



DISTINCTIVE
UGANDA



Day 01 LONDON

Depart London Heathrow flying with Ethiopian Airlines.



ET701 Economy Dep: London Heathrow 20:15 Arr: Addis Ababa 06:50 (+1 day)



Day 02 ADDIS ABABA - ENTEBBE - KAMPALA



ET332 Economy Dep: Addis Ababa 08:20 Arr: Entebbe 10:25

Arrive into Entebbe International Airport via Addis Ababa. Clear customs and immigration formalities.

Uganda Visas:

You'll need a visa to enter Uganda. You can apply for a visa at the Ugandan High Commission in London or apply online for an 'e-visa'. You can find full details of how to apply on the website of the Ugandan High Commission in London. You should give yourself sufficient time to apply for a visa and make sure when applying that the start date and validity covers the period you wish to travel. You can also apply for an East African Tourist Visa. This is valid for 90 days and allows multiple entry into Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. You can apply for this visa on the 'e-visa' website.

Private transfer on arrival to your hotel.

Cassia Lodge

1 x Standard Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 1-night

Cassia Lodge is located on Buziga Hill, one of the highest hills in Kampala with an astonishing view on Lake Victoria as well as the city. The hotel offers 20 luxurious rooms with satellite TV, fridge bar, fan, safe and a balcony overlooking the lake. International cuisine is served in the restaurant with an adjacent a bar and separate panoramic balcony. In addition, the lodge features conference facilities, a business centre, Wi-Fi and a large swimming pool.





Day 03 ENTEBBE – MURCHISON FALLS NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, you will be met by your experienced private English-speaking driver-guide with private 4WD vehicle.

For your itinerary you will get a 4WD vehicle which is for your exclusive use only. This has the advantage that your itinerary will be far more flexible in terms of times of departure and times can be agreed between you and the driver-guide on a daily basis.

One of the most important aspects of your holiday with us is our driver-guides. You will spend a lot of time with them and rest assured that all our driver-guides are hand-picked and are very friendly, cheerful, experienced and knowledgeable about the culture, parks and wildlife of Uganda. We can forward you copies of questionnaires filled by our previous clients should you wish.



Entebbe to Murchison Falls:

This drive is around 350km and around 6 hours in duration.

Today, depart for the most beautiful protected area in Uganda; Murchison Falls National Park. En-route you will make a stop at Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, home to the only wild rhinos in Uganda. The reserve was created to reintroduce rhinos to the country which had been extinct since 1982. Together with a guide you will track the rhinos and observe them in their habitat at a very close and safe distance. Have lunch (included) at the Rhino Sanctuary and afterward drive to Murchison Falls National Park. Then drive for an hour deeper into the National Park to the site of Murchison Falls after which the park is named; one of Uganda most beautiful sights. If time allows, you will be able to visit to 'Top of the Falls' for a first view of the magnificent waterfalls.

Enjoy dinner and overnight at your lodge.

Baker's Lodge

1 x Safari Suite on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

The lodge is located on the southern bank of the lake and comprises of 10 suites overlooking the River Nile. The lodge is built on wooden decks, to take advantage of the cool breezes and spectacular views. The site has a good number of shady trees and 'bush' and is home to a large array of birdlife.



Day 04 MURCHISON FALLS NATIONAL PARK

Morning game-drive

After an early breakfast, start the day with a game drive on the northern banks of the Nile, with chances of seeing Rothschild Giraffe, elephants, lions, Jackson Hartebeest, Oribis, waterbucks and different species of the savannah woodland birds and, if lucky, even the elusive leopard.



Afternoon boat cruise

In the afternoon, enjoy a Nile launch cruise to the bottom of the falls for game viewing at close quarters. After the launch cruise, get off at the bottom of the falls and hike up to the top of the falls where you will be rewarded with amazing views of the Nile. End your day with a sundowner before dinner and overnight.





Day 05 MURCHISON FALLS NATIONAL PARK - KIBALE

After breakfast, drive south to Fort Portal with picnic lunch (included) en-route. Fort Portal rests in the shadow of the fabled 'Mountains of the Moon' and is famous for its many tea plantations. You will continue into Kibale National Park arriving at Primate Lodge Kibale in time for dinner and overnight.

Murchison Falls to Kibale:

This drive is around 440km and around 7 hours in duration.

Primate Lodge Kibale

1 x Luxury Cottage on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

The new luxury cottages at Primate Lodge feature nine rooms with large twin or double beds, a spacious bathroom and private veranda. Large glass windows and a full-size glass sliding door allow 180-degree views of the beautiful forest. The main lodge has a spacious dining room, serving local and international meals, with an adjacent bar and lounge area. Wi-Fi is available in the main area.



Kibale Forest National Park is an extensive Biodiversity National Park in South Uganda and also known as the 'Primate Paradise' has one of the greatest variety and concentration of primates in Africa including chimpanzees, Red Colobus Monkeys, Vervet Monkeys, L'Hoest's, Black and White Colobus and the Olive Baboons. There is also a wide array of unique birds, forest elephants and much more.



Day 06 KIBALE

Chimpanzee tracking experience (1-hour) including permit

Today the forest opens its doors for a sensational chimpanzee tracking experience. Following the pre-tracking briefing, you will walk or drive to the trailhead for the start of an unforgettable adventure; hiking in the footsteps of the habituated family of chimpanzees. En-route, your guide will enthral you with stories and facts about the forest and other inhabitants including other species of primates and birds and other big mammals.

Upon sighting the chimpanzees, you will spend an unforgettable one hour with them as they go about their daily life; feeding, playing, grooming, taking care of their young, howling and screeching in their natural habitat.



Bigodi Swamp walk

Bigodi Swamp Walk is an initiative of the local community and is known for its rich diversity of birds and primates. The path and board walk maybe flooded and muddy after heavy rainfall and gumboots are recommended. The walk is about 4km in length taking 3-4 hours at birding pace with local community guides. All proceeds from eco-tourism go back to into the community, a conservation project well worth supporting.

Afterwards, return to the lodge for dinner and overnight.



Day 07 KIBALE – QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

After an early breakfast, drive to Queen Elizabeth National Park with scenic views of crater lakes and the surrounding rolling hills, you will go through banana farmlands, Afterwards, you will proceed south alongside the majestic Rwenzori 'Mountains of the Moon' to Queen Elizabeth National Park. You will arrive at your lodge in time for dinner and overnight.

Kibale to Queen Elizabeth National Park:

This drive is around 180km and around 3 hours in duration.

Katara Lodge

1 x Cottage on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

Katara Lodge is located on the Kichwamba Escarpment and around a 15km drive from the main entrance of Queen Elizabeth National Park. The lodge offers five thatched cottages on a beautiful stretch of hills overlooking the open savannah. Each cottage was hand crafted using locally available materials, features a four-poster bed and private veranda. The bathrooms are fitted with a romantic roll top bath or invigorating rain shower. The main bar and dining area is a large thatched structure providing a beautiful view of the plains of the park. Wi-Fi is available.





Day 08 QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

Lion tracking & boat cruise

In the morning, become a researcher for a day, as you learn to use telemetry to find the different lion prides who roam the savannah of Queen Elizabeth. There is no better way to find and photograph lions in all of Uganda! The lion is one of the most sought-after safari species, and one of the most impressive to observe. Living in prides of around 15 individuals, lions adhere to strict social structures. Groups consist of related females and their cubs, who are often born around the same time and raised communally. During the drive, the guides and researchers will discuss human-animal conflict in communities around the park, veterinary issues within the park, and lion family dynamics as part of a very in-depth game drive. Enjoy a picnic breakfast and then return to the lodge.

In the afternoon, take on a scenic boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel, a 33km long natural and pre-historic canal that joins Lakes Edward and Lake George. Formed by tectonic activity millions of years ago during the formation of the Rift Valleys, the channel, 2 to 3km at its widest, is now the most dominant feature of Queen Elizabeth National Park and one of the key attractions. On a scheduled boat ride over a 12km stretch from Mweya to the bird sanctuary (around 2 hours), you are almost always guaranteed excellent wildlife sightings including large schools of hippo, Nile Crocodiles, wallowing buffaloes on its reedy banks, elephants, multitudes of birds including many endemics as well as numerous other plains game that come to drink at its water's edge all day long.





Day 09 QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK



Hot air-ballooning in Queen Elizabeth National Park

Arise at dawn and transfer to the park gate to meet your ballooning crew and drive to the launch site by the first light. With coffee on site, witness the gigantic balloon being inflated. You will attend a safety briefing before being invited to get on board for a smooth ascension to a bird's view position. View the Kasenye Plains, the famed mating grounds of the Uganda Kobs and a haunt for the predators. Enjoy the aerial views of the Kazinga Channel, the Mweya Peninsula and Lake George as well as far down towards Ishasha. Queen Elizabeth is truly famous for magnificent topography and milliard species of wild game, flowers, plants and birds.

The one-hour long flight at different altitudes culminates with an amazing wilderness. Afterwards, you are joined by your regular driver/guide and able to enjoy more game viewing en-route back to your lodge where you will have time to relax before lunch and your planned afternoon activity. All in all, an unforgettable African experience that we highly recommend!

Game-drive in the Ishasha Sector

Depart the northern part of the park and drive to the southern section with a game drive through the Ishasha sector in search of the tree-climbing lions. It is a beautiful route with the Rwenzori Mountains on your right side and the green valley on the left.





CONT... QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

Afterwards, continue to your next lodge to enjoy a sundowner and watch the sun go down.

Enjojo Lodge

1 x Cottage on a Full Board basis for 1-night

Enjojo Lodge, bordering the Ishasha sector of Queen Elisabeth Park, is situated on 40 hectares amidst acacia forest, lush vegetation with palm trees and scattered grassland. Birdlife is abundant and herds of elephants, buffaloes and antelopes are regularly spotted on our land. Vervet monkeys, baboons and black and white colobus have become residents. In the main lodge, there are three thatched cottages and one safari house, allowing a total of 16 guests, contributing to a quiet and intimate retreat. The cottages are interlinked with an elevated wooden walkway, and each room has an en-suite bathroom and outdoor shower with hot and cold water. On the wide verandas, guests can relax and overlook the surrounding bush and savanna.





Day 10 QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK – BWINDI

You will wake to a game drive in the wilderness while enjoying the sunrise that the wild has to offer, after your drive you enjoy a bush breakfast set out in the heart of the park. After this check out of your lodge and head further south to Bwindi National Park, home of the gorillas. Upon arrival check in and enjoy lunch. After some time to rest you will then embark on an evening village walk meeting the locals and engaging in the community. Later return to the lodge for dinner and overnight.

Queen Elizabeth National Park to Bwindi:

This drive is around 100km and around 1 hour in duration.

Volcanoes Bwindi Lodge

1 x Luxury Banda on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

Volcanoes Lodge Bwindi is a superb eco-lodge overlooking the Bwindi Forest. The lodge features eight thatched-roof bandas with en-suite bathroom including a bush shower. Wholesome meals, combining local cuisine and western taste are served in the dining room and veranda restaurant with views of the forest.





Day 11 QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK – BWINDI



Gorilla tracking (3 to 8 hours) including permit

Arise early today and prepare for an amazing adventure; an unforgettable encounter with the gentle giants of Bwindi! Following breakfast, transfer to the park offices where participants are divided into groups of 8 and allocated a gorilla family as well as a tracking guide.

After a pre-tracking briefing by your guide (touches on the gorillas generally, your assigned gorilla family as well as appropriate safety precautions), you drive to the trailhead for the start of your thrilling adventure – participants can expect to walk long distances in steep and sometimes muddy conditions with rain overhead, which can be tough and require a degree of fitness. Granted, the time taken can be quite unpredictable taking anything from 2 to 8 hours or longer however the thrill of coming face to face with a giant Mountain Gorilla.

Upon sighting the gorillas, you spend the allowed one hour with them as they go about their daily life; feeding, moving, playing, raising their young and sometimes wrestling by the juveniles – it is a totally unique and unforgettable experience!

Afterwards, you hike back to base where your driver will be waiting to transfer you to the lodge for a deserved shower and lunch or dinner depending on the time taken on the trek.

Please Note:

Please remember to bring your passport for registration and appropriate water-proof hiking boots and a light raincoat. To protect from stinging nettles, we recommend long trousers and long-sleeved tops. A pair of old gardening gloves can help grabbing onto the vegetation while most hotels/lodges provide a walking stick that come in very handy especially when hiking downhill. A small waterproof backpack is an excellent idea to carry a light snack, bottled water as well as protection for your camera.



Day 12 BWINDI – ENTEBBE – ADDIS ABABA

After breakfast, drive to airstrip at Kihhi to meet an onward flight with Aerolink.
End of services of experienced private English-speaking driver-guide with private 4WD vehicle.

Bwindi to Kihhi:

This drive is around 1 hour in duration.



Aerolink **Economy** Dep: Kihhi 09:45 Arr: Entebbe 11:25

Aerolink Flights:

Baggage is strictly limited to 15kg per person (including hand luggage) in soft-sided bags.

On arrival, you will be met and transferred to a local restaurant for lunch (included).
Afterwards, transfer back to the airport to meet return flights with Ethiopian Airlines via Addis Ababa.



ET337 **Economy** Dep: London Heathrow 17:10 Arr: Addis Ababa 19:20



Day 13 LONDON



ET700 **Economy** Dep: Addis Ababa 01:50 Arr: London Heathrow 06:35

Arrive back into London Heathrow.

HOLIDAY COST

From £6,895.00 per person

A deposit of around 20% is usually required to secure a booking

Includes

- Flights as listed.
- All pre-payable airport departure taxes.
- Accommodation as listed.
- Transfers and transport as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).
- Meals as listed.
- Excursions as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).
- Permits, government taxes and park fees.

Excludes

- Local departure taxes, park fee increases and VAT increases where applicable.
- Tips and gratuities.
- Any future currency surcharges.
- Any future airline fare, tax or fuel surcharges.*
**In the event of airfare /tax increases you will have the option to pay for your airfare in advance to avoid these increases.*

Please Note

- All flights, accommodation and services are subject to availability at the time of booking.
- Air fares, taxes, schedules and routings are subject to change until ticket issue.