

PRIVATE UGANDA GORILLA & WILDLIFE SAFARI

8 Days Gorilla & Wildlife Safari

A private western Uganda route for travelers who want gorilla trekking, chimp tracking, Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth, and practical lodge pacing in one guided safari.

Safari Overview

This 8-day Uganda safari combines three of the country's most celebrated wildlife destinations: Lake Mburo National Park, Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, and Queen Elizabeth National Park. From tracking endangered mountain gorillas and chimpanzees to classic game drives, boat safaris, and cultural encounters, the journey is designed for travellers who want Uganda's most iconic experiences within one well-paced private itinerary.

Days	Destination / Experience
1&2	Transfer to Lake Mburo + safari activities
3&4	Transfer to Bwindi + gorilla trekking
5	Queen Elizabeth National Park & relaxation
6&7	Game drives, chimpanzee tracking & boat cruise
8	Transfer to Kampala

Detailed Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1: Transfer to Lake Mburo National Park

Start from Entebbe, Kampala, or your hotel at an unhurried pace, pausing at the Equator for a polished photo stop and coffee before the road opens into **Lake Mburo's acacia country**. Arrive in time for a private-feeling boat cruise, where hippos, crocodiles, and elegant waterbirds gather along the quiet shoreline.

Highlights

- Equator photo stop en route
- Scenic transfer from Kampala to Lake Mburo
- Relaxed boat cruise with hippos, crocodiles, and waterbirds
- Easy arrival pace with time to settle in at the lodge



Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Hippos, crocodiles, and shoreline birdlife are the standout sightings on your first afternoon on the lake.

Classic Equator-stop views give way to open acacia savannah and quiet lake shorelines as you enter the park.

A scenic road transfer, Equator stop, and afternoon boat cruise shape a gentle first safari day.

Accommodation

BUDGET MID-RANGE LUXURY

Night 1: Eagle's Nest with simple full-board comfort close to the park gate.

Night 1: Rwakobo Rock for a relaxed mid-range stay near the park with dinner and breakfast included.

Night 1: Mihingo Lodge with elevated views, refined dining, and a polished safari atmosphere.

Day 2: Game Viewing and Optional Activities in Lake Mburo

Shape the morning around your preferred safari rhythm: a game drive across open acacia plains, a guided walking safari, a horseback ride past grazing zebras, or a scenic cycling route. Return to the lodge for a slow afternoon, then head out after dark for a guided night drive in search of leopards, hyenas, and other nocturnal wildlife.



Highlights

- Morning game drive across open acacia plains
- Optional walking safari, horseback safari, or cycling route
- Night game drive for nocturnal wildlife
- Birding-rich savannah with over 300 species recorded

Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Zebra herds, antelope, and a strong chance of spotting nocturnal species make day two especially rewarding.

Rolling acacia plains, rocky outcrops, and open wildlife country define the Lake Mburo landscape today.

Choose a slower walking or horseback pace, explore by vehicle, and finish with a night drive under the stars.

Accommodation

BUDGET MID-RANGE LUXURY

Night 2: Eagle's Nest works well for travelers who want practical access to early and late activities.

Night 2: Rwakobo Rock pairs comfortable rooms with easy access for game drives and optional activities.

Night 2: Mihingo Lodge adds premium comfort between active safari outings and an evening night drive.

Day 3: Transfer to Bwindi and Forest Community Encounters

The route turns toward **Bwindi's misted highlands**, where terraced hills give way to one of Africa's oldest rainforests and the world's most treasured mountain gorilla habitat. Arrive near your trekking sector with time to settle into the lodge, take in the forest air, and prepare calmly for the next day's encounter.

Later in the afternoon, choose a thoughtful community visit or Batwa cultural trail, guided by local voices who bring context to forest life, conservation, and the human story around Bwindi.



Highlights

- Scenic drive into Bwindi's forested highlands
- Arrival close to your trekking sector
- Community visit or Batwa cultural experience
- Quiet evening preparing for gorilla trekking

Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Forest birds, monkeys, and the sense of entering mountain gorilla country define the day.

Misty ridgelines, terraced hills, and deep green forest create one of Uganda's most atmospheric arrivals.

Transfer day pacing, lodge check-in, and cultural connection set up the trek that follows.

Accommodation

BUDGET MID-RANGE LUXURY

Budget-conscious Bwindi lodge selected after gorilla permit confirmation, with practical access to the trekking briefing point.

2 nights at a Bwindi forest lodge, selected after gorilla permit purchase.

Premium forest lodge with valley views, a warm lounge atmosphere, and a softer landing after the trek.

Day 4: Gorilla Trekking in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

After the ranger briefing, enter Bwindi on foot with expert trackers reading the forest ahead of you. When your gorilla family is found, spend one unforgettable hour watching their movements, gestures, and quiet social bonds before returning to the lodge for a reflective evening. The **gorilla trek** can include steep, uneven terrain, so comfortable fitness and good footwear are important.



Highlights

- Ranger briefing and guided mountain gorilla trek
- One full hour with a habituated gorilla family
- Immersive rainforest walking through dense Bwindi terrain
- Return to the lodge after a truly rare wildlife encounter

Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Mountain gorillas are the focus, with forest birds and other primates adding to the trek.

Thick rainforest, mossy trunks, and steep valleys make every step feel immersive and dramatic.

This is the flagship trekking day, guided by rangers who read the forest and the gorilla families within it.

Accommodation

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Day 5: Queen Elizabeth National Park

After breakfast, continue into the western Rift Valley, where the landscape opens into crater lakes, broad savannah, and the blue outline of the Rwenzori Mountains. **Queen Elizabeth National Park** brings a different mood to the journey: spacious, cinematic, and rich with classic safari country.

Check in, enjoy lunch, and ease into the afternoon before a game drive through the Kasenyi plains and toward the Kazinga Channel. This is excellent territory for elephants, buffalo, hippos, and lions, with the light softening beautifully toward evening.



Highlights

- Scenic transfer through the western rift valley
- Game viewing in Kasenyi plains and along the Kazinga Channel
- Sunset boat cruise rich with hippos, crocodiles, and birds
- Comfortable overnight near key game tracks
- Optional evening game drive for predators and nocturnal species

Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Hippos, elephants, buffalo, and lions are frequent sights; Kazinga Channel offers excellent birding and crocodile viewing too.

Crater lakes shimmer in the afternoon light while the distant Rwenzori peaks rise above the park's open savannah.

Choose between a relaxing boat cruise or an evening game drive to spot big cats and nocturnal wildlife.

Accommodation

BUDGET MID-RANGE LUXURY

Kazinga wilderness with practical en-suite rooms and quick access to Kasenyi and channel activities.

Enshama or a similar mid-range lodge near Queen Elizabeth, chosen for access, comfort, and strong Kazinga Channel positioning.

Elephant Hab or a similar luxury lodge with Kyambura Gorge views, refined dining, sundowner spaces, and a swimming pool.

Day 6: Sunrise Game Drive and Kazinga Channel Cruise

Begin early with breakfast before a sunrise game drive through the Kasenyi plains and crater country, when elephants, buffalo, and big cats are most active in the cool morning light. In the afternoon, board a boat on the Kazinga Channel for close wildlife viewing among hippos, crocodiles, elephants at the water's edge, and dense flocks of waterbirds, then return to the lodge for a relaxed evening.



Highlights

- Early game drive through Kasenyi plains and crater sectors
- Kazinga Channel boat cruise with dense wildlife concentrations
- Excellent chances for elephants, buffaloes, hippos, and birds
- Comfortable lodge evening after a full classic safari day

Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Morning predators, afternoon hippos, crocodiles, elephants, and waterbirds make this one of the richest wildlife days of the route.

Open savannah, crater backdrops, and the broad Kazinga waterway create strong contrast through the day.

A classic pairing of morning game drive and afternoon cruise gives the park at two different rhythms.

Accommodation

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Day 7: Kyambura Chimp Tracking and Final Wildlife Viewing

Use the morning for a final game drive across Queen Elizabeth's varied landscapes, giving space for the sightings that may have stayed just out of reach earlier in the safari. The pace is attentive rather than rushed, with your guide reading the tracks, light, and movement across the plains.

Kyambura chimp tracking: Later, descend into the green depth of Kyambura Gorge with experienced rangers to track habituated chimpanzees. The gorge feels intimate and dramatic, a final primate experience that contrasts beautifully with

the open savannah above.

Highlights

- Additional game drive for species you may have missed earlier
- Chimpanzee tracking in the dramatic Kyambura Gorge
- Contrasting habitats from savannah to riverine forest
- Final overnight in the Queen Elizabeth region



Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

Chimpanzees, elephants, buffaloes, and the chance of more predator sightings create a varied wildlife finish.

The route shifts from broad plains to Kyambura's steep green gorge, giving the day a very different texture.

Another game drive plus a guided chimp trek keeps the final full safari day active and rewarding.

Accommodation

BUDGET **MID-RANGE** **LUXURY**

Budget camp or lodge near Queen Elizabeth with practical amenities and good access to morning game drives.

3 nights in a comfortable mid-range lodge, with easy access to Kazinga Channel and Kyambura Gorge activities.

Luxury lodge with sweeping views, premium dining, and a relaxed departure pace on Day 8.

Day 8: Scenic Return to Kampala or Entebbe

After days spent among mountain gorillas, chimpanzee tracking, savannah wildlife, and Uganda's remarkable landscapes, the journey returns gradually to Kampala or Entebbe. The drive offers time to reflect on experiences that few travellers in the world will ever have, bringing this Uganda safari to a relaxed and memorable close.

Highlights

- Final scenic drive across western and central Uganda
- Comfort stops arranged around your departure timing
- Flexible drop-off in Kampala, Entebbe, or at the airport
- Optional add-on final night can be arranged on request



Snapshot

WILDLIFE

SCENERY

ACTIVITY

This is the wind-down day, with the occasional roadside birdlife and final countryside sightings as the safari closes.

Expect a long but scenic cross-country drive with shifting views from western hills to the central corridor.

A well-paced road transfer with planned stops keeps the final day smooth and practical for departures.

Accommodation

BUDGET MID-RANGE LUXURY

Same-day drop-off works well if you are flying out or ending the safari in Kampala.

An optional mid-range Entebbe or Kampala night can be added if you prefer a softer final evening.

We can also arrange a luxury final night near the airport before your onward international journey.

Additional Safari Details

Route Map Notes

ROUTE MAP

A first look at the driving loop

This Google map starts in Entebbe, follows the safari through Lake Mburo and Bwindi, routes via Kihikihi and Ishasha to Kasenye Plains in Queen Elizabeth National Park, then returns through Ishaka and Mbarara to Entebbe.

Planning Essentials

This route depends on permit timing, lodge position, and realistic road days. We shape the final quote after checking gorilla and chimp permits, lodge space, and your preferred comfort level.

Permit planning

Gorilla and chimp permits are date-specific. We check permit space before confirming lodges so the route does not fight the trekking schedule.

Route pace

Lake Mburo softens the first safari days, Bwindi protects the gorilla chapter, and Queen Elizabeth gives the savannah finish enough time to breathe.

Pickup and drop-off timing

Pickup is arranged from Entebbe, Kampala, or your hotel. Day 8 is a long return, so same-day international flights should be late evening only.

Drive times

Expect several substantial road days, especially Lake Mburo to Bwindi and Queen Elizabeth back to Entebbe. Stops are planned for comfort, scenery, and timing.

Best travel months

June to September and December to February are usually drier. Greener months can still work well with flexible expectations and good lodge positioning.

Starting price

This safari starts from \$3,862 per person. Final pricing depends on permits, season, room setup, lodge tier, traveler count, and live availability. Payment is requested only after a written quote or invoice is agreed.

Lodge Style

The same route can feel practical, polished, or more luxurious depending on where you sleep before and after the trekking days.



Mid-range comfort

The strongest default for this itinerary: reliable meals, good park access, private guiding, and lodges that keep the daily rhythm smooth.

Luxury upgrade

Upgrade key nights in Bwindi and Queen Elizabeth when you want softer landings, stronger views, and the lodge to feel like part of the journey.

Budget-conscious

Keep the wildlife and permit experiences protected while using simpler lodges where location and cleanliness matter more than extra polish.

Balanced mix

Invest most in Bwindi and Queen Elizabeth, then keep transit nights practical so the budget supports the most meaningful safari moments.

What's Included, Excluded, and What to Bring

What's included (and what's not)

INCLUDED

- Included:** Return airport transfers (pickup and drop-off)
- Included:** Transport for 8 days in a 4x4 safari vehicle with pop-up roof
- Included:** Fuel for 8 days
- Included:** English-speaking safari guide for 8 days
- Included:** Private-standard, mid-range, or luxury accommodation for 7 nights on full board
- Included:** Bottled drinking water and listed en-route meals
- Included:** Park entrance fees and listed itinerary activities
- Included:** One gorilla trekking permit in Bwindi per person
- Included:** One chimpanzee tracking permit in Kyambura Gorge per person
- Included:** Boat cruises on Kazinga Channel and Lake Mburo
- Included:** Night game drive in Lake Mburo National Park
- Included:** Morning guided walking safari where conditions allow

EXCLUDED



Not included: International flights to or from Uganda

Not included: Uganda visa fees

Not included: Travel insurance and personal medical expenses

Not included: Tips and gratuities

Not included: Personal shopping and items of a personal nature

Not included: Alcoholic drinks and premium beverages

Not included: Optional activities not mentioned in the itinerary

What to bring

Neutral-colored clothing and long sleeves

Comfortable closed shoes

Sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses)

Insect repellent

Light rain layer for forest and boat-cruise spray

Daypack, reusable water bottle, binoculars, and camera batteries

Passport, Uganda visa, yellow fever certificate, travel insurance details, and any required medication

Layering works best: forest mornings can be cool, savannah afternoons warm, and boat or evening activities breezy.

Best For

Eight days gives you a real western Uganda circuit, but it still includes active tracking days and meaningful road time. It works best when that rhythm matches your travel style.

First-time Uganda travelers

A strong route when you want gorillas, chimps, savannah wildlife, boat safaris, and a clear sense of Uganda's western landscapes.

Couples and private travelers

The private guide setup protects flexible starts, photo stops, lodge time, and a more personal pace than a fixed group departure.

Wildlife-focused primate travelers

Gorilla trekking is the emotional center, while Kyambura, Lake Mburo, and Queen Elizabeth keep the safari varied and wildlife-rich.

How We Handle the Details

We do not treat this as a generic loop. We check permits, lodge position, road timing, and your comfort level before asking you to commit.

Permits before pressure

We check gorilla and chimp permit space before final lodge confirmation, then advise honestly if your dates need a different sector or sequence.

Lodges matched to the route

We quote budget-conscious, mid-range, luxury, or mixed options around the actual park flow, not a generic accommodation list.

Clear next step

Send your dates, traveler count, preferred comfort level, and any fitness or pacing notes. We respond with availability, a private quote, and practical advice.

Terms before payment

Payment timing, permit restrictions, cancellation treatment, and supplier conditions are shared in writing before confirmation. You can also review our [Terms & Conditions](#) and [Cancellation & Refund Policy](#).

SAFARI FAQ

Common questions before booking

Practical answers before you send dates, compare lodge tiers, or decide whether this eight-day route should become shorter or longer.

Is eight days enough for gorillas, chimps, and wildlife?

Yes. The route protects the gorilla trek, adds Kyambura chimp tracking, and gives Lake Mburo and Queen Elizabeth enough time without becoming a rushed long circuit.

Are gorilla and chimp permits included?

The listed itinerary includes one gorilla permit and one Kyambura chimp permit per person unless your final proposal states otherwise.

Can the lodge level be upgraded?

Yes. We can quote mid-range, luxury, budget-conscious, or mixed options after checking live lodge space around your dates and permit sector.



How difficult is the gorilla trek?

Gorilla trekking can be muddy, steep, or slow. We advise around fitness, sector availability, and pacing before the route is confirmed.

Can this safari start or end differently?

Yes. Pickup can be arranged from Entebbe, Kampala, or your hotel, and the final day can end at the airport or with an added Entebbe night.

How does payment work?

We first confirm route fit, permit space, lodge availability, and the final quote. Payment is requested only after you approve the written proposal or invoice.

MORE SAFARI OPTIONS

If eight days is not the exact fit

Compare shorter gorilla focus, Queen Elizabeth wildlife, or a mountain-and-primate route before choosing the right pace.



3 DAY | SHORT GORILLA TREK ESCAPE

Starting from
\$1,838
per person

A compact Bwindi escape built around the hush before the forest moves and a gorilla family comes into view.

[VIEW PACKAGE](#) →





5 DAY | QUEEN ELIZABETH FOCUS SAFARI

Starting from

\$1,960

per person

Follow Queen Elizabeth from crater rims to the Kazinga Channel, where lions, buffalo, hippos, and birds fill the day with movement.





11 DAY | RWENZORI HIKING & CHIMPANZEE ENCOUNTERS

Starting from
\$3,555
per person

Walk into mountain air, listen for chimp calls in the forest, and close the journey with the stillness of gorilla trekking. [VIEW PACKAGE →](#)

[DOWNLOAD THIS ITINERARY AS PDF](#)

SAFARI INQUIRY

Start Planning My Safari

Share your dates, preferred stay style, and pace. A safari specialist will reply personally with route guidance, lodge direction, permit support, and the next clear step.

Package: 8 Days Gorilla & Wildlife Safari

Duration: 8 days

Planning: Private safari support

Lead Traveler Name

How you would like us to address you

Best Email Address

Where should we send your safari proposal

Country of Residence

Select country



Phone / WhatsApp

+256 700 000 000

Adult Guests

2

Young Travelers

0

Safari Style

Luxury Safari



Trip Notes

Preferred travel month, safari interests, pacing, or anything special you would like us to plan around.

You will hear back with a thoughtful trip outline, realistic pacing advice, and clear guidance before any deposit is discussed.

[START PLANNING MY SAFARI](#)