

camping Africa

15 Days Guide Group Tour Maasai Mara & Gorillas



We leave the capital of Nairobi and travel to the Maasai Mara National Park, world renowned for its endless plains of wild animals and spectacular beauty. The rolling grasslands of the Masai Mara offer ideal game viewing and photographic opportunities. Some of the other animals that could be found here include elephant, black rhino, buffalo, leopard, cheetah, wildebeest, zebra and gazelle. Hippo and crocodile abound in the muddy brown waters of the rivers, which traverse this reserve. We take in the spectacle of Lake Nakuru National Park – a great place to spot flamingos. We then cross into Uganda where you can explore Kampala or visit a Chimpanzee sanctuary. After a visit to the Murchison Falls National Park we'll head up to Budongo Forest, the biggest Mahogany forest found in East Africa and is home to the largest number of chimpanzees throughout Uganda. We will meet up with our chimp guide who will take us on our trek through the forest in search of the chimps. Our next stop is at Lake Bunyon where we prepare for the upcoming Gorilla trekking excursion. The mountain gorilla is extremely endangered and visiting them is a great way to ensure their survival as each permit raises money for their conservation.

ITINERARY:

Day 1

Nairobi – Welcome!

You will be picked up at the airport in Nairobi and taken to your accommodation.

1 night with breakfast at Sentrim Boulevard Hotel, Nairobi -
<http://www.sentrimhotels.net/sentrim-boulevard-nairobi>

Day 2

Maasai Mara National Reserve



We leave the capital of Nairobi and drive to the Masai Mara, which is known for its endless plains of wild animals and its spectacular beauty. The visit to the Maasai Mara is carried out in safari vehicles and not in the nomad truck. For this reason, you are asked to bring a small travel bag with you. You will need towel, clothing, toiletries, and camping supplies.

1 night with breakfast and dinner in the Maasai Mara Excursion - <http://www.keniatours.com>

Day 3

Maasai Mara National Reserve



The gentle meadows of the Maasai Mara offer ideal opportunities for viewing and photographing game. Some of the animals found here are elephants, black rhinos, buffalo, leopards, cheetahs, wildebeests, zebras and gazelles. Hippos and crocodiles make their home in the muddy, brown waters of the rivers that cross this reserve. Today we spend the whole day on a game drive through the Mara in search of all the animals.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at Maasai Mara Excursion - <http://www.keniatours.com>

Day 4

Lake Nakuru National Park



This morning we say goodbye to Mara before heading to Lake Nakuru National Park, where we will be reunited with our truck and enjoy an afternoon game drive through the park. Lake Nakuru is home to large flocks of flamingos and pelicans as well as black and white rhinos, leopards, lions and numerous bucks. Originally created as a bird sanctuary, Lake Nakuru was declared a national park in 1968.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at Lake Kivu Lodge - <http://www.kivuresort.co.ke/>

Day 5

Jinja



This morning we not only cross the border into Uganda, but shortly after setting out we cross the equator on our way to Jinja. Jinja is Uganda's second largest city and best known as the point where the Nile (officially the Victoria Nile) flows out of Lake Victoria and begins the 6,695-kilometer journey to Egypt and the Mediterranean.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Eden Rock Resort - <http://www.edenrocknile.com>

Day 6

Masindi – Murchison Falls National Park



After a short stop in the city of Kampala, we will head towards the Murchison Falls National Park. Murchison Falls, also known as Kabaraga Falls, is a waterfall that lies on the course of the Great Nile and is located in Murchison National Park. The park is recognized as one of the best national parks in Uganda. After you have settled in at our accommodation in Masindi, your guide will inform you about the activities for the next day.

1 night with breakfast and dinner at the Kabalega Resort – <http://www.kabalegaresort.com/>

Day 7

Masindi – Budongo Central Forest Reserve



Budongo Forest is the largest mahogany forest in all of East Africa and home to most of the chimpanzees in all of Uganda. It is believed that there are between 600 and 700 chimpanzees in Budongo, and this morning we will meet our chimp guide who will accompany us on our trek through the forest in search of the chimpanzees. We will also enjoy a boat ride in the park.

Note: As the Chimp Trekking is limited to 12 guests per trek, the trek will be split between the morning and the afternoon if there are more than 12 guests on a tour. Therefore, you may find that you do the game drive first and then the chimpanzee trekking, or vice versa. Please allow flexibility.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at Kabalega Resort - <http://www.kabalegaresort.com/>

Day 8

Kampala



While we are spending the night in the busy capital Kampala, this morning we have the opportunity to visit the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary. These majestic animals are literally struggling to survive. Rhino Fund Uganda (RFU) was founded in 1997 as a non-governmental organization (NGO) with the task of overseeing the program to re-introduce rhinoceros, a globally endangered species, into Uganda's national parks through breeding and release. This resulted in the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, 7000 hectares of immediately suitable savannah and indigenous forests.

1 night with breakfast and lunch at the Hillside Plaza Hotel -<http://www.hillsideplazahotel.co.ug/>

Day 9

Gorillas (Lake Bunyonyi)



We cross the equator again and head south to the beautiful landscape of Lake Bunyonyi. We are eagerly preparing for the upcoming gorilla trekking excursion and tonight we will receive a briefing about what to expect.

1 night with breakfast and dinner at Lake Bunyonyi Overland Resort -
<http://www.bunyonyioverland.com>

Day 10

Gorillas (Lake Bunyonyi)



The mountain gorilla is extremely endangered and although the exact numbers vary, it is believed that only about 650 remain. Visiting the gorillas is a great way to support their future on earth as the money spent on permits is used to protect them. An extremely important part of the future conservation of the remaining gorillas lies in community development - as local communities change their attitude towards wildlife and begin protecting rather than poaching, the future of the mountain gorilla is assured.

As the gorillas are extremely limited, we need flexibility in both the itinerary and where we actually visit them. The homeland of the mountain gorillas is in complete contradiction to artificial borders and includes Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Whenever possible, we use the national park in Uganda, but this depends on the availability of permits.

If we do not receive permission to visit the mountain gorillas in Uganda, we will inform all passengers in advance that the tour is going to Rwanda or the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

On your day off in Bunyonyi, you will have the opportunity to take part in certain optional activities. You can also go hiking or explore the area by mountain bike.

1 night with breakfast and dinner at Lake Bunyonyi Overland Resort - <http://www.bunyonyioverland.com>

Day 11

Gorillas (Lake Bunyoni)



Although 2 days are planned for gorilla trekking, you will only spend one day on the trek. The other days are there to provide a large enough window for permits to be obtained and to allow the entire group to hike if there are more than 6 people on the tour. Today we visit Nyombi Village, a pygmy village that can be reached by motorboat from the Bunyonyi Resort. We will have the opportunity to learn about the pygmy culture and life.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at Lake Bunyonyi Overland Resort
<http://www.bunyonyioverland.com>

Day 12

Lake Bunyonyi – Kampala



This morning we make our way back to Kampala and make a third crossing of the equator on our way. Tonight your guide will tell you what to do in Jinja so you can plan your day tomorrow. We spend the night in Kampala.
Highlights - Hlane National Park

1 night with breakfast at the Hillside Plaza Hotel - <http://www.hillsideplazahotel.co.ug/>

Day 13

Jinja



Near Kampala, Jinja has many exciting activities to offer, and your guide will help you plan for the day. Most of the activities focus on the Nile waters, including rafting, kayaking, and a variety of cruises on Africa's largest river. While those less interested in water sports can enjoy horseback riding or a land quad adventure.

1 night with breakfast and dinner at the Eden Rock Resort - <http://www.edenrocknile.com>

Day 14

Kenya – Eldoret



Back in Kenya we visit Eldoret, the fifth largest city in the country. The Great Rift Valley is still the dominant geographic feature of this region and the elevation at Eldoret is 2100 meters above sea level.

1 night with breakfast, lunch and dinner at Naiberi River Camp - <http://www.naiberi.com>

Day 15

Nairobi



This afternoon we return to Nairobi and reflect on many memories we have made. We prepare to return to the busy streets of Nairobi. Your tour ends upon arrival in Nairobi.

With breakfast

BON VOYAGE!

Travel Route:



TOUR PRICE: from Euro 3,821 / ZAR 65,866 per person sharing without the **Gorilla permit

**** Gorilla Permit - USD630 - USD730**

The cost of a permit to visit the gorillas is currently as stated above. Please check the actual amount with us closer to departure. This non-refundable amount will be issued to you separately in advance on the invoice.

What's included:

Transfers from / to the airport / accommodation in a double room / double tent, meals (breakfast x 14 / Lunch x 8 / dinner x 11) qualified crew / transport in adventure truck / activities according to itinerary / entrance fees to the national parks.

What is excluded:

Personal items (snacks, alcohol, bottled water, soft water) drinks) / entrance fees (related to optional activities / souvenirs / Activity packages and optional activities, drinkers.

Maximum number of passengers on the tour: between 10 and 15

Countries to visit: Uganda & Kenya

Important information: Arrival / Departure

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour. This avoids unforeseen problems.

We also strongly recommend that you book your flights the day after the tour ends to allow for delays and changes.

Cancellation Policy:

>30 Days: No fee applies (unless Gorilla Permit has been booked – which is non-refundable)

10 - 29 Days: 75% of the tour price is held as cancellation

0 - 09 Days: 90% of the tour price is held as cancellation

Payment terms remain unchanged, full payment due 30 days prior to departure.

Important Note:

What if the guest cannot travel but already has a new travel date?

We will refer to this as a postponement or moving. In the event that a guest can no longer travel and wants to postpone his / her booking and move to a future date, (where a date is already chosen), the Book with Confidence deal will be applied. This allows the guest to move up to 14 days prior to departure without penalty. No refunds are issued and if a guest cannot commit to a new date, this will be regarded as a cancellation and the cancellation terms will be applied.

The guest was due to travel in 2020, moved to 2021 but now wants to move to 2022? Will the 2020 rate apply?

In short, no. We recommend that the clients consider our Lock in Deal. By paying a deposit of ZAR10,000 they will lock in the rate whether they travel in 2021 or choose to move to 2022.

However; if the supplier is holding a deposit for the guests, this deposit will be regarded as part of the Lock in Deal and the supplier will honor the rate.

If a new booking is generated in 2021, can they move to 2022 at the same rate?

First and foremost, our standard terms & conditions apply to any new booking received. Bookings can only be moved from 2021 to 2022 if they have opted to book under the Lock in Deal whereby a ZAR10,000 deposit will lock in the rate, regardless if travel takes place in 2021 or is needed to move to 2022.

