Ndali - Fort Portal, western Uganda

Kibale National Park and Chimpanzee trekking

Scenic over the snowy peaks of the Rwenzori Mountains

Kazinga Channel boat cruise - Nile crocodile and swimming elephant

Virunga National Park
Mountain & Lowland Gorilla

Senkwekwe gorilla orphanage

Scenic flight over the Virunga National Park

The active volcanoes & lava lakes of Nyamuragira and Nyiragongo

Lwiro Primate Institute

Kahuzi Biéga - Grauer’s gorilla trek

Island Tchegera & Lake Kiva
**Day One:** Meet your heli and pilot in Entebbe, and fly to western Uganda to Fort Portal. Kibale Forest chimpanzee trekking. Evening flight over the Rwenzori Mountains. **Ndali Lodge**

**Day Two:** Morning boat cruise at the Kazinga Channel. Fly to the Virungas, via Kisoro and Goma. A walk to visit the Senkwekwe gorilla orphanage. **Mikeno Lodge**

**Day Three:** Morning trek in search of the Mountain Gorilla. Afternoon scenic flight over the park, with sundowners on the crater of Mount Nyamuragira and night on Mount Nyiragongo. **Nyiragongo Shelters**

**Day Four:** After breakfast back at Mikeno, we fly to the Lwiro Primate Center. **Mikeno Lodge**

**Day Five:** Today we head off for an early morning trek in Kahuzi Biega National Park, to see the Grauer’s gorilla. We continue on to the horse-shoe island of Tchegera on Lake Kivu. An afternoon free to enjoy the water activities. **Tchegera Island**

**Day Six:** Safari ends with a final flight back to Entebbe Airport.
Over 85% of Ugandans live in rural areas, and depend on subsistence agriculture - the rich soils and favourable climate mean that small scale farms are very productive.
Ndali Lodge near Fort Portal in western Uganda is the perfect base to explore the beautiful snow-covered mountain peaks of the Rwenzori Mountains. The Lodge is perched on the rim of an extinct volcano, in which lies the breath-taking Lake Nyinambuga. Ndali is a family run business, with 8 ensuite cottages.

From Ndali one can trek in Kibale forest in search of chimpanzees. There are also many lovely walks around Ndali estate, and the neighbouring vanilla plantation.
With lush tropical rainforest and a fascinating diversity of animals, Kibale National Park is one of the most beautiful and stunning forests in Uganda, with Africa’s highest diversity and density of primates.
The forests, hills and valleys of Kibale National Park are home to a highly protected population of Chimps (over 1,450 individuals).

These tropical rainforests have the highest diversity and density of primates in Africa. Red tailed monkeys, colobus monkeys and olive baboons also thrive here, and the bird life is prolific.
Known as the ‘Mountains of the Moon’ - not only are the Rwenzori’s permanently snow capped, but the largest glaciers in Africa are found here.
In western Uganda, in the shadow of the Rwenzori mountains, lies the magnificent Queen Elizabeth National Park, set between Lake Edward and Lake George.

Characterised by a mosaic of habitats - open savannah, papyrus wetlands, lowland forest and green meadows, Queen Elizabeth is home to a diverse array of wildlife species. There are only 2 populations of lion in the world that climb trees, one of which live in the Ishasha plains in the south of the park, the other at Lake Manyara in Tanzania.
The 32km Kazinga Channel, that links Lake Edward and Lake George, is one of Queen Elizabeth National Park’s greatest attractions. It is a magnet for wildlife - elephant, buffalo, Nile crocodile, and one of the world’s largest concentrations of hippos.

Birdlife is thrilling, and particularly unique are the shoebill stork, African Skimmer, Papyrus Gonolek and Black bee-eater.
BOAT CRUISE
- Kazinga Channel -
The Virunga Mountains are a chain of 8 volcanoes running along the borders of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda, 7 of which are found in the Virunga National Park and only two are active – Mount Nyamuragira and Mount Nyiragongo.
Virunga National Park is Africa’s oldest park, established in 1925 by King Albert the 1st of Belgium.

An outstanding diversity of habitats, ranging from swamps and steppes to dense primeval forests, and from lava plains to the savannahs on the slopes of volcanoes. This is a pristine habitat rich in biodiversity, and unique in that it has both lowland and montane forest, with diverse species of trees, ferns, butterflies and birds. Protected groups of Lowland (Grauer’s gorilla) and Mountain gorilla inhabit this region.
Located in the depth of the Virunga forest is Mikeno Lodge, with accommodation for 24 people in 12 thatched cottages.

This is Virunga National Park's first lodge, and not only is it luxury but it is built with maximum consideration to its natural surroundings. Mikeno has easy access to the Park's most treasured assets - the Mountain Gorilla, Chimpanzee and Mount Nyiragongo. Just a few minutes walk away is the Senkwekwe Centre for orphan gorilla.
Built in 2008, the Senkwekwe Center is a gorilla orphanage that provides accommodation for both the gorillas and their dedicated carers.

The centre raises money from donations for the conservation of the Mountain Gorilla by improving park infrastructure, as well as supporting the development of local primary schools. The centre provides a chance to learn about the challenges that this species faces in the wild.
Coming face to face with a Mountain Gorilla is one of Africa’s most exciting wildlife experiences! Gaining an insight into the behaviour and family dynamics of one of the world’s rarest primates is nothing short of captivating.

The last remaining habitat of the Mountain Gorilla is within the Virunga Mountains. This highly endangered charismatic animal is the flagship species that has enthused the conservation of the entire array of wildlife and habitat that make up this unique part of our planet.
Crystal clear swamps near Mount Tsiabeimu are filtered by layers of volcanic rock and sediment. The result is pristine turquoise waters and incredible palm forest - an idyllic habitat for wildlife and an array of bird life.
A vast 230km waterway connecting Lakes Edward and Albert, in Central Africa.

It follows the western foot of the Rwenzori Mountains, and the latter part of its course forms part of the border between Congo and Uganda. Within the Virunga National Park, a vast floodplain has evolved, attracting a variety of large and small mammals, including the rarely seen Okapi.
Mount Nyamuragira has erupted over 40 times since 1885. It has a lava lake that simmers deep within the crater, and although very small and often disappears, scientists believe that in time this lava lake will become permanent.
Mount Nyiragongo standing at 3,462 metres is Africa’s most active volcano. It has been erupting almost continuously for the last century, and its main crater contains a magnificent lava lake.
On the edge of the Nyiragongo crater within sight of the sweltering lava lake, stand eight simple cabins, coloured black to blend in perfectly with the lava rock surroundings.

It’s a thrilling experience to watch the glowing molten lava throughout the evening!
Founded in 2003, at the height of genocide (Great War of Africa, 1998 – 2004) when poaching increased drastically, resulting in orphan chimpanzees that desperately needed care. Lwiro Sanctuary, also known as the Centre for Rehabilitation of Primates, is located in Congo’s South Kivu province.

Today Lwiro looks after 66 chimps and 80 monkeys from 11 species, all victims of the illegal pet and bush meat trades. Lwiro works closely with the Congolese government, local community and international conservation organisations.
A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kahuzi-Biéga National Park is home to one of the last remaining populations of the critically endangered Eastern Lowland gorillas, also known as the Grauer’s gorilla. The vast forested park located in Eastern Congo, to the west of Lake Kivu and the Rwandan border, is dominated by dense montane and bamboo forests, and two spectacular volcanoes, both extinct - Mount Kahuzi and Mount Biéga.

Grauer’s gorilla is the largest of the four subspecies, distinguished from others by its stocky body, large hands and short muzzle. With so many threats to their existence, their numbers have dropped dramatically over the last 20 years.
On the border between Congo and Rwanda lies the diamond clear waters and sandy beaches of Lake Kivu.

This is the sixth largest lake in Africa, surrounded by landscape of extraordinary beauty, with the towering Virunga volcanoes and green slopes rich with tea, coffee and banana plantations.

LAKE KIVU
- One of the African Great Lakes -

© Max Melesi
The tiny horse-shoe shaped island of Tchegera is situated off the northern shores of Lake Kivu, with a tented camp that offers views over the lake and 4 of the volcanoes in the Virunga range. A location more unique and tranquil than most!

A perfect place for kayaking, paddle boarding, birdwatching and relaxing.

Simple and comfortable safari-style Meru tents lie on the black sandy shores, with small verandas under canvas, and each with its own hot-water bathrooms. Meals are served in the mess tent - a light and airy canvas room, surrounded by wooden decking.
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Safaris are informal and comfort should be considered above all else.

Durable, loose fitting, lightweight cotton clothes are recommended in neutral colours, so as not to alarm wildlife whilst in the bush. Something warm is essential for early morning and evening activities. Footwear should not be heavy. A pair of comfortable walking shoes, trainers or desert boots is best.

The following is a guideline for the maximum clothing you need to bring. Due to the limited space in the helicopters personal luggage is limited to a maximum of 15kgs per person that must be packed in a soft duffel bag (No rigid bags or bags with wheels). Guests should also carry a small daypack for carrying personal items.
The following is a guideline for the maximum clothing you need to bring. There will be limited laundry services available.

Good quality sunglasses
   Sun Hat
Comfortable walking shoes
   Sandals or flip flops
4 cotton shirts, 2 long sleeved
2 pairs long trousers / jeans
3 pairs of shorts / skirts
Underwear and socks
   Swimsuit
   Sweater / Fleece
Zip lock bags are useful for anything that might leak while travelling – Sun Cream, shampoo, creams etc.
   Good quality torch
   Tissues / wet wipes
   Any prescribed medication
   Insect repellent
Binoculars not essential but useful
   Camera

Mount Nyamuragira © Summer Rae