

THE RIFT VALLEY EXPLORER



12 DAYS - THE TANZANIA & UGANDA VOYAGER SAFARI



SHORT SAFARI PROGRAM

The Tanzania & Uganda Voyager Safari takes you on an adventure to explore the best wildlife experiences that Tanzania and Uganda have to offer. Your safari adventure starts with a scenic drive from the Kilimanjaro International Airport in Moshi to the Lake Manyara National Park, which was established in 1960, and covers about 330 square kilometers below the 'Gregory Rift' escarpment of the Great Rift Valley and part of the alkaline soda lake beyond. In addition to delightful views of pink flamingoes skipping over the surface of the shallow lake, more than 350 tropical bird species have been observed on and around the lake. The lake ecosystem is part of the much larger 'Lake Manyara Biosphere Reserve', established in 1981 by UNESCO. Situated only about 130 kilometers from Arusha, Lake Manyara NP tends to be the second park most often visited first, next to the Tarangire NP, by visitors exploring the northern safari circuit of Tanzania. In addition to the tens of thousands of flamingoes and pelicans for which the lake environment is most famous, Lake Manyara is also renowned for its tree-climbing lions, who have made their home in the acacia trees along the rocky escarpment and are a well-known feature of this park. In addition to lions and leopards, the park also features large numbers of elephants, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, impala, waterbuck, and warthog, and is also home to large troops of olive baboons.

The second part of your safari takes you to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, which was established in 1959 as part of the Serengeti National Park but exists today as a separate management authority due to complex tribal interests in that region. At its heart is the famous Ngorongoro Crater, the world's largest inactive, intact volcanic caldera. The crater initially formed when a giant volcano erupted and collapsed what some believe was the tallest mountain in the world about two to three million years ago, leaving a caldera 20 kilometers wide, 610 meters deep, with its floor covering 260 square kilometers of grasslands and swamps with a soda lake at its center. Other important sites found within the NCA are the eastern section

of the Serengeti Plains, the Northern Highland Forest Reserve (NHFR), and the archaeological and paleontological important area known as the Olduvai Gorge, a steep ravine in the Great Rift Valley, as well as the early human fossil footprints discovered at Laetoli. The entire area was granted the status of World Heritage Site in 1979 and is also listed as an International Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO.

The third part of your safari takes you to the Serengeti National Park which was first established in 1952, covers almost 15,000 square kilometers, and features amazing landscapes, ranging from savannahs to woodlands and open grasslands dotted with rocky ridges. Which provides the backdrop for the world's largest seasonal animal migration with 1,5 million wildebeest, the largest population of big mammals still roaming the planet, 500,000 Thompson's gazelle, 250,000 zebra, followed by 20,000 eland trekking north across the Serengeti to the plains of the Mara at the beginning of the dry season. To reach their objective, the animals must cross two major rivers, the Grumeti River and the Mara River, where more than 3,000 crocodiles are waiting for the herds to appear. Add to that 3,000 lions, the largest concentration of big cats in the world, now living in the larger Serengeti ecosystem, which means that about 20% of the animals that make up 'The Great Migration' do not survive the journey one way or back six months later. The sight of the endless stream of animals crossing the rivers represents a well-established attraction for tourists and is a natural spectacle unlike anything the international traveler can expect to experience in this world.

The next part of your safari takes you to the ancient Bwindi Forest, an important UNESCO World Heritage Site and Uganda's most famous national park due to the large population of endangered mountain gorillas living in the bamboo forests of its interior. The park is comparatively small, occupying about 330 square kilometers of montane and lowland forests that can be accessed only on hiking trails established at main park entry points linked to the four sectors of the forest, Rushaga, Buhoma, Nkuringo, and Ruhija. Of the close to 1,000 mountain gorillas in this region, about 470 reside in the ancient Bwindi Forest, dating back to the last ice age and providing



the backdrop for the 'Bucket List' adventure of tracking mountain gorillas in their natural habitat of dense bamboo thickets with enchanting views of tropical rainforests.

The last part of your safari takes you to the Queen Elizabeth National Park. The park is home to an amazing variety of wildlife, such as elephants, buffalos, hippos, chimps, many antelope species, and the Rothschild's giraffe. It features altogether more than 90 species of mammals and 20 species of carnivores, such as the lion, leopards, side-striped jackal, and spotted hyena, and is also considered a birder's paradise with 600 tropical bird species identified to date. The parkland covers 1,978 square kilometers of vistas ranging from Lake Edward and Lake George near the crater-dotted Katwe region and below the Rwenzori Mountains in the north to the rolling golden savannahs of the Ishasha sector and its tree-climbing lions in the south. Tracking the tree-climbing lions of the Ishasha sector is another objective you should achieve during your visit to this national park. Tree-climbing lions exist in substantial numbers only in a few places on the continent. Driving across the rolling savannah of Ishasha, you can observe lions climbing into Acacia trees to find the best branch to sleep on in the daytime. This means you may find a dozen lions clambering up the same tree, sometimes fighting each other for the biggest branch to sleep on.

- ❑ **Day 01 - Arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport to Lake Manyara NP.**
Arrival and scenic drive to the Lake Manyara NP.
Game Drive and *Lake Manyara Treetop Walkway*.
Activity Options *Nature Walk • Night Game Drive • Explore Maasai Boma*.
- ❑ **Day 02 - Lake Manyara NP to Ngorongoro Conservation Area.**
Scenic drive to the Ngorongoro CA. *Crater View Walk*.
- ❑ **Day 03 - Ngorongoro Conservation Area.**
Game Drive in the Ngorongoro CA.
Activity Options *Explore Shifting Dune • Prehistoric Laetoli Footprints*.

- ❑ **Day 04 - Ngorongoro CA to Serengeti National Park.**
Transfer to the Serengeti NP. Visit *Prehistoric Olduvai Gorge*.
- ❑ **Day 05 - Serengeti National Park.**
Game Drive and *Nature Walk* in the Serengeti NP.
- ❑ **Day 06 - Serengeti National Park.**
Game Drive and *Explore Maasai Boma* in the Serengeti NP.
- ❑ **Day 07 - Serengeti NP to Kigali to Bwindi Impenetrable NP.**
Transfer to the Seronera airstrip in the Serengeti NP and scenic flight to Kigali. Arrival and scenic drive to the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.
Transfer Route *Tanzania to Rwanda to Uganda*.
- ❑ **Day 08 - Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.**
Gorilla Tracking in the Bwindi Forest. *Explore Batwa Cultural Trail*.
Activity Options *Gorilla Habituation Experience • Explore Bwindi Forest Trails*.
- ❑ **Day 09 - Bwindi Impenetrable NP to Queen Elizabeth NP.**
Transfer to the Ishasha sector of the Queen Elizabeth NP.
Game Drive in search of the tree-climbing lions of Ishasha.
- ❑ **Day 10 - Queen Elizabeth National Park.**
Transfer to the Mweya sector of the Queen Elizabeth NP.
Game Drive and *Boat Cruise Kazinga Channel*.
Activity Options *Chimpanzee Tracking Kyambura Gorge • Katwe Craters and Salt Works • Mongoose Tracking • Lion Tracking • Hippo Census*.
- ❑ **Day 11 - Queen Elizabeth NP to Entebbe.**
Return drive to Entebbe.
- ❑ **Day 12 - Departure from Entebbe.**
Visit *Entebbe Botanical Gardens*. Visit *Entebbe Crafts Market*.
Airport transfer and departure from Entebbe.





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❑ Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price

Lake Manyara NP - **Game Drive**.
Lake Manyara NP - **Lake Manyara Treetop Walkway**.
Ngorongoro CA - **Crater View Walk**.
Ngorongoro CA - **Game Drive**.
Ngorongoro CA - **Prehistoric Olduvai Gorge**.
Serengeti NP - **Game Drives x 2**.
Serengeti NP - **Nature Walk**.
Serengeti NP - **Explore Maasai Boma**.
Bwindi Impenetrable NP - **Gorilla Tracking Permit**.
Bwindi Impenetrable NP - **Explore Batwa Cultural Trail**.
Queen Elizabeth NP - **Game Drives x 2**.
Queen Elizabeth NP - **Boat Cruise Kazinga Channel**.
Entebbe - **Entebbe Botanical Gardens**.
Entebbe - **Entebbe Crafts Market**.
Scheduled charter flights listed in the itinerary.
English-speaking driver and tour guide.
Road transfers with 4 x 4 safari vehicles, including fuel.
National park and conservation fees listed in this itinerary.
Gorilla, chimp and other wildlife permits listed in this itinerary.
Meals as specified in this itinerary and mineral water.
Meal plan index: BB-Bed & Breakfast, HB-Half Board, FB-Full Board.

4 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

Day 01 1 night @ The Plantation Lodge - FB.
Day 02 - 03 2 nights @ Ngorongoro Tortilis Camp - FB.
Day 04 - 06 3 nights @ Angata Serengeti Camp - FB.
Day 07 - 08 2 nights @ Rushaga Gorilla Lodge - FB.
Day 09 1 night @ Enjojo Lodge - FB.
Day 10 1 night @ Bush Lodge - FB.
Day 11 1 night @ Karibu Entebbe - FB.

5 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

Day 01 1 night @ Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge- FB.
Day 02 - 03 2 nights @ Asilia The Highlands - FB.
Day 04 - 06 3 nights @ Asilia Dunia Camp - FB.
Day 07 - 08 2 nights @ Volcanoes Bwindi Lodge - FB.
Day 09 1 night @ Ishasha Wilderness Camp - FB.
Day 10 1 night @ Volcanoes Kyambura Gorge Lodge - FB.
Day 11 1 night @ Latitude 0 Hotel - FB.

❑ Safari Activities & Services Not Included In Safari Price

Cost of international/local flights not listed in this itinerary.
Cost of mandatory visas and health certificates.
A **Yellow Fever** certificate is mandatory for Tanzania and Uganda.
A **Tourist Visa** for Tanzania can be obtained online here:
<https://visa.immigration.go.tz/>
A **Tourist Visa** for Uganda can be obtained online here:
<https://visas.immigration.go.ug/#/help/visa>
Cost of medical, travel, and any other personal insurance.
Cost of personal expenditures such as gratuities and tips.
Cost of hotels and lodges listed as **Lodge Options** in this itinerary.
Cost of activities listed as **Activity Options** in this itinerary.

SAFARI PRICE OPTIONS

Our tours include all major activities, park and conservation fees, permits required for viewing gorillas, chimpanzees, and other wildlife, and a full-board meal plan as specified. The group price options in the following tables are based on high-season hotel/lodge rates and may be subject to change without prior notice.

Other hotel/lodge options are listed in the **Detailed Safari Program** below in this document. Please ask our reservations staff for additional lodge options and available activity rates by location and based on your specific requirements. All prices listed here are **Per Person Sharing in a Double / Twin Room**, and **Single Traveler Supplements** are available on request:



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4 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

Price Per Person Sharing (PPS) in a Double / Twin Room

2 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 9,338
3 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 8,631
4 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 8,278
5 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 8,066
6 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 7,925

4x4 Vehicle Included In Safari Price: 5/7 Seater Safari Land Cruiser

5 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

Price Per Person Sharing (PPS) in a Double / Twin Room

2 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 17,762
3 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 17,056
4 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 16,703
5 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 16,491
6 pax traveling	PPS from	US \$ 16,350

4x4 Vehicle Included In Safari Price: 5/7 Seater Safari Land Cruiser

LONG SAFARI PROGRAM

Day 01 - Arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport to Lake Manyara NP.

Arriving in Tanzania, your appointed driver/guide will collect you from Kilimanjaro International Airport for a briefing on your upcoming tour and a scenic drive to the Lake Manyara National Park, where you venture on a **Game Drive** and **Lake Manyara Treetop Walkway** adventure.

Established as a national park in 1960, Lake Manyara NP covers about 330 square kilometers below the 'Gregory Rift' escarpment of the Great Rift Valley and part of the alkaline soda lake beyond. In addition to delightful views of pink flamingoes skipping over the surface of the shallow lake, more than 350 tropical bird species have been observed on and around the lake. The lake ecosystem is part of the much larger 'Lake Manyara Biosphere Reserve', established in

1981 by UNESCO. Situated only about 130 kilometers from Arusha, Lake Manyara NP tends to be the second park most often visited first, next to the Tarangire NP, by visitors exploring the northern safari circuit of Tanzania.

Other lake features include extensive marshlands, swamps, saline flats, a grassy floodplain on its fringes, a hippopotamus pool at the lake's northern end, and two hot springs, one near the park's center and the other near its southern edge. Most of the park's land area is a narrow strip running below the rocky escarpment of the 'Gregory Rift' wall and primarily consists of dense woodland dominated by evergreen fig, acacia, baobab, and mahogany trees.

In addition to the tens of thousands of flamingoes and pelicans for which the lake environment is most famous, Lake Manyara is also renowned for its tree-climbing lions, who have made their home in the acacia trees along the rocky escarpment and are a well-known feature of this park. In addition to lions and leopards, the park also features large numbers of elephants, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, impala, waterbuck, and warthog, and is also home to large troops of olive baboons.

Some of the activity options listed below may already be a part of your safari itinerary. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details. Other activity options in Lake Manyara National Park and their respective cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Lake Manyara Treetop Walkway - US \$ 50 Per Person

Lake Manyara features the longest treetop walkway in East Africa, offering a unique experience of viewing nature and wildlife from a 370-meter air walk that rises from the ground up through the canopy of the Manyara forest to a height of about 18 meters. Walk across a series walk over a series of suspension bridges, each complemented by a viewing platform.

Activity Option - Nature Walk- US \$ 60 Per Person

You have the optional opportunity to join a guided walking safari,



which will provide you with the amazing opportunity to experience the wildlife and landscapes of the Lake Manyara ecosystem up close.

Activity Option - Night Game Drive - US \$ 50 Per Person

In contrast to the regular daytime game viewing opportunities, a selection of lodges offers night game drives, which add a new dimension to your safari experience. As you drive through the park's diverse habitats, additional hand-held flashlights are used to search and identify the nocturnal animals of the savannah landscapes.

Activity Option - Explore Maasai Boma - US \$ 100 Per Person

You can visit an authentic Maasai village and gain insights into their unique cultures and traditions. A village chief will lead a tour of the Boma and explain how Maasai traditions and lifestyles have remained unchanged for centuries. You also have the opportunity to watch or take part in traditional Maasai dance ceremonies.

4 Star Lodge Options

Lake Manyara Tortilis Camp

The Plantation Lodge

Tarangire Sopa Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

&Beyond Lake Manyara Tree Lodge

Chem Chem Lodge

Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge

□ Day 02 - Lake Manyara NP to Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Today, you transfer to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area where you will go on a **Crater View Walk**. The larger Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) was established in 1959 as part of the Serengeti National Park but exists today as a separate management authority due to complex tribal interests in that region. At its heart is the famous Ngorongoro Crater, the world's largest inactive, intact volcanic caldera. The crater initially formed when a giant volcano erupted and collapsed what some believe was the tallest mountain in the world about two to three million years ago, leaving a caldera 20 kilometers

wide, 610 meters deep, with its floor covering 260 square kilometers of grasslands and swamps with a soda lake at its center.

Other important sites found within the NCA are the eastern section of the Serengeti Plains, the Northern Highland Forest Reserve (NHFR), and the archaeological and paleontological important area known as the Olduvai Gorge, a steep ravine in the Great Rift Valley, as well as the early human fossil footprints discovered at Laetoli. The entire area was granted the status of World Heritage Site in 1979 and is also listed as an International Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. With several small streams and rivers draining into the central Lake Magadi from the surrounding caldera, the crater effectively became a natural sanctuary for more than 30,000 animals. The 120 species of mammals recorded to date include black rhinos, lions, elephants, wildebeests, zebras, hippos, eland, and Grant's and Thomson's gazelles with a flock of flamingoes gracing Lake Magadi, and leopards roaming the higher elevations of the crater rim.

Some of the activity options listed below may already be a part of your safari itinerary. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details. Other activity options in the Ngorongoro CA and their respective cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Crater View Walk - US \$ 60 Per Person

A popular activity some lodges offer is a nature walk along the crater rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. This walk allows you to experience various habitats, such as acacia woodland, lush forests, and open grasslands, and it also allows you to observe a fantastic variety of African bird species.

Activity Option - Prehistoric Olduvai Gorge - US \$ 80 Per Person

Visiting the famous Olduvai Gorge, also known as 'The Cradle of Mankind,' allows you to explore its ancient treasures of prehistoric human life. The Gorge was discovered in 1911, and Louis and Mary Leakey conducted significant archaeological excavations in the 1930s. Exhibits from different research periods are on display in the Olduvai Museum.





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Activity Option - Explore Shifting Dune - US \$ 30 Per Person

You can also visit the mysterious moving black dune, composed of volcanic ash and slowly moving across the Ngorongoro plains at about 15 meters per year.

Activity Option - Prehistoric Laetoli Footprints - US \$ 30 Per Person

You have the optional opportunity at extra cost to visit the prehistoric Laetoli site, famous for its hominin footprints, which are preserved in volcanic ash.

Activity Option - Explore Maasai Boma - US \$ 100 Per Person

You can visit an authentic Maasai village and gain insights into their unique cultures and traditions. A village chief will lead a tour of the Boma and explain how Maasai traditions and lifestyles have remained unchanged for centuries. You also have the opportunity to watch or take part in traditional Maasai dance ceremonies.

4 Star Lodge Options

Acacia The Castle Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Tortilis Camp
Angata Ngorongoro Camp
The Retreat At Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

Elewana The Manor At Ngorongoro
Lemala Ngorongoro Tented Camp
&Beyond Ngorongoro Crater Lodge
Asilia The Highlands
Nomad Entamanu Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge

□ Day 03 - Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Today, you venture on a **Game Drive** in the famous Ngorongoro Crater. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.

4 Star Lodge Options

Acacia The Castle Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Tortilis Camp
Angata Ngorongoro Camp
The Retreat At Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

Elewana The Manor At Ngorongoro
Lemala Ngorongoro Tented Camp
&Beyond Ngorongoro Crater Lodge
Asilia The Highlands
Nomad Entamanu Ngorongoro
Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge

□ Day 04 - Ngorongoro CA to Serengeti National Park.

Today, you transfer to the Serengeti National Park with a visit to the **Prehistoric Olduvai Gorge** on the way. The Serengeti National Park in Tanzania was established in 1952, covers almost 15,000 square kilometers, and features amazing landscapes, ranging from savannahs to woodlands and open grasslands dotted with rocky ridges. Which provides the backdrop for the world's largest seasonal animal migration with 1,5 million wildebeest, the largest population of big mammals still roaming the planet, 500,000 Thompson's gazelle, 250,000 zebra, followed by 20,000 eland trekking north across the Serengeti to the plains of the Mara at the beginning of the dry season.

To reach their objective, the animals must cross two major rivers, the Grumeti River and the Mara River, where more than 3,000 crocodiles are waiting for the herds to appear. Add to that 3,000 lions, the largest concentration of big cats in the world, now living in the larger Serengeti ecosystem, which means that about 20% of the animals that make up 'The Great Migration' do not survive the journey one way or back six months later. The sight of the endless stream of animals crossing the rivers represents a well-established attraction for tourists and is a natural spectacle unlike anything the international traveler can expect to experience in this world. Other mam-





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imals and predators found in the Serengeti NP are hippos, elephants, Cape buffalo, black rhinos, olive baboons, warthog, aardvark, leopard, lion, spotted hyena, jackal, honey badger, African civet cat, caracal, serval, banded mongoose, and pangolin. In addition, the park also has over 500 tropical bird species ranging from the Maasai ostrich, secretary bird, crowned crane, lesser flamingo, shoebill stork, fish eagle, pelican, various types of hornbills, many species of vultures, with black eagles soaring effortlessly above the golden savannahs of the Serengeti.

The primary landscapes of the larger Serengeti ecosystem can best be defined as follows. **Serengeti Plains:** Primarily features mostly treeless savannahs in the south, dotted with rocky ridges and granite formations that serve as observation platforms for predators. **Western Corridor:** This sector is predominately defined by a pair of rivers, the Grumeti and Mbalageti, which feature extensive riverine forests and some small mountain ranges and stretch to Lake Victoria on its western border. The seasonal great migration passes through this corridor between May and July yearly. **Northern Serengeti:** It is dominated by open woodlands and ranges from the main settlement of Seronera in the south to the Mara River on the border with Kenya in the north. It is considered relatively inaccessible.

Some of the activity options listed below may already be a part of your safari itinerary. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details. Other activity options in Serengeti National Park and their cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Nature Walk- US \$ 60 Per Person

You have the optional opportunity to join a guided walking safari, which will provide you with the amazing opportunity to experience the wildlife and landscapes of the Serengeti National Park ecosystem up close.

Activity Option - Explore Maasai Boma - US \$ 100 Per Person

You can visit an authentic Maasai village and gain insights into their unique cultures and traditions. A village chief will lead a tour of the Boma and explain how Maasai traditions and lifestyles have

remained unchanged for centuries. You also have the opportunity to watch or take part in traditional Maasai dance ceremonies.

Activity Option - Hot Air Balloon Safari - US \$ 600 Per Person

Starting early in the morning, you also have the option of joining a hot air balloon safari, with the balloon gliding silently over the savannah as you observe the wildlife below. This adventure features a bush breakfast after a successful landing.

4 Star Lodge Option

Mbali Mbali Soro Serengeti
Serengeti Tortilis Camp
Angata Serengeti Camp
African View Serengeti View Camp
Acacia Seronera Luxury Camp
Entara Olmara Camp
Entara Esirai Migration Camp
Serengeti Sopa Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp
Elewana Serengeti Pioneer Camp
&Beyond Grumeti Serengeti River Lodge
&Beyond Klein's Camp
Asilia Sayari Camp
Asilia Namiri Plains
Nomad Serengeti Safari Camp
Nomad Lamai Serengeti
Legendary Mila Tented Camp
Legendary Songa Tented Camp
Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge
Lemala Nanyukie Lodge

Day 05 - Serengeti National Park.

Today, you will go on a **Game Drive** and **Nature Walk** in the Serengeti NP. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.





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4 Star Lodge Option

*Mbali Mbali Soroi Serengeti
Serengeti Tortilis Camp
Angata Serengeti Camp
African View Serengeti View Camp
Acacia Seronera Luxury Camp
Entara Olmara Camp
Entara Esirai Migration Camp
Serengeti Sopa Lodge*

5 Star Lodge Options

*Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp
Elewana Serengeti Pioneer Camp
&Beyond Grumeti Serengeti River Lodge
&Beyond Klein's Camp
Asilia Sayari Camp
Asilia Namiri Plains
Nomad Serengeti Safari Camp
Nomad Lamai Serengeti
Legendary Mila Tented Camp
Legendary Songa Tented Camp
Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge
Lemala Nanyukie Lodge*

□ Day 06 - Serengeti National Park.

Today, you venture on a **Game Drive** in the Serengeti NP followed by a visit to a **Maasai Boma**. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.

4 Star Lodge Option

*Mbali Mbali Soroi Serengeti
Serengeti Tortilis Camp
Angata Serengeti Camp
African View Serengeti View Camp
Acacia Seronera Luxury Camp
Entara Olmara Camp*

Entara Esirai Migration Camp Serengeti Sopa Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

*Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp
Elewana Serengeti Pioneer Camp
&Beyond Grumeti Serengeti River Lodge
&Beyond Klein's Camp
Asilia Sayari Camp
Asilia Namiri Plains
Nomad Serengeti Safari Camp
Nomad Lamai Serengeti
Legendary Mila Tented Camp
Legendary Songa Tented Camp
Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge
Lemala Nanyukie Lodge*

□ Day 07 - Serengeti NP to Kigali to Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Today, you transfer to the Seronera airstrip in the Serengeti National Park for a scheduled charter flight to Kigali, Rwanda followed by a scenic drive to the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda. The Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is situated in southwestern Uganda, was first established as a Crown Forest Reserve in 1932, and gazetted as a national park in 1991. The ancient Bwindi Forest is an important UNESCO World Heritage Site and is Uganda's most famous national park due to the large population of endangered mountain gorillas living in the bamboo forests of its interior. The park is comparatively small, occupying about 330 square kilometers of montane and lowland forests that can be accessed only on hiking trails established at main park entry points linked to the four sectors of the forest, Rushaga, Buhoma, Nkuringo, and Ruhija.

Of the close to 1,000 mountain gorillas in this region, about 470 reside in the ancient Bwindi Forest, dating back to the last ice age and providing the backdrop for the 'Bucket List' adventure of tracking mountain gorillas in their natural habitat of dense bamboo thickets with enchanting views of tropical rainforests. The remaining Afri-





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can mountain gorillas are in three other locations: the Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda, the Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda, and the Virunga National Park in the DRC. These three national parks and a string of eight volcanoes on the edge of the Albertine Rift Valley are known as the Virunga Conservation Area.

In addition to the famous mountain gorillas, the park features an astonishing variety of flora and fauna, including 120 species of mammals, of which 10 are primates, 350 species of birds, 310 species of butterflies, 27 species of chameleons, geckos, and frogs. The forest is among the most ecologically diverse in East Africa, with more than 1,000 flowering plant species, 200 species of trees, and 104 species of ferns. You also have the opportunity to observe other primates, such as chimps, black and white Colobus monkeys, and L'Hoest monkeys.

Some of the activity options listed below may already be a part of your safari itinerary. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details. Other activity options in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and their respective cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Gorilla Habituation Exp.- US \$ 1,500 Per Person

Two types of gorilla tracking permits are available in the ancient Bwindi Forest. The standard permit costs US \$ 800 per person, allowing a larger group of 8 to visit a habituated gorilla family for 1 to 2 hours. The longer and more exclusive gorilla habituation experience costs US \$ 1,500 per person and allows a smaller group of 4 to join researchers during their visit to one of the gorilla families habituated to human presence for 4 hours.

Activity Option - Explore Batwa Cultural Trail - US \$ 80 Per Person

The Batwa Forest People are an ethnic group with rich and ancient ancestral traditions and rely on the forest, hunting and harvesting wild yams and honey without adversely affecting the area's ecosystem. Exploring the 'Batwa Trail' allows you to join their guides and venture along extensive forest trails to learn about their cultures, traditions, and techniques of surviving in the forest. You will also visit

their villages in the forest to observe musical performances and traditional hunting/gathering demonstrations.

Activity Option - Explore Bwindi Forest Trails - US \$ 40 Per Person

Guided hiking through the Bwindi Forest on the many established forest trails is organized by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and features fantastic views of pristine tropical rainforest and enchanting waterfalls. In addition to the famous mountain gorillas, the park features an astonishing variety of flora and fauna, including 120 species of mammals, of which 10 are primates, 350 species of birds, 310 species of butterflies, 27 species of chameleons, geckos, and frogs. The forest is among the most ecologically diverse in East Africa, with more than 1,000 flowering plant species, 200 species of trees, and 104 species of ferns. You also have the opportunity to observe other primates, such as chimps, black and white Colobus monkeys, blue monkeys, and L'Hoest monkeys.

4 Star Lodge Options

Buhoma Lodge

Silverback Lodge

Trackers Lodge

Gorilla Valley Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

Bwindi Lodge

Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge

Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp

Day 08 - Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

Today, you will go on an exciting **Gorilla Tracking** adventure in the ancient Bwindi Forest, which will be the ultimate highlight of your safari. You will also venture to **Explore Batwa Cultural Trail**, an experience established by the Batwa Forest People of southwestern Uganda to highlight their ancient cultures and traditions. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.





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4 Star Lodge Options

Buhoma Lodge

Silverback Lodge

Trackers Lodge

Gorilla Valley Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options

Bwindi Lodge

Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge

Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp

□ Day 09 - Bwindi Impenetrable NP to Queen Elizabeth NP.

Today, you transfer to the Ishasha sector of the Queen Elizabeth National Park and venture on a **Game Drive** in search of the tree-climbing lions of Ishasha. 'Queen E', as it is commonly called, is the second most popular national park in Uganda, next to Murchison Falls NP. It was initially gazetted as the Kazinga NP in 1952 but renamed Queen Elizabeth National Park just two years later to commemorate a visit by England's Queen. The park is home to an amazing variety of wildlife, such as elephants, buffalos, hippos, chimps, many antelope species, and the Rothschild's giraffe. It features altogether more than 90 species of mammals and 20 species of carnivores, such as the lion, leopards, side-striped jackal, and spotted hyena, and is also considered a birder's paradise with 600 tropical bird species identified to date. The parkland covers 1,978 square kilometers of vistas ranging from Lake Edward and Lake George near the crater-dotted Katwe region and below the Rwenzori Mountains in the north to the rolling golden savannahs of the Ishasha sector and its tree-climbing lions in the south.

Of these landscapes, four have become famous for offering unique experiences. First, there are the volcanic cones and crater lakes found around Katwe, Fort George, and Kasenyi on the west side of the Kazinga Channel, which formed as a result of volcanic activity along the Albertine Rift Valley and are used today by local communities to extract salt. Next on the 'not to miss' list is the Kazinga channel itself, a 32 km long natural canal linking Lake Edward and Lake George, and known for its substantial population of hippos. Explor-

ing the channel during a boat cruise allows you to say hello to the 'Hippo Nation' and observe many of the 600 tropical bird species recorded in this national park, including the elusive 'Shoebill Stork'.

Another item on your 'must-see list' for 'Queen E' is the Kyambura Gorge, situated on the Mweya peninsula and known as the 'Valley of the Apes'. The gorge was formed thousands of years ago by the flow of the Kyambura River. It is about 1 km across and 100 meters deep and is also home to troops of our closest relatives, the chimps. A nature walk through the gorge is one of the highlights of your safari as it allows you to observe the chimp troops in their natural habitat.

Tracking the tree-climbing lions of the Ishasha sector is another objective you should achieve during your visit to this national park. Tree-climbing lions exist in substantial numbers only in a few places on the continent. Driving across the rolling savannah of Ishasha, you can observe lions climbing into Acacia trees to find the best branch to sleep on in the daytime. This means you may find a dozen lions clambering up the same tree, sometimes fighting each other for the biggest branch to sleep on.

Some of the activity options listed below may already be a part of your safari itinerary. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details. Other activity options in Queen Elizabeth National Park and their cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Boat Cruise Kazinga Channel - US \$ 30 Per Person

Enjoy a boat cruise on the famous Kazinga channel, a 32 km long natural canal linking Lake Edward and Lake George, which is known for its substantial population of hippos. Exploring the channel during a boat cruise allows you to say hello to the 'Hippo Nation' and observe many of the 600 tropical bird species recorded in this national park, including the rare and elusive 'Shoebill Stork'.

Activity Option - Katwe Craters And Salt Works - US \$ 80 Per Person

Explore the volcanic cones and crater lakes of Katwe, Fort George, and Kasenyi on the west side of the Kazinga Channel. These lakes formed as a result of volcanic activity along the Albertine Rift Valley



and are used today by local communities to extract salt. Here, you can meet and observe local villagers who spend their days under the equatorial sun, working the network of paths and milky salt pans that crisscross the plains of the Katwe peninsula.

Activity Option - Chimp Tracking Kyambura - US \$ 100 Per Person

Visit the Kyambura Gorge on the Mweya peninsula, also known as the 'Valley of the Apes'. The gorge was formed thousands of years ago by the flow of the Kyambura River. It is about 1 km across and 100 meters deep and is also home to troops of our closest relatives, the chimps. A nature walk through the gorge is one of the highlights of your safari as it allows you to observe the chimp troops in their natural habitat of lowland riverine forest.

Activity Option - Balloon Safari - US \$ 380 Per Person

Starting early in the morning, you also have the option of joining a hot air balloon safari, with the balloon gliding silently over the savannah as you observe the wildlife below. This adventure features a bush breakfast after a successful landing.

Activity Option - Mongoose Tracking - US \$ 30 Per Person

You can join researchers of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) in the Mweya sector of the park to check on wildlife populations and, in this case, observe the banded Mongoose and learn about their habits.

Activity Option - Lion Tracking - US \$ 200 Per Person

You can join park rangers and wildlife researchers of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) visiting the various sectors of the national park to count and tag the lion populations of Queen Elizabeth NP.

Activity Option - Hippo Census - US \$ 100 Per Person

You can join the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) park rangers and wildlife researchers on their quest to count and keep track of the 'Hippo Nation' in the reed swamps and on the banks of the Kazinga Channel, home to the largest hippo population in Africa.

4 Star Lodge Options Ishasha Sector

Enjojo Lodge

Ishasha Jungle Lodge

Savannah Resort

5 Star Lodge Options Ishasha Sector

Ishasha Wilderness Camp

Day 10 - Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Today, you venture on a **Game Drive** and a **Boat Cruise Kazinga Channel**. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.

4 Star Lodge Options Mweya Sector

Ithamba Lakeside Safari Lodge

Buffalo Safari Lodge

Bush Lodge

Marafiki Safari Lodge

5 Star Lodge Options Mweya Sector

Kyambura Gorge Lodge

Mweya Safari Lodge

Katara Lodge

Day 11 - Queen Elizabeth NP to Entebbe.

It is time to say farewell to the Kazinga Channel of the tree-climbing lions of Ishasha and enjoy a scenic drive back to Entebbe.

4 Star Lodge Options Kampala

Sheraton Hotel Kampala

Protea Hotel Kampala

Hotel Le Petit Village

5 Star Lodge Options Kampala

Kampala Serena Hotel

Emin Pasha Hotel

Latitude 0 Hotel



4 Star Lodge Options Entebbe
The Boma Hotel
2 Friends Beach Hotel
Airport Guesthouse
Karibu Entebbe

5 Star Lodge Options Entebbe
Lake Victoria Serena Hotel
Hotel No. 5

Day 12 - Departure from Entebbe.

Today, you will visit the *Entebbe Botanical Gardens* and the *Entebbe Crafts Market*. Your driver/guide will then transfer you to the Entebbe International Airport for your scheduled departure from Uganda later that day.



With our love for Africa, our knowledgeable team of expert safari consultants is ready to personalize your safari adventure to your travel needs. Curated and delivered with attention to detail, quality, and innovation, promoting sustainable tourism, supporting local communities, and respecting wildlife conservation and the preservation of the environment.

Our comprehensive approach to customized cross-border tour developments means you can enjoy the very best 'Bucket List' experiences East Africa has to offer, from the snow-capped peaks of the Rwenzori mountains to the golden savannahs of the Serengeti and on to the sandy white beaches of Zanzibar and Mombasa.

We can provide you with a unique and responsible exploration of the breathtaking vistas along the 'Great Rift Valley', which is the heart of East Africa.

THE RIFT VALLEY EXPLORER

Bucket List Adventures Into The Heart Of Africa

BOOKING TERMS

General Terms & Conditions

- The prices stated in this document are subject to availability at the time of booking.
- Suitable alternatives will be provided if accommodation and/or activities listed in this document are not available at the time of booking.
- The costs of gorilla permits for Foreign Non-Residents, US \$ 800 per permit and per person, or US \$1,500 per permit and per person for the gorilla habituation experience, and US \$ 250 per chimpanzee permit per person, or US \$ 300 per permit per person for the chimpanzee habituation experience, must be paid together with the 40% tour deposit within 7 days of the tour confirmation.
- According to Uganda Wildlife Authority regulations, the cost for these permits is nonrefundable.
- The single traveler supplement applies to single travelers in groups with a minimum of 3 pax.
- Language-specific tour guides are available on request and against a surcharge.
- A baggage restriction of 15 kg in soft-sided bags applies to chartered flights within East Africa.
- Meal plan index: BB-Bed & Breakfast, HB-Half Board, FB-Full Board.
- Room index: SDR-Standard Double Room, SC-Self Contained, NSC-Non Self Contained.



❑ Payment Terms & Conditions

Tour deposit: 40% of the tour price within 7 days of written tour confirmation.

Gorilla and chimp permits: 100% of the permit fees are required with the 40% tour deposit.

Full balance: 70 days (10 weeks) before the tour start date.

Reservations within 70 days before the tour start date require immediate full prepayment.

Cancellation fees are applicable within the following day ranges:

30 to 15 days before the safari date: 45% cancellation fee

14 to 05 days before the safari date: 75% cancellation fee

04 to 00 days before the safari date: 100% cancellation fee

❑ Changes Without Notice

This document's prices and permit fees are valid for 2024/25 but may be subject to change without prior notice. This applies explicitly to price changes in hotel/lodge rates, vehicle rental fees, gorilla/chimpanzee permit fees, park/conservation fees, government taxes, fuel price/exchange rate fluctuations, and other cost factors beyond our control.

❑ Booking Contact

The Rift Valley Explorer

reservations@theriftvalleyexplorer.com

www.theriftvalleyexplorer.com

Next Pages: Sample Photos 5 Star Lodges Tanzania and Uganda



LAKE MANYARA TREE LODGE • LAKE MANYARA NP



LAKE MANYARA TREE LODGE • LAKE MANYARA NP



ASILIA THE HIGHLANDS • NGORONGORO CA



ASILIA THE HIGHLANDS • NGORONGORO CA



ASILIA THE HIGHLANDS • NGORONGORO CA



ASILIA THE HIGHLANDS • NGORONGORO CA



ASILIA DUNIA CAMP • SERENGETI NP



ASILIA DUNIA CAMP • SERENGETI NP



ASILIA DUNIA CAMP • SERENGETI NP



ASILIA DUNIA CAMP • SERENGETI NP



KYAMBURA GORGE LODGE • QUEEN ELIZABETH NP



KYAMBURA GORGE LODGE • QUEEN ELIZABETH NP



KYAMBURA GORGE LODGE • QUEEN ELIZABETH NP



KYAMBURA GORGE LODGE • QUEEN ELIZABETH NP