



10 Day Best of Uganda Safari for Sands Nomads

Visited countries

Uganda

Uganda is a landlocked country located in East Africa on the shores of Lake Victoria. It is packed full of geographical and cultural diversity which is illustrated by the number of Lakes, Forests, Mountains, Rivers, Savannah Grasslands and Traditional Customs that it possesses. This is the principal reason why Uganda is commonly known as the "Pearl of Africa" a name given by Sir Winston Churchill gave this name to Uganda in his book "My African Journey."

Uganda is famous for The Mountain Gorillas of Bwindi and The Chimpanzees of Kibale no other country has two of the 3 great apes within their borders. The Source of the Nile in Jinja, Tree Climbing Lions in Ishasha, Murchison Falls, Hippos in the Kazinga Channel, the remote beauty of Kidepo and Lake Victoria itself all culminate to make Uganda an incredible place to visit. However we are sure that despite all those breathtaking attractions it is The People of Uganda that make this country the wonderful destination that it is.



Regions to discover

Central Region

The Central Region of Uganda is home to the two principal cities, Kampala which is the capital city and Entebbe, although the distance between the two cities is only around 30kms the journey time is severely traffic dependant. The region of Uganda is characterised hilly terrain with marshland valleys. Due to the curved shore line of Lake Victoria both cities are close to the Lake and can act as a gateway to the rest of Uganda's other principal cities to the east, west and north of Uganda as well as a good starting point for shorter weekend breaks to islands on Lake Victoria.

The Central Region is the historical seat of the Baganda Kingdom with the Kabakas Palace, Kisubi Royal Tombs and other Royal sites are found in this region.



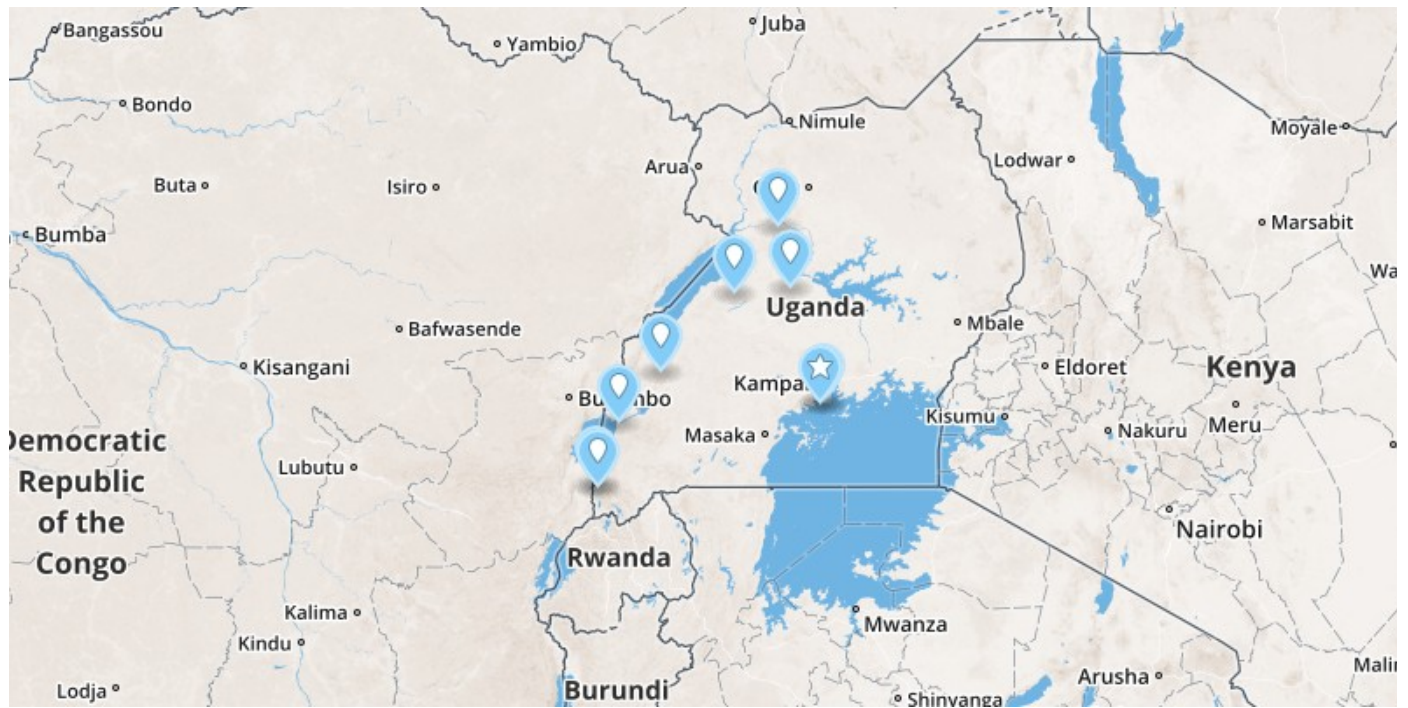
Western Region

The Western Region of Uganda houses the majority of the National Parks in Uganda. Lake Mburo, Mgahinga, Bwindi, Queen Elizabeth, Kibale, Rwenzori, Semiliki and Murchison all feature in this region. The region also has a rich cultural history with a lot of traditions still prevalent today. The Kingdoms of Ankole, Bunyoro, Kigezi and Toro all hail from this part of Uganda. Each tribe has a discrete heritage which you can see in abundance as you explore this area of Uganda.

Due to the climate and altitude in Western Uganda there are many Tea and Coffee plantations dotted over the landscape which is also punctuated by stunning natural crater lakes and forests making a journey into the area an adventure in itself. But it doesn't stop there, Lake Buyonyi, Lake Mutanda, Lake Edward, Lake George and Lake Albert are also found here, bringing with them an unrivalled beauty that can only be found in this region of Uganda.



Itinerary map



Travel summary

Day 1 : Entebbe

Day 2 : Entebbe - Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary - Murchison Falls N.P

Day 3 : Murchison Falls N.P

Day 4 : Murchison Falls N.P - Hoima

Day 5 : Hoima - Kibale N.P

Day 6 : Kibale N.P - Queen Elizabeth N.P

Day 7 : Queen Elizabeth N.P

Day 8 : Queen Elizabeth N.P - Bwindi N.P - Queen Elizabeth N.P - Bwindi N.P

Day 9 : Bwindi N.P - Buhoma - Bwindi N.P

Day 10 : Bwindi N.P - Entebbe - Entebbe Airport

Day 1: Entebbe

Welcome to Uganda! On arrival you will be met at the Airport by a Let's Go Travel representative who will escort you to your safari vehicle and will introduce you to your Driver who will also be your Guide. The first stop will be a short drive to your accommodation where you will be able to relax and contemplate the adventure that lies ahead.

Overnight at Best Western Premier



Day 2: Entebbe - Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary - Murchison Falls N.P

An early morning rise will enable you to begin your safari and head towards Murchison Falls National Park, travelling north to Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary which will be the first scheduled stop. The journey will see you leave the traditional Buganda Kingdom located in the central region of Uganda and move into the area the Bunyoro Kingdom call home with in the north west region.

Ziwa provides trained rangers who will guide you through this Rhino Trekking expedition. You will have the opportunity to observe the rhinos at a very close and safe distance. While at the sanctuary you will also encounter a range of other wildlife species including uganda kobs, reed bucks, oribis, rich bucks, hippos and crocodiles.

After the Rhino Sanctuary you will pass through Masindi Town and onwards to the Murchison Falls area characterised by the lush greenery of the Budongo, Rabongo and Pabidi Forest. These Forests are home to an incredible number of plant, bird and animal life and driving through this part of Uganda is like driving through the land that time forgot!

Overnight at Paraa Safari Lodge



Day 3: Murchison Falls N.P

Your first activity of the day will be a game drive! The park is home to all the Big 5 with the exception of the rhino. Also resident in the are hippo, buffalo, giraffe, several antelope and monkey species.

Most of the game viewing is done around the Buligi game tracks on the northern sector of the park. The park also boasts the Nile - Lake Albert Delta which is home to a large number of birds including african fish eagles and the rare shoebill storks.

After lunch it will be time for a boat ride along the Nile to the foot of Murchison Falls, be sure to have your cameras ready for this one. Expect to see birds perched on tree branches ready to hunt, mammals drinking or cooling down in the river and reptiles basking in the sun on the river banks.

One of the highlights of the boat ride is getting up close to Murchison Falls itself, allowing you to feel the awesome power and beauty that comes when the worlds longest river is forced through a 7 meter gap before dropping 40 meters as it continues its journey to the Mediterranean Sea.

Overnight at Paraa Safari Lodge



Day 4: Murchison Falls N.P - Hoima

After breakfast you will head south westwards to Hoima Town which acts as a midway stopping point between Murchison Falls National Park and Kibale Forest National Park. There is an interesting blend of rural and town life which you will not get to see anywhere else in Uganda.

Hoima Town is historically known as the principal city of the Bunyoro Kingdom.

Overnight at Hoima Cultural Lodge



Day 5: Hoima - Kibale N.P

With the anticipation of your Chimpanzee Trek tomorrow the safari will head further south into the Kibale Forest region. You leave the Bunyoro Kingdom and journey into the heart of the Tooro Kingdom towards the principal city Fort Portal, the only Ugandan town with an English name.

The city sits at the foot of the Ruwenzori Mountains is considered a gateway to many of the National Park in western Uganda, including Kibale, Semuliki, Queen Elizabeth, Bwindi and the Toro - Semuliki Wildlife Reserves. Look out for the King of Tooro's grand palace on top of the largest hill in the area.

Overnight stay at Kyaninga Lodge



Day 6: Kibale N.P - Queen Elizabeth N.P

Your Chimpanzee Trekking experience has finally arrived! It begins at the Uganda Wildlife Authority HQ at Kayanchu Gate where your trekking group will head into the forest with a guide after a short briefing. About 1 hour before your group sets off an advance party of guides will have entered the forest to locate where the Chimpanzees spent the night. Once located the advance party send a radio message back to your trekking group so that you can navigate through the forest.

During the trek you will also get to see the different birds, animals and plant species within the forest. Once you locate the Chimpanzees you can only spend one hour with them this ensures that the Chimpanzees don't become accustomed to human contact.

Overnight at Mweya Safari Lodge



Day 7: Queen Elizabeth N.P

A game drive in Kasenya sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park is a great place to see view the dffereing landscape and ecosystems in Uganda. The park is the oldest and the most visited in Uganda. This game drive will take place on the Kasenya Plains which are in the north east section of the park and but west of Lake George. There are large numbers of buffalo, antelope, elephant, warthogs, baboons as well and lions and the odd leopard if you are lucky.

One of the highlights of visiting Queen Elizabeth National Park is the boat ride along the Kazinga Channel. The boat ride is a round trip beginning at the Mweya Peninsula and lasting around 3 hours. The Channel is a 32-kilometre long natural channel that links Lake Edward and Lake George. The channel has one of the world's largest concentration of hippos, numerous nile crocodiles, buffalo, elephants and a whole host of birds. including african fish eagles, kingfishers, Herons, storks and skimmers.

Overnight at Mweya Safari Lodge



Day 8: Queen Elizabeth N.P - Bwindi N.P - Queen Elizabeth N.P - Bwindi N.P

With the Kazinga Channel and the Game drives in the northern part of the park experiences ticked off your list, Queen Elizabeth National Park has a parting gift as you head south towards Bwindi and the Gorillas. The Southern Sector of the park is called the Ishasha Sector and it is famous for the fig tree climbing lions that inhabit this area. Driving this was towards Bwindi will give you a opportunity to catch a glimpse of the lions which make a great photo.

A game drive in the Ishasha sector gives you a chance to see the famous tree climbing lions that can been seen hanging out of large fig trees. No one really knows why lions in this area climb trees but there are many theories surrounding this behaviour.

However lions are not the only animals to be found in the park. Large herds of Uganda Kob, Hippos, elephant and antelope also roam this part of the park making it an ideal place to view the capture wildlife at its best.

Overnight at Mahogany Springs Lodge



Day 9: Bwindi N.P - Buhoma - Bwindi N.P

Today you will wake up full of excitement about the Gorilla Trekking experience that lies ahead. An early start will see you transfer to the Park Headquarters for a briefing with the Uganda Wildlife Authority guides. An advance party of guides will have gone ahead into the forest to locate where the gorillas slept the previous night and will have begun to track their movements. These guides will communicate with your team via a walkie talkie and the trek into the forest will begin.

Locating the Gorillas can take a few hours or the whole day depending on how far the have moved from the place they spent the previous night. For conservation purposes, time allowed with the Gorillas is 1 hour. As you trek in the forest will appreciate why the forest is called impenetrable. There are also a multitude of other animals that you might encounter including antelopes and rare monkeys not to mention the beauty of the forest itself. Once you have completed the trek you will return to the lodge, for a well earned rest and time to reflect on a truly magical experience.

At Let's Go Travel we try and support the communities that we interact with as part of the business we run, with a view to minimising the impact we have on communities as well as ensuring that they too benefit from our operations. One such community in the Buhoma area of Bwindi is called Ride 4 a Woman. You will get to visit these incredible woman and learn more about their story!



Overnight at Mahogany Springs Lodge

Day 10: Bwindi N.P - Entebbe - Entebbe Airport

The end of your incredible safari is now upon you! During this final leg of the trip you will leave Bwindi and the Kigezi Kingdom and head back towards the Buganda Kingdom. There are not many places in the world that have the wide range of wildlife, nature beauty and culture. We hope you took loads of great photos and had a wonderful experience that will live with you for a long time.

We truly hope you have had a memorable experience that you will remember for many year to come. Have a safe onward journey and we hope that Uganda will always be close to your hearts!



Hotels & Lodges

Best Western Premier

Entebbe

Category: 4*

<http://bestwesternghe.co.ug/>

The Best Western Premier Garden Hotel Entebbe offers international comfort and standards combined with local charm. Conveniently located close to the international airport (EBB) and adjacent to the Victoria Mall in Entebbe, the Best Western Premier Garden Hotel Entebbe caters for the discerning traveller whether on business or leisure.



Paraa Safari Lodge

Murchison Falls N.P

Category: 4*

<http://www.paraalodge.com>

Paraa Safari Lodge has a unique safari décor that is characteristic of the early explorers era, but blended with a modern touch. The enticing pool overlooks the winding River Nile below, which was the setting for the classic Hollywood movie "The African Queen" (starring Katharine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart).



Hoima Cultural Lodge

Hoima

Category: 3*

<http://www.hoimaculturalsafarilodge.com>

Surrounded by beautiful spacious gardens and tranquil environment, The Hoima Cultural Lodge is a newly opened lodge situated in Hoima district, the northern part of Western Uganda opposite the Bunyoro King's Palace.



Kyanninga Lodge

Kibale N.P

Category: 4*

<http://www.kyanningalodge.com/>

Set against a stunning backdrop of Lake Kyanninga and the legendary Mountains of the Moon beyond, Kyanninga Lodge is the spectacular result of one man's vision and six years of unwavering commitment to creating an experience of Africa's beauty unlike anything else



Mweya Safari Lodge

Queen Elizabeth N.P

Category: 4*

<http://www.mweyalodge.com>

Mweya Safari Lodge is located on a peninsula within the heart of the Queen Elizabeth National Park and surrounded by the magical Rwenzori Mountains - the 'Mountains of the Moon'; Mweya Safari Lodge offers visitors a spectacular experience in the heart of the wilderness.



Mahogany Springs Lodge

Bwindi N.P

Category: 4*

<http://www.mahoganysprings.com>

Mahogany Springs Lodge offers privacy and serenity blended with optimal comfort in a spectacular setting. With some of the most luxurious accommodation in East Africa the feeling that you will experience when staying here is beyond compare.

This is the perfect base from which to begin your Gorilla Tracking or Bird watching adventures. The Gorillas have been known to visit the lodge and coming face to face with one of these peaceful creatures is an indescribable experience.




Let's Go Travel Uganda

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Dream, Travel and Explore with Let's Go Travel

