

## **Kibale and Queen Elizabeth National Parks (chimpanzee tracking) - 5 days/4 nights**

PRE-CONFERENCE: May 27 - 31, 2020

POST-CONFERENCE: June 6 - 10, 2020

### **Day 1: SATURDAY, JUNE. 6—DRIVE TO KIBALE FOREST PARK**

We will pick you up from your hotel in the morning to embark on your drive to Kibale Forest; you should be ready to start the drive to Kibale Forest by 7:00 hrs.

You will see great sightings of traditional villages and landscapes as you enter Uganda's famous tea plantation region. A carpet of green spreads before you, as far as the eye can see, and seems an unusual contrast to the countryside through which you have just pass then continue toward Kibale Forest, one of the great African rainforest research reserves. Years of study by scientists (who have cut a grid through the forest) have habituated many of its animals to human observers. This forest is famed for the variety of primates found here and it is a terrific area for birds.

Accommodation: Primate Lodge / Crater Valley Lodge

Meal plan: Lunch and dinner



Primate Lodge

### **Day 2: SUNDAY, JUNE 7--- CHIMPANZEE TRACKING**

Assemble at Kanyankyu River camp at 0800hours to go for the most popular activity in this park which is Chimpanzee tracking. Chimpanzees are man's closet cousins though they are one of the most threatened primate's species. More primates like Black and white Columbus monkeys, L'Hoest Monkeys, Grey cheeched Mangabey, Red tailed monkeys, bush babies, pottos and many bird species like the yellow spotted nicator, rumped tinker bird, Little greenbul, green breasted pitta, the crowned eagle, black bee eater and mammals like Elephants can be seen in this walk.

Kibale National park, which averages about 3,300 feet in elevation, is an extension of the great rainforests of central Africa. It is inhabited by three large "communities" of chimps, each numbering more than 100 individuals. Each community has a complicated social structure. The big adult males dominate the group and defend the community territory against incursions by male outsiders; the females usually wander in small family groups. Typically, we locate the chimps by listening for their pant-hooting calls, then hustle to the area from which they are calling. We get to observe them as they feed in fruiting trees, lounge, and socialize with each other, or even, occasionally hunt.

In the afternoon visit a nearby swamp that is excellent for viewing primates and other forest animals. At the Eastern edge of Kibale forest is Bigodi Wetland sanctuary which is maintained by the local community. You will expect birds like the great Blue turaco, blue monkeys, baboons, otters, mongoose, bush bucks, bush pigs and among others. After return to the lodge and have free evening for relaxing.

Accommodation: Primate Lodge / Crater Valley Lodge

Meal plan: Breakfast, lunch and Dinner



Chimp / Monkeys

**Day 3: MONDAY, JUNE .8---DRIVE TO QUEEN ELIZABETH GAME PARK**

After breakfast you will drive Queen Elizabeth National Park via Kasese, having a good view of the Rwenzori mountains. Traveling on both asphalt and unpaved roads, you pass through traditional Ugandan Villages where you see people at work tending their traditional crops of millet, sorghum, beans and maize. The lush rolling hills of this region provide good "photo opportunities. Years of study by scientists (who have cut a grid through the forest) have habituated many of its animals to human observers. This forest is famed for the variety of primates found here and it is a terrific area for birds. This rural Ugandan town (Fort Portal) is locally famous for its weaving and basketry, and we can spend some time briefly to examine some of this local art. Continue to on your game drive to Mweya Lodge.

Queen Elizabeth National Park is Uganda's second largest park, located at the base of the majestic Rwenzori Mountain range, adjacent to Lake Edward and Lake George. The park has prolific game, including Gazelle, lions, Elephants, buffalo, hippos, Uganda Kob, Warthog and Waterbuck.

You stay overnight at the beautiful Mweya Safari Lodge, located in the heart of Queen Elizabeth National Park on the Mweya peninsula. Watch wildlife from your private verandah and fall asleep to the roaring of lions on the distant savannah. This truly is Africa!

In the late evening there will be a game-drive in the park

Accommodation: Mweya Safari Lodge

Meal plan: Breakfast and lunch and dinner



Mweya Safari Lodge

**Day 4: TUESDAY, JUNE .9---MORNING GAME / LAUNCH CRUISE**

Wake up very early in the morning take a cup of coffee and go for a game drive in the Kasenye area of Queen Elizabeth National Park where lions and most of the wildlife is concentrated. On such a game drive you will be able to see elephants, Uganda kob, buffaloes, water bucks, if lucky lions and leopards. Return to the lodge for breakfast, then another game drive.

After lunch you will have a boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel which joins Lake George and Lake Edward where you will come up close with plenty of hippos and other animals that come to drink on the shores of the lake. If time allows have another game drive before returning to the lodge.

Accommodation: Mweya Safari Lodge

Meal plan: Breakfast and lunch and dinner



Game drive/Launch cruise

#### **Day 5: WEDNESDAY, JUNE. 10--- DEPARTURE**

After breakfast you will have a final game drive on your back to Kampala / Entebbe. There will be a stopover for lunch and another opportunity of stop at the equator for some shopping may be.

Accommodation: No accommodation

Meal Plan: Breakfast and Lunch

#### **TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

- An English speaking full-time professional guide/driver
- All park entry fees
- Boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel
- 1 Chimp permit per person
- Accommodation as mentioned
- Meals as stated (4 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners, 5 lunches)
- Transport (in a 4 x 4 land cruiser)
- Fuel
- Government taxes
- Bottled drinking water in the vehicle

#### **TOUR EXCLUSIONS:**

- Accommodation facilities while in Kampala / Entebbe (big towns)
- Insurance of any kind
- Any optional or extra activities not involved in the itinerary
- Visas
- International flights or local flights
- Other personal expenses like buying of crafts, cigars, souvenirs, tips, laundry