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7 Day Chimpanzee and Gorilla Safari: Kyambura and Gahinga

On this 7-day safari in Uganda you will trek the majestic mountain gorillas, hike to the 'Lost Chimps of Kyambura Gorge', participate in the Kyambura Eco-tourism Project and experience the ancient Batwa culture at Gahinga.

Day 1

Arrive at Entebbe airport where a staff representative will assist you with the transfer to your domestic flight to Kasese. Once in Kasese you will be welcomed by your expert Volcanoes Safaris guide. Visit the Rwenzori Sculpture Foundation on the way to the lodge and learn about the partnership with Volcanoes Safaris to support young Ugandan artists.



Take a game drive in Queen Elizabeth National Park and look for lions, leopard, elephants, buffaloes and large herds of Uganda kob. Enjoy pre-dinner cocktails on the veranda overlooking the savannah plains with the magnificent Rwenzori Mountains in the distance.

Flying time between 1 to 1.5 hours, driving time 2 hours

Overnight at Kyambura Gorge Lodge (lunch, dinner)

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Day 2

Enjoy an early breakfast and set out for a morning game drive. The Kasenyi plains are excellent for sighting lions. The Mweya peninsula is one of the best places to look for leopards, which live in the dense, scrubby thickets. Go on your game drive with a member of the Kyambura Wildlife Team and learn about the [Kyambura Lion Monitoring Project](#).



In the afternoon, participate in the Kyambura Gorge Eco-tourism Project, run by Volcanoes Safaris Partnership Trust (VSPT). Try roasting coffee with the Kyambura Women's Coffee Cooperative, go birding in the Kyambura reclaimed wetlands, plant a tree seedling in the wildlife buffer zone, or harvest honey with the Kyambura bee-keeping cooperative.

Overnight at Kyambura Gorge Lodge (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 3

After breakfast walk from the lodge directly down into Kyambura Gorge, to search for the 'Lost Chimps of Kyambura'. The gorge is an extraordinary natural environment and forms a stark contrast to the surrounding grasslands. Here you can track one of our closest animal relatives: the chimpanzee. This group of isolated chimps are quite mobile and viewing can be unpredictable but the walk itself is exciting and enchanting.

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In the afternoon take a wildlife boat cruise on the Kazinga channel, home to one of the greatest concentration of hippo in Africa and herds of elephant, buffalo and other animals come to drink at the water's edge.

Overnight at Kyambura Gorge Lodge (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 4

Transfer to Kasese Airstrip for an early morning flight to Kisoro Airstrip. Transfer by road for 1 to 2 hours to **Mount Gahinga Lodge**. The lodge is located at the foot of the Virunga Volcanoes and on the edge of Mgahinga National Park.

In the afternoon visit the Gahinga Batwa Village and experience the culture and history of one of Africa's oldest tribes. Visit their new village and community centre and you can participate in the Batwa Heritage Tour to gain insight into their traditional life as hunter gatherers in the forest.

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Enjoy your pre-dinner cocktails on the terrace with stunning views of the Volcanoes or warm yourself inside by the cosy fire.

Overnight at Mount Gahinga Lodge (breakfast, lunch, dinner).

Day 5

After enjoying an early breakfast, set off gorilla trekking (**gorilla permit is not part of the auction prize, to be paid for at the time of booking**). Trekking through the steep, densely forested hills and then finally coming across the gorillas camouflaged in the vegetation is an inspiring and privileged moment.

After a climb of between one and three hours the moment you find the gorillas camouflaged in the vegetation is an inspiring and privileged one. You will spend one hour in the company of the majestic and gentle mountain gorillas before returning to the lodge in time for a late lunch.

Gorilla trekking requires stamina and can sometimes take a full day, especially if it is wet and muddy.

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Overnight at Mount Gahinga Lodge (breakfast, lunch, dinner).

Day 6

After breakfast, trek the rare golden monkeys through the bamboo forests of the Virunga mountains. The monkeys move in large groups and are as energetic as they are photogenic, often seen playing in the high branches or foraging on the ground for bamboo shoots.

Overnight at Mount Gahinga Lodge (breakfast, lunch, dinner).

Day 7

Leave Mount Gahinga Lodge in time for a morning flight from Kisoro airstrip to Entebbe and then connect to your international flight. Flight time 1 to 2 hours and driving time 2 hours.

Please book international flights departing after 8pm.

(breakfast at the lodge).