



## **ABACUS AFRICAN VACATIONS** (AFRICA TRAVELEXPERTS)

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# **SPECIAL Offer for October to December 2009 Gorilla Safari Express**

### **LUXURY 3 DAYS BWINDI NATIONAL PARK GORILLA TOUR PACKAGE**

#### **Day 1 : TO BWINDI IMPENETRABLE NATIONAL PARK**

Leave South Westwards. Take a stop over at the Equator then ensue to Bwindi. This drive takes you through the beautiful sceneries of the Western part of Uganda which is sometimes known as the Switzerland of Uganda. Have lunch en route and then proceed to the park passing through the gorgeous rising and falling scenery of the Switzerland of Uganda! On the last hill of the landscape is the vast plane of Uganda, Rwanda and Congo the Virunga volcanoes dominate the view. In the North is the Northern sect of Bwindi national park and in the south is Mgahinga and the Southern part of Bwindi. The drive might be long but is rewarding with beautiful sceneries and artistic African exquisiteness. Dinner and Over night at Gorilla resort camp/ Buhoma Community bandas if you are tracking gorillas in the main part of Bwindi. Dinner and Over night at Travelers rest Hotel if you are tracking gorillas in the Nkuringo family. Travelers Rest Hotel is set out side Kisoro and it proffers a pleasant stay for the tourists, who come to see the endangered mountain gorilla. The hotel, built in a rather colonial style, and utterly refurbished in 1999. Because of its content quality, Dianne Fossey a writer on Gorillas remarked that it was her second home when she was doing research about gorillas. Travelers on a tight budget will over night at Gorilla Resort Camp/ Gorilla Forest Camp

#### **Day 2 : Gorilla tracking; the highlight activities of this tour.**

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Well equipped with you packed lunch, drinking water, rain jackets, cameras, long pair of trouser preferably khaki material and jungle boots on, you will convene at the starting points for briefing from the rangers about gorilla tracking the great adventure and experience! The time taken to encounter these peaceful primates is unpredictable for it may take 1-10 hours. Nevertheless, on encounter, one may be forced to say, it is a worthwhile!!!! After the adventure a certificate awaits the successful tracker. The day is not easy at times and it may be strenuous and frustrating whilst trekking but appealing after encounters. Dinner and over night at Your Lodge

### **Day 3 : To Kampala**

After early Break fast, proceed to Kampala . Lunch en route

#### **Quotations based on Gorilla Resort camp**

#### **Price per person sharing**

<b>Number of Persons /Lodge</b>	<b>1 person per person</b>	<b>2 pax</b>	<b>3 pax</b>	<b>4 Pax</b>	<b>5 Pax</b>	<b>6 and above</b>
<b>Gorilla Resort camp</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1290</b>	<b>1139</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>980</b>
<b>Buhoma Lodge</b>	<b>2390</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>1360</b>	<b>1290</b>	<b>1250</b>
<b>Gorilla Forest camp</b>	<b>2590</b>	<b>1590</b>	<b>1550</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>1390</b>	<b>1350</b>

Note that all the above quote is based on only Luxury or up market accommodations . Note that all the Luxury accommodation is in self contained facilities (hotels and lodges) with standard services and meals. Comfort is a guaranteed but for the 4th Option of Gorilla Forest camp, you are provided with drinks .

#### **Any of the above Prices includes;**

- Park fees
- Full board accommodation
- Gorilla tracking
- Meals

- Ground transportation in a 4x4 vehicle ideal for game drives with a pop up roof each of you with a window seat.
- Services of a full time driver guide
- Bottled drinking water is a complimentary

The price excludes; Visa fees, tips, flights, telephone calls, and any other personal expenses.

### **Payments and Bookings**

Note:

- Bookings for safaris should be done as soon as possible to facilitate reservation of Gorilla permits
- A 30% deposit is required for all tours and should be either wired on our account or paid directly to our agents in the United states of America credit cards or to us . However, for credit card payments a 10% sur charge is deducted on authorization for the deposit deduction .
- Other details will be given on request.

### **VISAS FOR UGANDA**

Ugandan visas are issued at our missions/ embassies abroad and also at the Entry / Exit point like at the airport, borders etc.

Underlying the Uganda Visa policy is the principle of reciprocity that is , all countries that require visas for Uganda are also visa prone in Uganda.

### **Visa fees**

Single entry - US\$ 50

Multiple entries - US\$ 200

Inland transit - US\$ 50.

It is advisable that clients doing a Uganda and Rwanda tour beginning and ending in Uganda purchase two single entry visas than a multiple because it would be expensive.

### **GORILLA TRACKING REQUIREMENTS IN UGANDA AND RWANDA**

Please bring the following for tracking gorillas.

- Hiking boots- ankle level boots are ok but make sure it is something handy.
- Gloves
- A warm cardigan
- Thick trousers and a long sleeved top are ideal for tracking.

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- Rain Coat
- Video- filming is allowed in the parks though not outside the park
- Water proof container for their cameras
- A pair of binoculars if you are a keen bird watcher.
- If you prefer wearing a hat, a baseball cap is recommended.

### **Encounter with the gorillas**

Submissiveness

When you encounter the gorillas always remember to be submissive

Do not look at them straight in the face rather give a sideways glance.

Do not stand over them-crouch instead, stay in a tight group

Speak in whispers

Do not use flash photography

### **Gorillas are wild**

Most visitors might be tempted to think that the gorillas are tame. On the contrary, gorillas are wild and they should not be provoked in any way. The ORTPN or the Uganda wildlife authority does not take any responsibility for any injury sustained by wild animals in their habitats, hence keep your distance about 7 metres from them and bear in mind that gorillas have freedom of way

- · Do not feed the gorillas
- · Do not entice them to get into contact with you in any way.
- · Do not eat in the vicinity of the gorillas
- · Environmental Consciousness
- · Do not litter the park
- · Always burry decomposing stuff.
- · Hiking, trekking and Tracking gorillas- the facts

### **How hard should one prepare for gorilla tracking in Rwanda or Uganda ?**

Tracking takes place at altitudes of 3000 metres or more in Uganda -this means that moderate/ average physical fitness is what is necessary and not athletic fitness.

Tracking gorillas is conducted by patient, qualified and knowledgeable ranger guides with wide experience in natural history with particular attention to gorilla behavior

Trekking hiking and tracking is conducted at a moderate pace with plenty of stops for resting, fielding questions further briefs etc. Competitive hiking is discouraged as the aim of the guides, porters and rangers is for all the group members to make it to the gorillas and back to the base. Believe it or not, the slowest hiker/ trekker will determine the pace of the trek.

### About Electricity

240 volts. 3-pin (square) sockets. It is recommended that you bring your own adaptor. Most hotels, lodges or camps can make arrangements for recharging batteries. Please ask us on booking if you have specific requirements.

### Telephone/Internet:

International telephone communication is good from Kampala but more difficult in some rural areas. Uganda has a good mobile phone network throughout most of the country and local SIM cards can be purchased throughout the Country. International roaming facilities are available.

Internet services are widely available in Kampala through internet cafes, and most major towns will have access, although the quality and speed of the connection varies.

All our drivers/guides have cell phones and maintain contact with the Head Office throughout safaris. Airtime can be purchased for your use or the driver/guides' mobile phones if necessary.

### Credit Cards:

AMEX, VISA and MASTERCARD may be accepted at a few choice establishments in Kampala and some up-country hotels and lodges. Kindly note that credit cards are not widely accepted and most organizations reserve the right to levy a surcharge on credit card transactions, usually 7 - 10% on top of the original cost.

### Begging/Donations:

We do not recommend clients give money to beggars or street children as this only lends to the culture of begging and dependency. Donations can be made to established international and local charities that work with the homeless, street children or orphans.

We can arrange visits to local projects or institutions on request. If personal donations are preferred, we would suggest exercise books, pens or pencils are useful gifts.

### Gratuities:

Ugandans tip according to level of service and there are no fixed or assumed rates. Culturally people may not feel it appropriate to outwardly show their appreciation for money given, however salaries are generally low in Uganda

compared to neighboring tourism destinations and all tips will be greatly appreciated.