



5 Day Gorillas & Lake Safari (Trip Code: KK5) Kampala to Kampala

This trip begins in Kampala, Uganda and travels to the south-west of Uganda before heading back and ending in Kampala.

This trip departs from Kampala early on Thursday morning. Should you wish to return to Kampala, an earlier arrival should be planned and accommodation booked through your agent

Pre Departure Meeting: Held at the Departure Point at 17h00 the day before your departure.

Departure Point: Red Chilli Hideaway, Plot 82, Sunderland Ave, Mbuya, Kampala

Check-In Time: 05h00

Departure Time: 05h30

Local Payment: US\$150

Please Note:

This itinerary should be used as a guide only and may vary from day to day depending on road & weather conditions, political situations and group decisions.

All prices & Local Payments are subject to change with prior notice.

Due to Tourism Laws in some of the countries we visit, there may be a truck and crew change during the trip.

DAYS 1 & 2: Kampala to Kisoro (B / L / D)

After an early morning departure from Kampala we drive west into the depths of Uganda to our base in Kisoro.

Kisoro is the base from which the optional Gorilla trek takes place. Dependant on where trekking permits are available, we trek in the Magahinga or Bwindi National Parks in Uganda, the Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo, or the Ruhengeri National Park in Rwanda. The prices of trekking permits fluctuate and may change without prior notice – currently they are priced between US\$375 and US\$500 depending on where we trek. There is a local transport fee of US\$20 to US\$25 per person. For trekking in the DRC or Rwanda, we will also have to purchase an additional visa to enter either country, as well as renewing our Ugandan visa upon re-entry. Please budget accordingly.

Trekking Procedures: The mountain gorilla (Gorilla Gorilla Berengei), of which there are still only about 700 remaining, are one of our closest living relatives. A visit to these gentle giants in their natural environment is a unique and wonderful experience - one you'll never forget. The park rangers monitor the gorillas on a daily basis and have a fairly good idea of where they are. However, they are free roaming animals, and their sighting can not be guaranteed. In the unlikely event of these creatures managing to completely elude us, the authorities usually allow us a second opportunity to trek them. However, this is purely at their discretion and subject to the availability of permits, and they will not confirm this in writing. Africa Travel Co is a major supplier of gorilla trekkers to each park and as such have a high success rate of

procuring gorilla permits and then of actually seeing these beautiful animals. As the gorillas share much of our DNA, anyone with even the slightest cold or transferable illness will not be permitted to trek. Trekking is also only open to people over 16 years old. We depart from our camp in the early morning and after border formalities are transferred to a ranger's station where the trek commences. Your rangers will lead you through the cultivated lands and then into the dense rain forest and on to a gorilla family. Trekking can take anywhere from 45 minutes to 8 hours and it can be quite strenuous, so a reasonable level of fitness is required. To ensure the gorillas do not get too used to the presence of humans and because they share many of our genes (and therefore able to catch our diseases), the maximum time permitted to spend with them is 1 hour. You will have plenty of time to watch their activity and to take photographs. The rangers will be able to provide you with a background to the family you are visiting. Once your hour is up, you trek back out of the rain forest to your meeting point.

You needn't feel like you're exploiting these animals. The ever-growing number of tourists trekking them each day play a vital role in their survival. For years they have been ruthlessly hunted for their hands and heads, which have been sold as ashtrays and lampshades! In addition, large numbers have been killed whilst trying to stop poachers stealing the babies for sale to zoos, where they have never lived long. 100% of the gorilla permit cost is used to by the parks authorities to finance patrols that are instrumental in protecting the gorillas from poachers and their lethal snares and on promoting these wonderful animals.

DAY 3: Kisoro to Lake Bunyoni (B / L / D)

A short drive, through arguably some of the most picturesque scenery in Africa, brings us to awesome Lake Bunyoni. Lake Bunyoni is the deepest crater lake in Africa and is home to a large and varied number of beautiful birds.

DAY 4: Lake Bunyoni (B / L / D)

Today we have the whole day at leisure to enjoy the beauty of Lake Bunyoni. There is the option to visit a local village or church, hike in the surrounding hills, canoe or just spend the day relaxing or swimming in this tranquil lake. A well deserved rest day!

DAY 5: Lake Bunyoni to Kampala (B / L / D)

After enjoying peaceful Lake Bunyoni, we begin our drive back to Kampala. We cross the Equator for the second time and stop for the classic "one foot in each hemisphere" photo opportunity. We overnight in Kampala and have the opportunity to sample its night life! On arrival in Kampala, we exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Below is a selection of Optional Excursions available on this trip.

Please Note

- these prices are approximate and are subject to change
- where activities occur away from your base, there may be an additional transfer cost.

Uganda, Jinja - Softpower Community Project	US\$ 25
Uganda, Jinja - White Water Rafting on The Nile	US\$ 95
Uganda, Kampala - Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary	US\$ 50
Uganda, DRC or Rwanda - Gorilla Trekking Permit	Between US\$375.00 & US\$ 500

The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with us.

"Safari Njema"