20-Day Uganda Primates, Birding, Wildlife and Culture Safari

Uganda



DURATION	COUNTRY	STARTING FROM
20 days, 19 nights	**Uganda**	**USD 6,400 per person**

TOUR SUMMARY

This 20-day, 19-night safari crosses central, southern, eastern and northern Uganda, combining birding, primates, wildlife and culture.

Highlights are shoebill tracking at Mabamba, Lake Mburo, gorilla trekking in Bwindi, Queen Elizabeth with a Kazinga Channel cruise, Kibale Forest, Murchison Falls, Kidepo Valley National Park, Pian Upe Wildlife Reserve and a hike at Sipi Falls. The trip ends with a stop at Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary on the way to Entebbe.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival in Entebbe

Upon arrival at Entebbe International Airport, you will be warmly welcomed by your safari guide and transferred to your hotel.

Optional excursions (time permitting):

- Entebbe Botanical Gardens
- Uganda Wildlife Education Centre
- Ngamba Island (optional, at extra cost)

Drive Time: ~15 minutes

Accommodation:

- Budget: Via Via Guesthouse
- Midrange: Admas Hotel
- Luxury: Protea Hotel by Marriott / Hotel No.5

Meal Plan: Bed & Breakfast

Day 2

Mabamba Swamp – Shoebill Tracking

After an early breakfast, transfer to Mabamba Wetlands on the shores of Lake Victoria.

Explore the swamp by canoe in search of the elusive Shoebill Stork alongside species such as:

Goliath Heron, Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Lesser Jacana, and various weavers.

Return to Entebbe in the evening.

Accommodation: Same as Day 1

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 3

Transfer to Lake Mburo National Park (Birding En Route)

Depart for Lake Mburo with birding stops at the Equator and Kaku Swamp.

Drive Time: 5–6 hours

Accommodation:

- Budget: Rwakobo Rock
- Midrange: Kigarama Wilderness Lodge
- Luxury: Mihingo Lodge / Kigambira Safari Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 4

Lake Mburo – Birding & Boat Cruise

Morning game drive and birding in this Important Bird Area, followed by an afternoon boat cruise on Lake Mburo.

Expect sightings of: African Finfoot, Papyrus Gonolek, African Fish Eagle, and numerous waterbirds.

Accommodation: Same as Day 3

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 5

Transfer to Bwindi (Northern Sector – Ruhija)

Journey through the scenic highlands of southwestern Uganda with birding en route.

Drive Time: 6–7 hours

Accommodation:

- Budget: Ruhija Rest Camp
- Midrange: Bakiga Lodge
- Luxury: Kiho Gorilla Safari Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 6

Gorilla Trekking Experience

After an early briefing, embark on a once-in-a-lifetime gorilla trekking experience.

Spend one hour observing these magnificent primates in their natural habitat before returning to the lodge.

Accommodation: Same as Day 5

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 7

Birding in Mubwindi Swamp

Full-day birding in Mubwindi Swamp, renowned for Albertine Rift endemics including: Grauer's Broadbill, Regal Sunbird, and Archer's Robin-Chat.

Accommodation: Same as Day 5

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Packed Lunch & Dinner

Day 8

Birding to Buhoma via "The Neck"

Birding through "The Neck," a forest corridor rich in endemic species, then continue to Buhoma sector.

Accommodation:

- Budget: Buhoma Community Rest Camp / Ride 4 a Woman
- Midrange: Buhoma Haven Lodge
- Luxury: Buhoma Lodge / Mahogany Springs / Bwindi Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 9

Transfer to Queen Elizabeth National Park

Arrive in time for lunch followed by an afternoon game drive in Kasenyi Plains.

Drive Time: 4–5 hours

Accommodation:

- Budget: Bush Lodge
- Midrange: Buffalo Safari Lodge
- Luxury: Elephant Plains / Kyambura Gorge Lodge / Honey Bear Camp

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 10

Game Drive & Kazinga Channel Boat Cruise

Morning game drive and birding, followed by a boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel.

Accommodation: Same as Day 9

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 11

Transfer to Kibale (via Maramagambo Forest)

Birding and nature walk in Maramagambo Forest before continuing to Kibale.

Accommodation:

- Budget: Chimpanzee Forest Guesthouse
- Midrange: Turaco Treetops
- Luxury: Primate Lodge / Kibale Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 12

Kibale Forest & Bigodi Wetland

Morning chimpanzee tracking and birding in Kibale Forest, followed by a visit to Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary.

Accommodation: Same as Day 11

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 13

Transfer to Murchison Falls National Park

Scenic drive north with birding en route.

Drive Time: 6–7 hours

Accommodation:

- Midrange: Pakuba Safari Lodge
- Luxury: Paraa Safari Lodge / Nile Safari Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 14

Game Drive & Birding – Nile Delta

Morning game drive towards the Nile Delta, an excellent birding hotspot.

Accommodation: Same as Day 13

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 15

Boat Cruises & Murchison Falls

Morning boat cruise towards the delta and afternoon cruise to the base of the falls.

Accommodation: Same as Day 13

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 16

Transfer to Kidepo Valley National Park

Drive to the remote and spectacular Kidepo Valley National Park.

Enjoy an afternoon game drive upon arrival.

Accommodation:

- Budget: Kidepo Savannah Lodge
- Midrange: Adere Safari Lodge
- Luxury: Apoka Safari Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 17

Full-Day Game Drives – Kidepo Valley

Morning and afternoon game drives in one of Africa's most untouched wilderness areas and visit a Karamajong Village.

Expect: Cheetah, ostrich, lions, giraffes, and unique antelope species.

Accommodation: Same as Day 16

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 18

Transfer to Pian Upe Wildlife Reserve

Drive to Pian Upe, a birder's paradise with over 300 bird species.

Afternoon game drive and birding.

Accommodation:

- Budget: UWA Bandas
- Midrange: Karamoja Overland Camp

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 19

Transfer to Sipi Falls & Hiking Experience

Drive to Sipi Falls with en-route birding.

Enjoy a scenic hike to the falls and explore the surrounding landscapes.

Accommodation: Sipi River Lodge

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 20

Return to Entebbe (via Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary)

Transfer back to Entebbe with a stop at Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary for rhino tracking and birding.

Continue to Entebbe for your departure flight.

Drive Time: ~7 hours

Meal Plan: Breakfast

End of Safari

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Cost includes

- All activities
- Entrance fees
- All accommodation
- Permits where necessary
- A professional driver/guide
- All transportation
- All Taxes/VAT
- Round-trip airport transfer
- Meals
- Drinking water

Cost excludes

- International flights (From/to home)
- Additional accommodation before and at the end of the tour
- Tips (Tipping guideline US$10.00 pp per day)
- Personal items (Souvenirs, travel insurance, visa fees, etc.)
- Government imposed increase of taxes and/or park fees

GOOD TO KNOW

- Packing for Safari? Keep it simple!
- Bring comfortable, lightweight clothes in natural colors like khaki, olive, sand, and earth tones. Pack layers too: mornings can be surprisingly chilly, while the middle of the day gets hot. You don't need a fresh outfit for every day, since most lodges and camps can arrange laundry service.
- Don't forget your sun protection: a good hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Comfortable shoes are enough for most safaris. Heavy hiking boots are only needed if you're doing a walking safari, primate tracking, or mountain climbing.
- A good pair of binoculars is a must. A camera is great, but binoculars will transform the way you experience wildlife, especially birds and animals that are far away.
- For luggage, we recommend a soft-sided bag over a hard suitcase. It fits much more easily into safari vehicles and small aircraft, where space is tight and weight is often limited to 15 kg.
- Most importantly, don't overpack. Travel light and enjoy the adventure!

Ready to book this safari?

Request a quote and we will tailor it to your dates and group: **gorillatreking.com/safari/20-day-uganda-primates-birding-wildlife-and-culture-safari/**

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Email: **bookings@gorillatreking.com**

Starting prices are per person and depend on season, group size and availability; request a quote for exact pricing. Itineraries can be adjusted to suit your plans.