. There is a crater lake at the top and spectacular views, although the summit is often surrounded by cloud. All optional activities today are at additional cost. Gorilla Tracking on this day requires pre-booking and places are limited. To avoid disappointment please book early. In the afternoon we transfer near to Gisenyi (1-2hrs) on Lake Kivu. This is an interesting town and a lovely place to spend our last night in this beautiful country of Rwanda. Overnight near Gisenyi.

Drive time: Approximately 3 hrs

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Lodge

DAY 13

Lake Kivu, Gisenyi and the singing fishermen.

We have a day here to enjoy this beautiful place. We can take part in a boat ride, or even maybe take kayaks onto the lake. The fishermen leave in the late afternoon on their pretty boats on the lake, and as they row they sing. To be on the water when they do this is a great experience. During the day we can walk into the lakeside town of Gisenyi. We can visit the market, and maybe do some souvenir shopping

of coffee or tea which Rwanda is famous for.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Lodge

DAY 14

Transfer to Kigali. Depart from Kigali Airport. Optional city tour.

Transfer (approx. 3-4 hrs) to the capital of Rwanda, Kigali.

Transfer to Kigali Airport.

If flights depart after 20:00 today, there is the option to join a city tour.

The city tour of this busy, colourful town, our guide talks to us about the history from pre-colonial times to Rwanda today giving us an insight to the country's eventful history. The attractive city is built over four ridges and the valleys in-between. We include the Genocide Museum. Transfer to Kigali Airport.

Meals: **B**

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional and qualified wildlife guide
- Uganda Gorilla tracking permit
- Specialist Gorilla tracking guide and team
- Chimpanzee tracking permit
- Entebbe Airport transfer
- Single timed transfer in Kigali
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Park Fees
- Transfers in 4WD vehicle with pop-up roof for game drives

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Ugandan and Rwanda Visa
- Optional activities in Virunga
- Optional Rwanda Gorilla permit in Virunga
- Tips for local staff
- Departure tax if applicable
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

Travelling to your Destination

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

Airport transfers are provided for all clients arriving on Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the return there is a transfer to Kigali Airport for the flight departing in the evening of the final day of the itinerary.

If your flight schedules do not fit with these airport transfers we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Clients booking a Land Only Package must provide the KE office with details of their flights. Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be sent with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts and dinners are included.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

Drinking Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. If you are on a trekking or cycling holiday, water is supplied to fill up your individual bottles. This will be boiled, filtered or provided in large jerry cans or 5 litre bottles. Additionally you should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water when in towns or where water is not supplied. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

There will be a mixture of Western and local cuisine available in most places we stay. Popular local dishes include 'matoke' (a staple made from bananas), millet bread, cassava, sweet potatoes, chicken and beef stews and river fish. Beer is probably the most widely available alcoholic drink across Uganda & Rwanda. Pombe is a locally made fermented banana beer and waragi is the local millet-based alcohol.

Accommodation

Lodges in Africa are often a series of buildings, sometimes with thatched roofs, wooden beams, and open sided for the cool air and views. It is likely that there is a main area with a restaurant and a lounge and then the actual accommodation is often in individual buildings, cottages or safari style permanent tents. These are usually linked by pathways through pleasant gardens.

All the accommodation mentioned below is subject to change without notice. Any alternative accommodation will be in a similar standard.

Our first guesthouse has simple ensuite rooms and is chosen for its location next to the airport. The accommodation has nice gardens and it's a good place to recover from the flight.

At Murchison Falls (day 2 & 3) we stay at the Murchison River Lodge or the Kabalega Wilderness Lodge. The Murchison River lodge has views over the River Nile and we can see pods of hippos whilst sipping our cool drinks under the thatched roof of the bar area. There is also a swimming pool with views. Here we stay in the thatched safari tents. These are amongst the bush and look towards the Nile. Instead of zips the thatched safari tents are fashioned with wooden doors and come with solar lights, bed linen, towels, mosquito nets and an adjacent, permanent styled bathroom with chemical toilet. Kabalega Wilderness Lodge is also on the banks of the River Nile and the cabins here are spacious and all overlook the river. Meals are served in the restaurant which is perched at the highest point giving uninterrupted views of the wildlife on the river.

When in Kibale/Fort Portal (days 4 & 5) we stay at the Kluge's Guest Farm which is situated in 72 acres surrounded by tropical forest and a wetland which is a haven for birds. It is off the beaten track, has a swimming pool and views of the Rwenzori mountains. We stay in the twin en-suite bungalows.

At Queen Elizabeth National Park we stay at Enganzi Lodge for 2 nights (days 6 & 7). It is built on the side of a hill with views of the remote Ugandan plains. The twin bedded, en-suite bungalows here are spacious and simple.

Our 1 night in Ishasha (day 8) is at Enjojo Lodge in the thatched cottages. Situated amidst acacia forest and grasslands, herds of elephant and antelopes are seen regularly on the land. It is built by local tradesman with local materials.

At Lake Bunyonyi, we stay for 2 nights (days 9 & 10) at the Birdnest. This beautifully situated property is built on a hill by the lake. It has a swimming pool. The en-suite rooms overlook the lake.

We have 1 night near the Virunga Mountain Park headquarters in Kinigi, Rwanda. This is at the Da Vinci Gorilla Lodge. The individual bungalows provide en-suite rooms in the gardens away from the main building with thatched roof and decking displaying views of the Virunga Mountains.

On Lake Kivu, just outside Gisenyi we stay at the lovely Paradise Kivu Resort. The en suite rooms are individual bungalows in grounds with views over the lake. It is very peaceful.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired with another single client of the same sex. If this is not available they you may have to pay the single room supplement. Single rooms are available at an additional cost.

Group Leader & Support Staff

Professional driver-guide will accompany the group throughout the tour. These guides also have in depth knowledge of the wildlife and the countries. On certain days (for example whilst Gorilla Tracking) you will have a different specialist guide. For optional wildlife viewing or walks at Virunga National Park you will have a different guide again.

Altitude

The altitudes on this holiday are not extreme and the maximum altitude attained is no more than the equivalent of a pressurised cabin on an international flight. You may 'feel' the altitude the first time you trek above 2,000 metres but all that is required is a slower pace to compensate. You should pay particular attention to your hydration levels while trekking above 2,000 metres.

Park Fees & Permits

The US\$700 Gorilla Tracking permit for Uganda is included in the holiday price. If you wish to take the opportunity to also see the Gorillas in Rwanda then you will be required to purchase an additional permit (US\$1500).

Spending Money

A total of US\$400 - \$500 should be sufficient to cover your personal spending including lunches, tips for drivers, miscellaneous expenditure on drinks, souvenirs etc, and airport departure tax (if applicable - this is dependent on which airline you fly with as it maybe included in your ticket). Optional activities (below) are not included in this cost. It is possible to use credit and debit cards to withdraw money from ATMs in banks and petrol stations in most towns. If you are bringing your travel money with you it is best to bring this as cash US dollars. Credit cards are accepted in most stores and restaurants, and dollars are generally accepted, though not everywhere and not necessarily for small items. You will be able to change small amounts of currency at the airport and Rwanda border.

Optional Activity Costs: Please note that these prices are correct at time of writing, but are subject to change without warning.

GORILLA TRACKING PERMIT RWANDA: US\$1500 per person. It is essential that this is pre-booked. If you wish to participate please inform KE on booking the main holiday. On booking we will check permit availability for the specific date and a non-refundable payment for the Rwanda permit must be made to secure your tracking permit. (Note your Uganda Gorilla permit is included in the trip price and deposit payment).

GOLDEN MONKEY TREKKING: US\$100 per person. Pre-booking prior to departure not essential, however it is recommended to avoid disappointment if on the rare occasion groups are fully booked on the day.

VISIT TO DIAN FOSSEY TOMB: US\$75 per person. Pre-booking prior to departure is optional.

TREK UP MT BISOKE: US\$75 per person + private transfers (US\$150 for the whole transfer which can be split by the number of people on the activity). Pre-booking prior to departure is optional.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Rwanda. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Rwanda (since 2008).

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates (see *Health & Vaccinations below*), **and visas for your holiday**. Please ensure that you check the [FCDO](#) for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

All nationalities require a visa for Uganda and Rwanda. The Uganda visa fee is \$50. You must apply online for your e-visa at <https://visas.immigration.go.ug> (UK citizens).

A 30 day Rwanda visa is obtainable on arrival for UK passport holders for a fee of \$30.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the [FCDO](#) and [Travel Health Pro](#). For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Currency

The unit of currency in Uganda is the Ugandan Shilling.

The unit of currency in Rwanda is the Rwandan Franc.

Climate

Thanks to its equatorial location, the climate (and in particular the daily temperatures) of Uganda and Rwanda does not vary a great deal throughout the year. The main rainy season is March to May, and to a lesser degree November. In equatorial rainforest areas, it can rain at any time of the year. The driest months are July and August. The most popular times for Gorilla tracking is December to February and June to mid-September. We can expect daytime temperatures to range between 25°C and 30°C falling to between 12°C and 15°C at night. As all equatorial countries the sun rises (7am) and sets (7pm) at the same time throughout the year.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through one of our international partners. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You should bring the following items:

- Lightweight hiking boots
- Trainers or sandals
- Underwear
- Socks
- Trekking trousers
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Lightweight waterproof overtrousers
- Wicking base layer shirts
- Loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirts
- T-shirts
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Sunhat (wide brimmed)
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 30 litres

- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Water bottles 1 litre x2 (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Antibacterial handwash
- Washbag and toiletries

■ Basic First Aid Kit ; insect repellent (DEET); antiseptic cream; throat lozenges; diarrhoea treatment (Diocalm or Immodium); painkillers; plasters and blister treatment; and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

The following items are optional:

- Binoculars
- Swimwear
- Trekking poles (highly recommended)
- Camera
- Pen-knife (remember to pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Gloves and gaiters (to protect hands and legs whilst gorilla tracking)
- Umbrella and/or Poncho
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes:

Bright bold colours and white are not suitable for game viewing or bush wear as they attract insects and the attention of animals. Please do not bring camouflage or military style clothes as they can cause problems with local authorities.

Please dress appropriately for border crossings, village and market visits - ie: no bare feet, no bare chests, no bikinis and no hats.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Rwanda. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Rwanda (since 2008).

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary, joining in Entebbe. For clients making their own flight arrangements, Entebbe International airport is the most convenient for transfers to the group hotel. The trip ends in Kigali in Rwanda, and return flights should be made from Kigali Airport.

Flight Inclusive Information

Limited seats are available at the advertised flight price, please book as early as you can. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures and/or upgrades, we will provide you with an alternative quote. It is likely that flight payment will be in advance of your final holiday balance. Booking a flight inclusive package means you will benefit from full financial protection, eases your holiday planning, and leaves us to deal with airlines and schedule changes. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will [offset the carbon of your flight](#).

Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are for the itinerary based on UK flights from London to Entebbe International Airport. The outbound flights will depart the UK in the morning, arriving in Entebbe that evening (day 1 of the itinerary). Return flights will depart Kigali Airport in the evening of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning. Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Make the most of your wildlife experience in one comprehensive holiday! A once-in-a-lifetime trip offering the opportunity to see gorillas in their natural habitat in both Uganda and Rwanda. Staying at local lodges with character and in amazing locations, you will get to enjoy the natural and wildlife wonders this twin-country itinerary has to offer and along with expert guides to make an unforgettable 2 week holiday.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 16/06/2026 and the trip is subject to change