

#### Since 1996 Your Sub - Sahara Africa Expert

## 5 Day Gorillas & Lake Safari (Trip Code: IAS KKC E05) 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 explore Kampala, an earlier arrival should be planned and accommodation booked through your agent or Into Africa Safari.

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

Departure Point:	Nampala
Check-In Time:	The day prior to departure
Departure Time:	05h00
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.

For booking purposes please notify our office as soon as possible should you choose not to trek the Mountain Gorillas.

#### DAYS 1 - 4: Kampala to Lake Bunyoni (B / L / D)

After an early morning departure from Kampala we drive west into the depths of Uganda to our base at the tranquil Lake Bunyoni.

Lake Bunyoni, the deepest Crater Lake in Africa and home to a large and varied number of beautiful birds, 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 at US\$500 depending on where we trek. There is a local transport & handling fee of US\$65 to US\$70 per person (this covers the return transfer and the Wildlife Authority's booking fee). 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 cannot be guaranteed. 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.

Due to the restrictions on the daily numbers of visitors to these incredible animals, we depart from our base in Bunyoni in small groups over 3-4 days, depending on the group size. Winding our way through arguably some of the most picturesque scenery in Africa, we head to the town of Kisoro where we spend the night (Should we be trekking in Rwanda our overnight will be in Ruhengeri). The following morning, after packing our picnic lunch, we 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 where you will be transferred back to the Lake Bunyoni campsite.

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.

#### Lake Bunyoni

For those of us awaiting our day of gorilla trekking, the choice is yours, visit a local village or church, hike in the surrounding hills, canoe, go on a bird watching walk, visit the local markets of Kabale or just spend the days relaxing or swimming in this tranquil lake.

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

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. 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:	
Gorilla Trek (excl. transfer & booking fee)	From 600US\$
White Water Rafting on the Nile	125 US\$
Bungee Jump	65 US\$
Jet Boat – 30 Mins	75 US\$
Adrift / Softpower Project	25 US\$
Quad Biking 2 hrs	70 US\$
Horse Riding 2 hrs	50 US\$ + transfer approx 20 US\$
Chimpanzee Sanctuary (5 - 8 pax)	50 US\$ - 70 US\$ + transfer approx 125 US\$
Trip T-Shirt	20 US\$

# The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with Into Africa Safari.

INTO AFRICA SAFARI

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