7-Day Uganda Safari: Murchison Falls, Chimpanzees and Gorilla Trekking

Uganda



DURATION	COUNTRY	STARTING FROM
7 days, 6 nights	**Uganda**	**USD 3,550 per person**

TOUR SUMMARY

This 7-day Uganda safari takes you from the savanna of Murchison Falls to the rainforests of Kibale and Bwindi, with chimpanzee and mountain gorilla trekking.

You travel from Entebbe to Murchison Falls National Park via Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, with a game drive and a boat trip to the base of the falls. Next you track chimpanzees in Kibale Forest, drive on to Queen Elizabeth National Park for a morning game drive, then trek mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park before the drive back to Entebbe.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival in Entebbe - Transfer to Murchison Falls NP via Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary

Arrive at Entebbe International Airport.

Meet and greet with your safari guide.

Depart for Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, the only place in Uganda to see wild rhinos.

Enjoy a guided rhino tracking experience.

Transfer to Murchison Falls National Park.

Dinner and overnight stay at a lodge.

Main Destination:

Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary

Accommodation:

Pakuba Safari Lodge

Mid-range lodge located inside Murchison Falls NP

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Drinking water (other drinks not included)

Day 2

Murchison Falls Game Drive and Boat Trip to the base of the Falls

After breakfast, depart for an early morning game drive across the rolling plains and explore the diverse wildlife of Murchison Falls NP, including elephants, giraffes, lions, and numerous bird species.

Return to your accommodation for lunch

In the afternoon, you will head out for the boat cruise on the Victoria Nile to the base of the Murchison Falls, where the Nile River plunges through a narrow gorge.

Continue with a hike (optional) to the top of the falls

Return to your lodge for dinner and overnight stay in Murchison Falls NP.

Main Destination:

Murchison Falls National Park

Accommodation:

Pakuba Safari Lodge

Mid-range lodge located inside Murchison Falls NP

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Non-alcoholic drinks

Day 3

Morning Game Drive and Transfer to Kibale Forest National Park

Early morning game drive to spot any wildlife you might have missed the previous day.

Afterward, you will drive to Kibale Forest National Park, known for its population of chimpanzees.

Check-in and later go for a walk in Bigodi swamp, with over 200 bird species including Parrots, Turacos, Hornbills, Cranes, Kingfishers and many more swamp endemics.

Dinner and overnight stay at the lodge.

Main Destination:

Kibale Forest National Park

Accommodation:

Chimpanzee Forest Lodge

Mid-range guest house located just outside Kibale Forest NP

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Non-alcoholic drinks

Day 4

Chimp Trekking in Kibale Forest and Transfer to Queen Elizabeth National Park

Early morning breakfast before heading out for chimpanzee trekking in Kibale Forest.

Spend the morning tracking and observing these fascinating primates.

Return to the lodge for lunch.

Afterward, you will transfer to Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Dinner and overnight stay at a lodge in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Main Destination:

Queen Elizabeth National Park

Accommodation:

Elephant Hab Lodge

Mid-range lodge bordering Queen Elizabeth NP with fences

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Drinking water (Other drinks not included)

Day 5

Morning Game Drive and Transfer to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

After breakfast, depart for a morning game drive in Queen Elizabeth NP known for its diverse wildlife, including elephants, lions, leopards, buffalos and antelope species.

Rest of the day at leisure to relax and transfer to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, home to endangered mountain gorillas.

Dinner and overnight stay at a lodge near Bwindi NP.

Main Destination:

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

Accommodation:

Rushaga Gorilla Lodge

Mid-range lodge located just outside Rushaga

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Non-alcoholic drinks

Day 6

Mountain Gorilla Trekking in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

Early morning breakfast before heading to the park headquarters for gorilla trekking briefing.

Embark on a gorilla trekking adventure in Bwindi Forest.

Spend an hour in the presence of a gorilla family, observing their behavior.

After trekking, return to the lodge for lunch and overnight stay

Main Destination:

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

Accommodation:

Rushaga Gorilla Lodge

Mid-range lodge located just outside Rushaga

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Non-alcoholic drinks

Day 7

Drive from Bwindi Impenetrable National Park to Entebbe Airport for departure

After breakfast, you will begin your journey back to Entebbe Airport for your departure. The drive takes approximately 8-9 hours, with stops for lunch and scenic views along the way. Your guide will ensure that you reach the airport in time for your scheduled departure, marking the end of your 7-day Uganda safari.

Main Destination:

Entebbe International Airport

Accommodation:

No accommodation

Meal & Drinks:

All meals included

Non-alcoholic drinks

Additional accommodation can be arranged for an extra cost

End of Tour- This itinerary offers a thrilling combination of wildlife encounters, primate trekking experiences, and breathtaking scenery, culminating in an unforgettable journey through Uganda's natural wonders.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Cost includes

- Park fees (For non-residents)
- Gorilla, Chimp Habituation & Rhino tracking permits (One per person, non-resident)
- All activities (Unless labeled as optional)
- All accommodation (Unless listed as upgrade)
- A professional driver/guide
- All transportation (Unless labeled as optional)
- All Taxes/VAT
- Meals (As specified in the day-by-day section)
- Drinking water (On all days)

Cost excludes

- International flights (From/to home)
- Round-trip airport transfer
- 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
- Some meals (As specified in the day-by-day section)

GOOD TO KNOW

- Savannah Safari Wear (Ziwa & Murchison Falls)
- The Neutral Color Rule: Stick strictly to khaki, tan, olive green, and soft brown tones for game drives and rhino tracking.
- Colors to Avoid: Dark Blue & Black: These colors actively attract biting tsetse flies, which are highly prevalent in the woodlands of Murchison Falls.
- Bright White: This stands out starkly against the bush, making wildlife nervous and harder to approach.
- Camouflage Patterns: Military-style clothing is legally reserved for defense forces in Uganda and should not be worn by civilians.
- Clothing Layering: Pack lightweight, breathable long-sleeved linen shirts and convertible safari trousers. The morning game drives across the Nile can be breezy, but temperatures climb rapidly by midday.
- Jungle Tracking Armor (Kibale & Bwindi)

- Long-Sleeved Protection: Heavy-duty, tightly woven long-sleeved shirts and thick utility trousers are mandatory. You will be bushwhacking through dense undergrowth, and this clothing shields you against deep scratches and stinging nettles.
- The Fire Ant Sock Tuck: Bring long, high-top athletic or hiking socks. During the jungle treks, you will be required to tuck the cuffs of your trousers securely into your socks. This creates a physical barrier that stops aggressive safari ants on the forest floor from crawling up inside your trousers.
- Durable Hand Protection: Pack a pair of thick gardening or outdoor leather gloves. When scaling steep, muddy ridges off-trail in Bwindi, you will naturally need to grab onto wild vines, thorny branches, and wet roots for physical stability.
- Footwear Standard: Ankle-high, waterproof hiking boots with deep rubber lugs are non-negotiable. Standard running shoes or flat-soled trainers lack the traction and ankle support required to safely navigate Bwindi's steep, slippery clay slopes.
- Rain Layers: A high-quality, breathable, waterproof rain jacket or heavy poncho should remain in your daypack at all times, as sudden downpours happen year-round in the rainforests.
- Rigorous Permit Validation: Primate tracking is strictly regulated by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). Mountain gorilla permits cost USD 800 per person, and chimpanzee permits cost USD 250 per person. These must be booked 4 to 6 months in advance. At the 7:00 AM daily park briefings, rangers conduct a strict audit; your original physical passport must match your permit details exactly.
- Hard Age Minimums: Children under 15 years old are legally barred from gorilla tracking, and the minimum age for chimpanzee trekking is 12 years old. These cutoffs are strictly enforced at the trail gates.
- The Respiratory Illness Exclusion: Because gorillas and chimpanzees share over 98% of human DNA, they are highly vulnerable to our pathogens. If you show visible signs of a cold, flu, cough, or any communicable virus at the morning assembly, park authorities reserve the legal right to deny you entry to the trek to protect wild populations from lethal outbreaks.
- Viewing Distance & Masks: You must maintain a strict minimum distance of 10 meters from primates. Wearing a medical face mask is mandatory during your direct one hour of contact with the primates to minimize airborne cross-contamination.
- Porter Support: Local porters are available at Bwindi trailheads for roughly USD 20–30 per person. Hiring a porter provides vital physical stability on the steep mountain slopes and injects direct financial support into the local host communities bordering the parks.

Ready to book this safari?

Request a quote and we will tailor it to your dates and group: **gorillatreking.com/safari/7-day-uganda-safari-murchison-falls-chimpanzees-and-gorilla-trekking/**

Uganda: +256 772 784381 | +256 704 890296 Namibia: +264 81 591 8824

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.