



**BELLINGHAM SAFARIS**  
WORLDWIDE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES



PHOTO CREDIT: SILVERBACK MOUNTAIN GORILLA BY SIMON BELLINGHAM

## SAMPLE TRAVEL ITINERARY

**KIBALE, BWINDI & QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARKS**

# UGANDA





## TOUR AT A GLANCE

Day	Location	Accommodation
01	Entebbe	Boma Hotel - Room (FB)
02	Kibale Forest National Park	Ndali Lodge - Luxury banda (FB)
03	Kibale Forest National Park	Ndali Lodge - Luxury banda (FB)
04	Queen Elizabeth National Park	Kyambura Gorge Lodge - Luxury banda (FB)
05	Queen Elizabeth National Park	Ishasha Wilderness Camp - Luxury tent (FB)
06	Queen Elizabeth National Park	Ishasha Wilderness Camp - Luxury tent (FB)
07	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park	Gorilla Forest Camp - Luxury tent (FB)
08	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park	Gorilla Forest Camp - Luxury tent (FB)
09	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park	Gorilla Forest Camp - Luxury tent (FB)
10	Jinja	Wildwaters Lodge - Luxury suite (FB)
11	Jinja	Wildwaters Lodge - Luxury suite (FB)
12	Day of departure	

FB = full board (3 meals per day)    BB = bed and breakfast    DBB = dinner, bed and breakfast  
 FI = fully inclusive (all meals, snacks and standard beverages)



PHOTO CREDIT: FEMALE GORILLA BY SIMON BELLINGHAM

## ACCOMMODATION: BOMA HOTEL

### 1 NIGHT



The Boma is Entebbe's original and private hotel surrounded by tropical gardens, situated in a leafy suburb, only a few minutes from the airport. The staff ensure that all guests receive a personable service and friendly hospitality. All the rooms are decorated in a mixture of African and European decor, designed to reflect the original colonial architecture. The rooms are equipped with four-poster beds, en-suite bathrooms, satellite TV, international power points, safes, wireless internet connection and private verandas. The restaurant serves mostly homemade European-style meals with a dash of Indian, Thai and Mediterranean choices. A lovely private swimming pool provides a refreshing way to decompress from one's travels. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout and an office computer is also available for guests to use.

Rates include: Accommodation and meals

1x Room

<https://www.boma.co.ug/>



## LOCATION: KIBALE FOREST NATIONAL PARK

### 2 NIGHTS

The towering Kibale Forest boasts the highest concentration and diversity of primate species of any reserve in East Africa. Here you have the opportunity to trek for our closest living relative – the Chimpanzee! They are noisy and, if you do manage to come across a troop, their thrilling whoops, shrieks and grunts are likely to be heard before they are seen. As much of their diurnal time is spent feeding, an encounter is likely to involve observing them gorging on fruit (especially figs!) all the while engaging in the subtleties of Chimp etiquette. Here too, in the riches of Kibale, you are likely to encounter other rare and colourful primates, including Guereza Colobus, Central Africa Red Colobus, Blue Monkey, the highly terrestrial L'Hoest's Monkey, Gray-cheeked Mangabey and the delightful Red-tailed Monkey. As you explore these forests for mammals you may well encounter some of the avian gems that grace this forest; bird species here are typical of medium-altitude forest and include the globally-threatened White-naped Pigeon, Narina Trogon and Superb and Green-headed Sunbirds. A nocturnal outing will be well worth your while for these forests are home to a range of endearing Galago species and other creatures like Lord Derby's Anomalure, African and Palm Civet and Servaline Genet, most of which you would be extremely fortunate to encounter.



PHOTO CREDIT: CHIMPANZEE IN KIBALE FOREST BY MARIO HABERFELD, GREAT BLUE TURACO BY GREG WHELAN



## ACCOMMODATION: NDALI LODGE

### 2 NIGHTS



This is a great base from where to track the chimpanzees of Kibale Forest. Dating back to 1996, Ndali Lodge is set in beautifully lush gardens and blends a colonial feel with traditional touches such as thatch roofs and colourful African decorations. Overlooking the forest-fringed lake, the main area houses a high-ceilinged lounge and a dining room, as well as a large terrace where guests may dine with breathe-taking views of Lake Nyinambuga, a water-filled volcanic lake. Adventurous guests may take a dip in the lake, while more conventional spirits may prefer to relax in and around the swimming pool.

8 luxury bandas offer views over the dramatic Rwenzori Mountains; each thatched banda is warm, spacious and homely with en-suite baths and hot water showers, in addition to verandahs with lovely mountain views.

Rates include: Accommodation and meals

1x Luxury banda

[www.ndalilodge.com](http://www.ndalilodge.com)



## LOCATION: QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

### 3 NIGHTS

Queen Elizabeth National park offers the best chances in Uganda for big game and savanna species and is thus deservedly Uganda's most popular game reserve. The reserve is dominated on its northern border by the spectacular snow-capped Rwenzori Mountains. A highlight here is a boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel which allows a close approach to African buffalo, elephant and hippopotamus in addition to scores of delightful water birds, including a chance of seeing African skimmers in action. Within the acacia and euphorbia dominated woodland, resides one of the area's most bizarre mammals, the giant forest hog, and you should be sure to make a concerted effort to track down this unusual and rather brutish creature. This park is very rich in habitats and this is reflected by the huge bird list of over 550 species, making it one of the largest lists for any protected area in Africa. Mammals you have a good chance of finding in the remote southern section of Queen Elizabeth National Park include lion, leopard, spotted hyaena, olive baboon, African elephant and hippopotamus, while buffalo, Uganda kob, topi, the impressive Defassa waterbuck and comical Warthog dominate the grasslands. One of the star attractions of the southern part of Queen Elizabeth National Park are its "tree climbing lions". While these animals are still very much part of the African lion population (*Panthera leo*) they spend a large portion of the day resting in trees, a behaviour trait seen more commonly in Leopards (*Panthera pardus*). You will search trees and thickets for this region's famous Lions and the marvellous photographic opportunities they present.



PHOTO CREDIT: HIPPO & BUFFALO EN MASSE IN THE KAZINGA CHANNEL & LIONESS BY SIMON BELLINGHAM

## ACCOMMODATION: KYAMBURA GORGE LODGE

### 1 NIGHT



Set between the Kyambura Gorge and Queen Elizabeth National Park, Kyambura Gorge Safari Lodge boasts eight beautiful and spacious bandas nestled on the hillside, each with its own bathroom. Warm and welcoming, each banda overlooks a different aspect of the panoramic views across the gorge and the lush savannah of the National Park, stretching all the way to the Rwenzori Mountains.

Meals are prepared using the freshest local ingredients and served in the dining area. Guests will have the opportunity to enjoy game drives in the National Park, guided forest walks and birdwatching expeditions to explore the surroundings.

Rates include: Accommodation and meals

1x Luxury banda



## ACCOMMODATION: ISHASHA WILDERNESS CAMP

### 2 NIGHTS



Ishasha Wilderness Camp is situated within the southern Ishasha sector of Queen Elizabeth National Park on the Ntungwe river, an idyllic retreat for people who truly enjoy the wilderness. Each of the camp's ten spacious canvas tented rooms has a private verandah overlooking the river. Comfortably furnished with large mosquito-netted beds, all rooms are en suite with hot 'bush' showers, running water for hand-basins and a flushing eco-friendly toilet. The thatched central lounge and dining area provide a comfortable setting for meals and relaxation, although meals may often be served 'al fresco' next to the river. In the evening, the outdoor fireplace is the perfect place for guests to relax with sundowners and share their day's experiences.

Meals are freshly prepared with many local ingredients, offering a balance of international and locally flavoured cuisine with all meals being of several delicious courses. The bar has a selection of local and imported beverages and our friendly local staff will attend to your needs. Hot beverages are available throughout the day on a self-service basis, and are delivered to your room with early morning wake up calls as required, allowing you to savour the early morning sounds of the 'bush' awakening. Free WiFi internet, recharging facilities and a curio/local craft shop are available in the central dining area.

Rates include: Accommodation, meals, local beverages and laundry.

1x Luxury tent

<http://ugandaexclusivecamps.com/ishasha-wilderness-camp/>



## LOCATION: BWINDI IMPENETRABLE NATIONAL PARK

### 3 NIGHTS

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park lies at the northern end of the fabled Virunga range in Western Uganda. This is a region of volcanoes, jagged valleys, waterfalls, lakes and dramatic mountain ranges. The Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is home to approximately half of the world population of Mountain Gorillas. Once part of a much larger forest that included the Virunga Volcanoes in neighbouring Rwanda, Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is now an ecological island within a sea of human cultivation and therefore of immense conservation importance. Around 350 bird species, 200 butterfly species and at least 120 mammal species have been recorded in this biodiversity hotspot. Approximately 400 gorillas live at Bwindi and these are divided into 12 or so groups. Unforgettable Gorilla tracking excursions are on offer here! These are the largest of all primates with "silverbacks" (mature males) sometimes weighing up to 200 kg! Spending an hour with these gentle giants is, without a doubt, one of the most exciting and emotional wildlife experiences on Earth. Other mammals that can be encountered with some luck in this regal forest are Chimpanzee, L'Hoest's Monkey, Blue and Red-tailed Monkeys, Yellow-backed Duiker, huge Guereza Colobus, and several species of squirrels including Fire-footed Rope, Carruthers' Mountain, Ruwenzori Sun and Red-legged Sun Squirrels. To boot, this vast reserve also offers arguably the most productive montane forest birding in Africa and supports 23 of Uganda's 24 Albertine Rift endemic bird species.



PHOTO CREDIT: BABY GORILLA BY JIM JAMES, MOUNTAIN GORILLA BY SIMON BELLINGHAM



## ACCOMMODATION: GORILLA FOREST CAMP

### 3 NIGHTS



Bwindi Impenetrable Forest impresses with a truly theatrical landscape - this is a region of volcanoes, jagged valleys, waterfalls, lakes and dramatic mountain ranges. And it is here, on a flat ridge high in the forest, that Sanctuary's Gorilla Forest Camp is tucked away. This is the ideal base for encounters with the mountain gorillas that live in Bwindi. This camp is one of the most remote and atmospheric in Africa. Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp offers guests an unrivalled location, including the best bird and wildlife viewing in the Bwindi area. As the only concessionaire luxury camp within Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp is the perfect base from which to track the park's most famous resident - the mountain gorilla. In fact Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp often receives regular visits from the gorillas themselves. The eight tents at Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp are stylish and spacious, each featuring two queen sized beds. In addition to the comfortable warm beds, each tent has a huge bathtub that looks straight into the jungle canopy ideal for soaking tired muscles after a day spent observing and meeting gorillas.

#### BELLINGHAM SAFARIS SUSTAINABLE LODGE PARTNER:

Gorilla Forest Camp, "GFC", was the first luxury camp in Bwindi; it was agreed by the then president and Geoffrey Kent that GFC would bring guests who would pay for Gorilla permits in order to help fund a new national park to protect the Gorillas. They also agreed to assist with the habituation of Gorillas in Bwindi. Gorilla trekking permits now help pay for security guards, rangers, Gorilla trackers and conservation of the habitat. Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp furthermore supports the Bwindi Community Hospital with their guests having contributed over \$1million, as well as Victory School and other philanthropic projects.

Rates include: Accommodation, all meals and drinks (excluding premium brands and French Champagne), concession fees, community walk and laundry service.

1x Luxury tent

<https://www.sanctuaryretreats.com/uganda-camps-gorilla-forest>



## LOCATION: JINJA

### 2 NIGHTS

Jinja is commonly regarded as "the adventure capital of East Africa" due to the very many activities in town that one could engage in. Local attractions include white-water rafting, the "Source of the Nile", bungee jumping, and the Nile Breweries Limited's large brewery.

Rafting is certainly one of the most popular tourist activity in the country. Contrary to popular myth surrounding the Nile, the river is clean, warm and spectacular in Uganda. Unlike the better-known area of the Nile in Egypt, river traffic at the source is restricted to dugout canoes, monitor lizards, rafts and shy river otters.

Rafting options include either Grade 5 - widely regarded as the best one day rafting trip on the planet. This is the safest and most popular trip down the Nile, challenging legendary rapids in the hands of those who know the river best. Or Grade 3 - a milder experience of the Nile, compared to our popular grade 5 option. Choose to paddle as part of a team or opt for a softer option and be rowed downstream by our professional guides in the safety raft. Mid-stream on the Nile you will enjoy a mouth-watering meal on an adventure island.

As safety is paramount, you will have on hand award-winning 5-star river crew, safety rafts and kayakers, who are by far the most experienced on the continent!



PHOTO CREDIT: RAFTING AT THE SOURCE OF THE NILE BY ADRIFT



## ACCOMMODATION: WILDWATERS LODGE

### 2 NIGHTS



Located on roughly six hectares on Kalagala Island, Wildwaters Lodge lies on a unique private island mid-stream within the mighty River Nile in Uganda: around 25km downstream from Jinja in eastern Uganda. It's in a sublime location, and only reached by boat which makes it a very adventurous place to stay. And, it's uniquely perched on granite rocks with noisy and exciting foamy rapids roaring all around. The ten stand-alone elevated timber-floor and super-spacious luxury suites nestle in rainforest with amazing river views. Each are linked by raised wooden walkways to the restaurant, bar and library, and feature glass-fronted windows, locally handmade furniture, stylish bathrooms with rain showers, and secluded wooden decks with daybeds and romantic free-standing open-air bathtubs.

There are also delicious sunrise breakfasts and candle-lit five course dinners and a lovely swimming pool carved out of natural pink granite rocks in the attractive main communal lodge area. Activities on the river for guests in the nearby adventure-hub of Jinja area including heart-pounding white-water rafting or bungee jumping and jet boating, and gentler horse riding or fishing.

Rates include: Accommodation and meals

1x Luxury suite

[www.wildwaterslodge.com](http://www.wildwaterslodge.com)



## DAILY DETAIL

### Day 1

### Entebbe

On arrival in Entebbe you will be met at the airport by our representative and transferred a short distance to your comfortable guest house for an overnight stay.



Transfer: Entebbe International Airport to Boma Hotel (approx. 10min)



Overnight: Boma Hotel

### Day 2

### Kibale Forest

Today you travel by road to Ndali Lodge. You will enjoy a lunch en route and have the afternoon to relax before your trekking adventures begin.



Transfer: Boma Hotel to Ndali Lodge (approx. 6hrs)



Overnight: Ndali Lodge

### Day 3

### Kibale Forest

Today you have the opportunity to trek for our closest living relative – the chimpanzee! After an early breakfast you will transfer by road to the visitor's centre to meet your trekking guide, who after a brief orientation talk, will lead you off into the forest for your full day habituation experience with the chimpanzees. The full day habituation permit will allow you spend as much time on foot tracking down groups of chimpanzees that are not familiar with seeing humans. For this reason, you will also bring along a packed lunch, which you will be able to enjoy as and when you feel that you need to take a break. By spending time with these incredible animals, they too will start to learn that we are not a threat and will slowly, over time begin to behave as though you are not even there; a rare privilege given that they are highly intelligent wild animals. Whilst in the forest, you will also have opportunities to relish the sights and sounds of some the many other diurnal primates and birds that inhabit the Park, before heading back to camp enjoy a sundowner while sharing stories of the day's adventure.



Overnight: Ndali Lodge

### Day 4

### Queen Elizabeth National Park

An early morning start from Kibale today as you head south by road to northern part of Queen Elizabeth National park, while crossing the equator en route. You will enjoy lunch at Mweya Lodge before setting out for an exclusive afternoon boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel. After quality time on the river, you will enjoy a game drive as you head back to your lodge for a sundowner and dinner.





Transfer: Ndali Lodge to Kyambura Gorge Lodge (approx. 3hrs)



Overnight: Kyambura Gorge Lodge

## Day 5

## Queen Elizabeth National Park

This morning you may enjoy an early game drive in the Kasenyi area of the Park. After lunch, you will transfer by road to southern part of Queen Elizabeth National Park, Ishasha.



Transfer: Kyambura Gorge Lodge to Ishasha Wilderness Camp (approx. 3hrs)



Overnight: Ishasha Wilderness Camp

## Day 6

## Queen Elizabeth National Park

You will have a morning and afternoon game drive to explore this magnificent terrain. The middle of the day will provide you with some most welcomed down time to enjoy the tranquil setting of the camp's luxury tents situated on the lush banks of the Ntungwe River.



Overnight: Ishasha Wilderness Camp

## Day 7

## Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

Leaving the riches of Queen Elizabeth behind, you make your way once again to the forests of western Uganda, this time to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, at the northern end of the fabled Virunga range. After settling into your luxury tent, which is neatly positioned overlooking the primary forest of Bwindi, you will enjoy lunch and have the afternoon at leisure to relax and put your feet up before your 2 trekking days which follow, visit the local craft centre or enjoy some birding around the camp. Keep a lookout for the terrestrial L'Hoest's monkeys which often frequent the camp, while the persistent call of the brown-throated Wattle-eye may be heard throughout.



Transfer: Ishasha Wilderness Camp to Gorilla Forest Camp



Overnight: Gorilla Forest Camp



**Days 8 & 9****Bwindi Impenetrable National Park**

Approximately 400 gorillas live at Bwindi and these are divided into 12 or so groups. Here you have the opportunity to embark on two unforgettable gorilla trekking excursions, visiting one of the 4 groups of remarkably peaceable and tolerant habituated mountain gorillas.



**Overnight: Gorilla Forest Camp**

**Day 10****Jinja**

This morning you will enjoy an early breakfast before you transfer by road to Kihikihi airstrip for your scheduled chartered flight back to Entebbe. On arrival in Entebbe, you will be met and transferred to Jinja. En route you will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant in Kampala. As your lodge may only be accessed by boat, you will transfer across the river from the mainland, before arriving at your lodge. This afternoon you may have time to relax and appreciate the beautiful surrounds and sounds of the roaring river before your next day's adventure on the river begins.



**Transfer: Gorilla Forest Camp to Kihikihi airport (approx. 1.5hrs)**



**Scheduled flight: Kihikihi to Entebbe International Airport**

Departure: to be announced

Arrival: to be announced



**Transfer: Entebbe International Airport to Wildwaters Lodge (approx. 3hrs)**



**Overnight: Wildwaters Lodge**

**Day 11****Jinja**

Today you will have a full day of white water rafting on the Nile. Before setting out, you will be given a very thorough safety briefing as to what to expect on the river. Thereafter, you may decide on which adventure or grade you'd like to experience. Grade 5 or "big brother" has more rapids than the milder grade 3 option, and is for those who seek a bit more adventure.



**Overnight: Wildwaters Lodge**

**Day 12****Day of Departure**

This morning after breakfast, you will drive back to Entebbe for lunch at a restaurant, before transferring to the airport for your international flight home, and it is here where your adventures with Bellingham Safaris concludes.



## Transfer: Wildwaters Lodge to Entebbe International Airport

### INCLUDES

- Accommodation on a full board basis excluding beverages at Boma Hotel, Ndali Lodge, Kyambura Gorge Lodge and Wildwaters Lodge
- Accommodation on a fully inclusive basis including non-premium alcoholic beverages at Ishasha Wilderness Camp and Gorilla Forest Camp
- 1 x full day chimpanzee habituation permit per person
- 2 x gorilla trekking permits per person
- Ground transportation in 4x4 vehicle
- Bottled drinking water, tea and coffee while in transit
- Activities: Full day chimpanzee trek in Kibale Forest National Park, game drives in Queen Elizabeth National Park and 2 gorilla treks (Bwindi Impenetrable Forest)
- Reserve entrance fees
- Exclusive boat ride on the Kazinga Channel (Queen Elizabeth National Park)
- Full day river rafting on the Nile river
- Services of a resident guide/driver and/or Bellingham Safaris tour leader
- Domestic flight: Kihikihi to Entebbe (day 10)

### EXCLUDES

- Premium branded beverages, cigars and cigarettes
- International flights to and from Entebbe
- Local staff gratuities
- Porterage for the gorilla and chimp trekking
- Laundry
- Items of personal nature
- Visa fees (please be sure to check if visas are required)
- Travel Insurance
- Excess baggage costs
- Changes to the itinerary
- Any items not included in the inclusions above

## BELLINGHAM SAFARIS

### WORLDWIDE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES

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