

THE RIFT VALLEY EXPLORER



7 DAYS - THE EXCLUSIVE TANZANIA & RWANDA EXPLORER



SHORT SAFARI PROGRAM

The Exclusive Tanzania & Rwanda Explorer takes you on an exclusive 'Bucket List' adventure to experience the two most sought-after wildlife adventures in East Africa; first exploring 'The Great Migration' of the Serengeti, and next visiting the Volcanoes National Park for a close-up introduction to the endangered mountain gorillas of Africa.

Your safari starts with a scenic drive to the Serengeti National Park, which 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.

The second part of your safari takes you to the Volcanoes National Park which is Rwanda's best-known park. It covers about 160 square kilometers of tropical rainforest on the slopes of five of the eight volcanoes of the Virunga volcano range and is home to the rare and endangered mountain gorillas and golden monkeys. The park was first gazetted as such in 1925 by the Belgian colonial administration, which makes it the oldest protected area in Africa. It borders Virunga

National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda, thereby complementing the Virunga Conservation Area (VCA). The 434 square kilometers of the VCA also includes a string of eight volcanoes situated on the edge of the Albertine Rift Valley and stretching across the borders of the three adjacent countries.

Although the park is best known for its populations of mountain gorillas and golden monkeys, it also features other primates, in addition to over 180 recorded bird species, with at least 13 species and 16 subspecies endemic to the Virunga volcanoes and the Rwenzori Mountains. The slopes of the ancient volcano range, covered with rainforest and bamboo thickets, were also the base for American naturalist Dian Fossey, who operated a mountain gorilla research center in the saddle area between Mt. Karisimbi and Mt. Visoke between 1966 and 1985. She was killed by unknown assailants in 1985, a crime attributed to the poachers she had spent her life fighting. Dian Fossey is buried next to her famous gorillas at the research center, and her life and work were portrayed in the movie 'Gorillas in the Mist', based on her own biography by the same title.

Day 01 - Arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport to Serengeti NP.

Arrival and transfer to domestic departures.

Scenic charter flight to the Serengeti National Park.

Day 02 - Serengeti National Park.

Game Drive and **Explore Maasai Boma** in the Serengeti NP.

Activity Options **Hot Air Balloon Safari**.

Day 03 - Serengeti National Park.

Game Drive and **Nature Walk** in the Serengeti NP.

Day 04 - Serengeti NP to Kigali to Volcanoes National Park.

Transfer to the Seronera airstrip in the Serengeti NP and scenic charter flight to Kigali. Arrival in Kigali and scenic drive to the Volcanoes National Park.

Transfer Route **Tanzania to Rwanda**.



- ❑ **Day 05 - Volcanoes National Park.**
Dian Fossey Trekking in the Volcanoes NP.
 Activity Options *Golden Monkey Tracking • Volcano Trekking.*
- ❑ **Day 06 - Volcanoes National Park.**
Gorilla Tracking in the Volcanoes NP.
- ❑ **Day 07 - Volcanoes NP to Departure from Kigali.**
 Return drive to Kigali and *Kigali City Tour* with optional visit *Genocide Memorial Centre*. Airport transfer and departure from Kigali.

❑ **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price**

Serengeti NP - *Game Drives x 2.*
 Serengeti NP - *Explore Maasai Boma.*
 Serengeti NP - *Nature Walk.*
 Volcanoes NP - *Dian Fossey Trekking.*
 Volcanoes NP - *Gorilla Tracking Permit.*
 Kigali - *Kigali City Tour.*
 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.

5 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

Day 01 - 03 3 nights @ &Beyond Grumeti Serengeti Lodge - FB.
Day 04 - 06 3 nights @ Wilderness Sabyinyo - 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 Rwanda.
 A **Tourist Visa** for Tanzania can be obtained online here:
<https://visa.immigration.go.tz/>
 A **Tourist Visa** for Rwanda can be obtained online here:
https://irembo.gov.rw/home/citizen/all_services

Under the title **Immigration & Emigration** click on **Visa Application**.
 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 wild-life, 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:

5 Star Lodge Option Included In Safari Price

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

<i>2 pax traveling</i>	PPS from	US \$ 22,039
<i>3 pax traveling</i>	PPS from	US \$ 21,820
<i>4 pax traveling</i>	PPS from	US \$ 21,711

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

LONG SAFARI PROGRAM

❑ **Day 01 - Arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport to Serengeti NP.**

Arriving in Tanzania, your appointed driver/guide will collect you from Kilimanjaro International Airport for a briefing on your upcoming tour and a transfer to the domestic departures area for a scheduled charter flight to the Seronera airstrip in the Serengeti NP.



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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 mammals 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



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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 generally considered remote and 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 respective 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.

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 02 - 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.

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 03 - 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.

5 Star Lodge Options

Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp





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*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 04 - Serengeti NP to Kigali to Volcanoes National Park.

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 Volcanoes National Park which is Rwanda's best-known park. It covers about 160 square kilometers of tropical rainforest on the slopes of five of the eight volcanoes of the Virunga volcano range and is home to the rare and endangered mountain gorillas and golden monkeys. The park was first gazetted as such in 1925 by the Belgian colonial administration, which makes it the oldest protected area in Africa. It borders Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda, thereby complementing the Virunga Conservation Area (VCA).

The 434 square kilometers of the VCA also includes a string of eight volcanoes situated on the edge of the Albertine Rift Valley and stretching across the borders of the three adjacent countries. Although the park is best known for its populations of mountain gorillas and golden monkeys, it also features other primates, in addition to over 180 recorded bird species, with at least 13 species and 16 subspecies endemic to the Virunga volcanoes and the Rwenzori Mountains. The slopes of the ancient volcano range, covered with rainforest and bamboo thickets, were also the base for American naturalist Dian Fossey, who operated a mountain gorilla research center in the saddle area between Mt. Karisimbi and Mt. Visoke

between 1966 and 1985. She was killed by unknown assailants in 1985, a crime attributed to the poachers she had spent her life fighting. Dian Fossey is buried next to her famous gorillas at the research center, and her life and work were portrayed in the movie 'Gorillas in the Mist', based on her own biography by the same title.

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 Volcanoes National Park and their respective cost factor are as follows:

Activity Option - Gorilla Tracking - US \$ 1,500 Per Person

The standard permit costs US \$ 1,500 per person and allows a group of eight visitors to have contact with a habituated gorilla family for one day.

Activity Option - Golden Monkey Tracking - US \$ 100 Per Person

Trekking the forest trails and slopes of the Volcanoes NP or any other part of the Virunga Conservation Area allows you to observe the rare golden monkeys, the smallest of the primates and an endangered species. The golden monkey is a subspecies of the blue monkey, with a golden patch on the upper flanks and back. It is at home in the same bamboo forests, which are preferred as the primary diet by the mountain gorillas.

Activity Option - Dian Fossey Trekking - US \$ 80 Per Person

And for all those interested in the scientific work of American naturalist Dian Fossey, trekking to her former mountain gorilla research center in the saddle area between Mt. Karisimbi and Mt. Visoke adds a historical dimension to your gorilla tracking adventure in the Volcanoes NP.

Activity Option - Volcano Trekking - US \$ 400 Per Person

You can also venture on an exciting two-day climb of Mount Karisimbi, one of five Virunga volcanoes within the park boundaries of the Volcanoes NP.





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5 Star Lodge Options

Wilderness Bisate

Wilderness Sabyinyo

One&Only Gorilla's Nest

Virunga Lodge

☐ Day 05 - Volcanoes National Park.

Today, you will go **Dian Fossey Trekking** on Mt. Karisimbi to visit the former gorilla research base of American naturalist Dian Fossey. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.

5 Star Lodge Options

Wilderness Bisate

Wilderness Sabyinyo

One&Only Gorilla's Nest

Virunga Lodge

☐ Day 06 - Volcanoes National Park.

Today, you will go on an exciting **Gorilla Tracking** adventure in the Volcanoes NP, which will be the ultimate highlight of your safari. Please see the **Safari Activities & Services Included In Safari Price** section for details of the activities included in your safari.

5 Star Lodge Options

Wilderness Bisate

Wilderness Sabyinyo

One&Only Gorilla's Nest

Virunga Lodge

☐ Day 07 - Volcanoes NP to Departure from Kigali.

It is time to say farewell to the mountain gorillas of the Volcanoes NP and enjoy a scenic drive back to Kigali where you will go on a **Kigali City Tour** before your driver/guide will transfer you to the airport for your scheduled departure from Rwanda 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 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.

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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 of US \$ 1,500 per permit per person and US \$ 150 per chimpanzee permit per person is required to be paid together with the 40% deposit and within 7 days of tour confirmation.





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- 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 & Rwanda





GRUMETI SERENGETI LODGE • SERENGETI NP



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WILDERNESS SABYINYO • VOLCANOES NP



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