Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours

"Where Tribes Meet Giants—Unforgettable Gorilla Adventures!"

UGANDA SAFARI GUIDE

Everything You Need to Know Before Your Trip

Your complete handbook to gorilla trekking, wildlife safaris &cultural encounters in the Pearl of Africa



10% of every booking supports the Nakiganda Bernadette Foundation — helping orphans, vulnerable children, and youth in Uganda.



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WELCOME

At Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours, every trip you take has a purpose.

We are a fully licensed Ugandan safari operator working directly with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), built by people born of this land — rangers, trackers, and guides who blend deep knowledge of Uganda's wildlife with the stories of Uganda's 56 tribes.

From budget-friendly gorilla treks to luxury fly-in safaris, we design experiences around your time, your budget, and your dreams.

When you trek with us, you're not just exploring breathtaking landscapes — you're becoming part of a movement that uplifts communities, protects wildlife, and honors a legacy of love and kindness.

WELCOME TO UGANDA

The Pearl of Africa

Uganda is a land of contrasts: misty rainforests, golden savannahs, snow-capped mountains, and the mighty River Nile. It is one of the only places on Earth where, in a single trip, you can look a mountain gorilla in the eye, track wild chimpanzees through the canopy, and watch lions climb fig trees on the open plains.

Uganda is one of Africa's most captivating travel destinations — a land of breathtaking biodiversity, vibrant cultures, and unforgettable adventure.
Whether you're drawn by the call of the wild gorilla, the roar of Murchison Falls, or the warmth of Uganda's 56 tribes, this country offers a safari experience unlike any other.
Landscapes You Won't Forget



- Misty rainforests — the ancient, moss-draped canopy of Bwindi "Impenetrable" Forest
- Golden savannahs — the open plains of Queen Elizabeth and Kidepo Valley
- Snow-capped mountains — the legendary "Mountains of the Moon",the Rwenzoris
- The mighty River Nile — birthplace of the world's longest river, thundering over Murchison Falls

Travel Tip

Uganda's greatest strength lies in its people — warm, welcoming, and deeply rooted in tradition. From the rhythmic dances of the Baganda to the pastoral life of the Karamojong, every encounter is a story waiting to be shared.

WHY CHOOSE UGANDA FOR YOUR SAFARI

- Home to over half of the world's remaining mountain gorillas
- More than 1,000 recorded bird species — a birder's paradise
- 10 national parks and multiple game and wildlife reserves
- Warm, welcoming people and Africa's richest cultural diversity — 56 tribes
- Significantly more affordable than neighboring safari destinations
- Compact geography — gorillas, chimps, and Big Five game in one manageable itinerary

Uganda vs. the Region — At a Glance

What you want	Uganda's edge
Mountain gorillas	Permit from $600–$800 vs. $1,500 in Rwanda
Chimpanzees	Kibale Forest — highest density & habituation success in Africa
Big cats & savannah game	Queen Elizabeth & Murchison Falls National Parks
Birdlife	Over 1,000 species — more than Kenya and Tanzania combined
Culture	56 distinct tribes and living traditions across the country

Travel Tip

Early-booking discounts are available on select 2026 departure dates — ask our team for current offers when you enquire.







TOP SAFARI HIGHLIGHTS

Gorilla Trekking

Trek through Bwindi Impenetrable National Park or Mgahinga Gorilla National Park — home to more than half of the world's mountain gorillas — and spend one unforgettable hour in the presence of a habituated gorilla family.

Guided by armed UWA rangers and expert local trackers, treks range from a gentle 2-hour walk to a demanding 6–8 hour climb, depending on where the gorillas are that day.

- **Standard trek:** 1 hour with a habituated family, in Bwindi's four sectors (Buhoma, Ruhija, Rushaga, Nkuringo) or Mgahinga
- **Gorilla Habituation Experience:** up to 4 hours with a semi-wild family alongside researchers, Rushaga sector only, max 4 guests/day
- **Minimum age:** 15 years
- **Fitness level:** moderate to strenuous
- Porters available and highly recommended

Chimpanzee Tracking

Kibale Forest National Park is Africa's chimpanzee capital, with over 1,500 individuals and some of the highest encounter rates on the continent. Track our closest living relatives through lush tropical rainforest, or go deeper with the full-day Chimpanzee Habituation Experience alongside researchers.

- Kibale Forest — the premier chimp destination, ~90%+ sighting success
- Budongo Forest (Murchison Falls) — a quieter, more intimate alternative
- Kyambura Gorge, the "Valley of Apes" (Queen Elizabeth NP) — dramatic canyon trekking
- Minimum age: 12 years • 1-hour tracking or full-day habituation option

Big Five Game Drives

Queen Elizabeth, Murchison Falls, Kidepo Valley, and Lake Mburo National Parks offer classic African game drives — lions (including Queen Elizabeth's rare tree-climbing lions), elephants, buffalo, leopards, and, in Murchison Falls, the elusive black rhino at the nearby Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary. Add a boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel or the Nile below Murchison Falls for close encounters with hippos, crocodiles, and elephant herds coming to drink.

Birdwatching Paradise

With over 1,000 recorded species, Uganda is one of the world's top birding destinations. Look for the prehistoric shoebill stork in the Mabamba wetlands, the great blue turaco in Kibale, and rare Albertine Rift endemics in Bwindi and the Rwenzoris.

Adventure Activities

- White-water rafting the Nile at Jinja — Grade 3 to 5 rapids
- Mountain climbing in the Rwenzori ("Mountains of the Moon")
- Quad-biking and bungee jumping around Jinja
- Boat cruises on the Kazinga Channel and the Nile at Murchison Falls
- Golden monkey tracking in Mgahinga Gorilla National Park







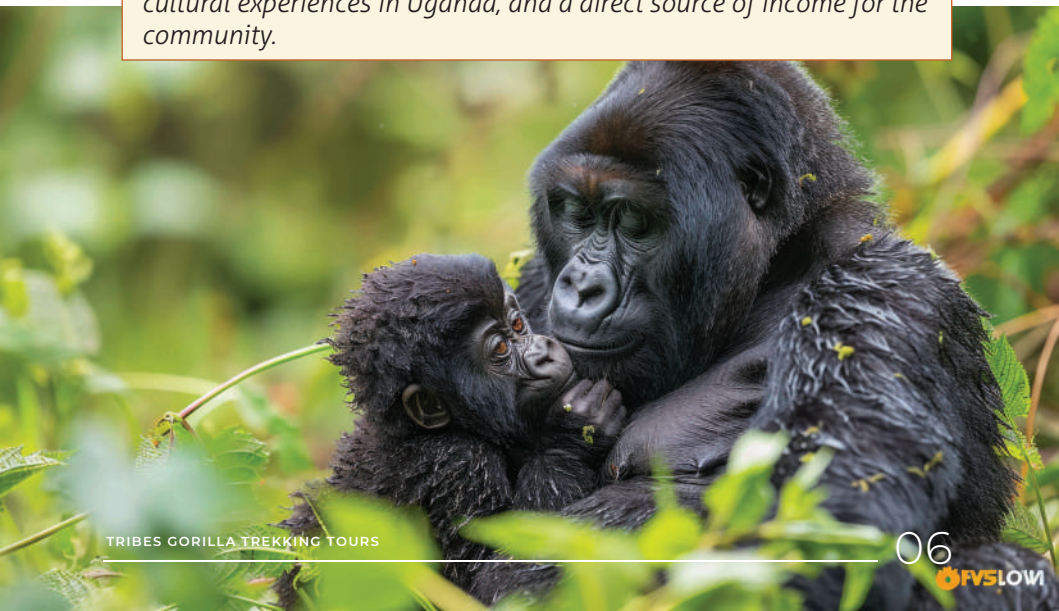
Uganda's Tribes & Cultures

Uganda is home to 56 tribes, each with its own language, customs, and traditions — making a Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours safari as much a cultural journey as a wildlife one. Beyond the gorillas, we weave genuine cultural encounters into every itinerary.

Tribe / People	Region	Known for
Baganda	Central Uganda	Uganda's largest ethnic group; the Kabaka's kingdom, drumming and rhythmic dance
Bakiga	Southwest (near Bwindi)	Terraced hillside farming and vibrant folklore
Batwa	Bwindi & Mgahinga	Indigenous forest people; former guardians of the gorilla forests, now cultural guides
Karamojong	Northeast (Karamoja)	Semi-nomadic cattle-keepers with striking beadwork and pastoral traditions
Basoga	Eastern Uganda, near Jinja	Source-of-the-Nile heartland; rich oral history
Acholi	Northern Uganda	Renowned for the bwola dance and storytelling traditions

Travel Tip

Visit a Batwa community near Bwindi for a firsthand account of forest life before it became a national park — one of the most moving cultural experiences in Uganda, and a direct source of income for the community.



Best Safari Destinations

Destination	Signature experience
Bwindi Impenetrable National Park	Gorilla trekking — home to roughly half the world's mountain gorillas
Mgahinga Gorilla National Park	Gorilla trekking, golden monkey tracking, volcano hikes
Kibale Forest National Park	Chimpanzee tracking — Africa's primate capital
Queen Elizabeth National Park	Tree-climbing lions, Kazinga Channel boat cruise, Kyambura Gorge chimps
Murchison Falls National Park	The Nile's most powerful falls, big game, Budongo chimp forest
Kidepo Valley National Park	Remote, rugged wilderness; Uganda's most dramatic scenery
Lake Mburo National Park	Compact park near Kampala; zebra, giraffe, walking safaris
Jinja & the Source of the Nile	White-water rafting, kayaking, and Nile-side adventure sports

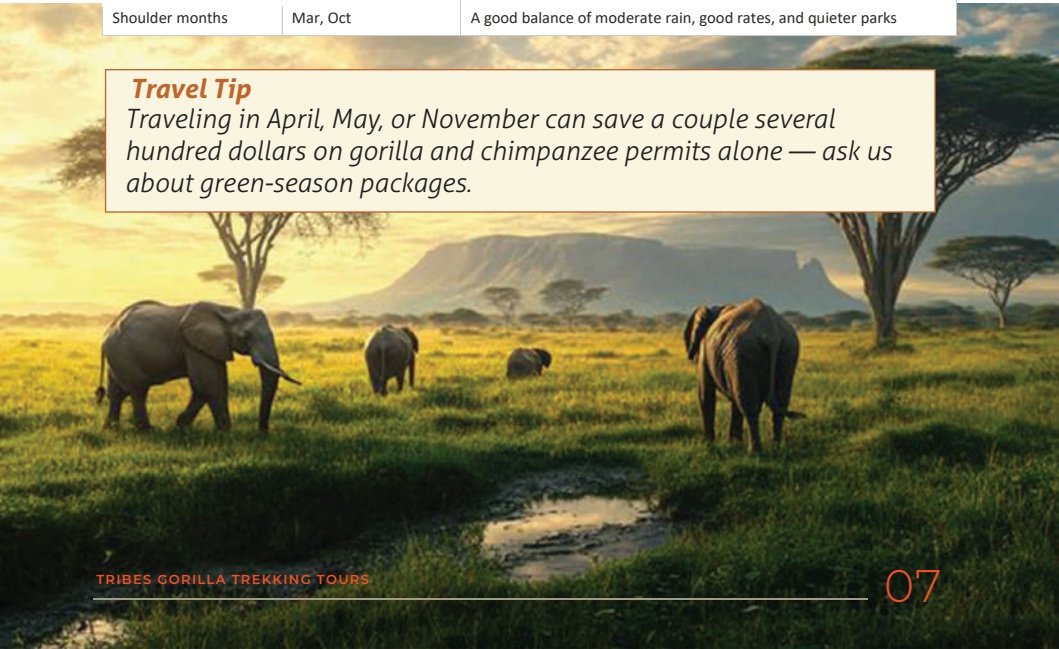
When to Visit Uganda

Uganda is a year-round destination, but timing affects trekking conditions, wildlife visibility, and permit prices.

Season	Months	What to expect
Dry / peak season	Jun – Sep, Dec – Feb	Best trails for gorilla and chimp trekking; best game viewing; busiest and most expensive — book 3–6 months ahead
Green / low season	Apr, May, Nov	Lush scenery, fewer crowds, and discounted gorilla ($600) and chimpanzee ($200) permits; trails can be muddy
Shoulder months	Mar, Oct	A good balance of moderate rain, good rates, and quieter parks

Travel Tip

Traveling in April, May, or November can save a couple several hundred dollars on gorilla and chimpanzee permits alone — ask us about green-season packages.





Safari Costs & Budgeting

Permit prices are set and revised by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA).
The figures below reflect the official 2026 tariff structure at the time of writing; because UWA reviews tariffs periodically, we always reconfirm exact pricing with you at the time of booking.

Permit Prices (per person)

Activity	Foreign non-resident	Foreign resident	Notes
Gorilla trekking (standard)	$800	$700	$600 / $500 in low season (Apr, May, Nov)
Gorilla Habituation Experience	$1,500–$1,800	$1,600	Up to 4 hrs; Rushaga sector only, 4 guests/day
Chimpanzee tracking (Kibale)	$250	$200	$200 in low season (Apr, May, Nov)
Chimpanzee Habituation Experience	$300	$250	Full-day, Kibale Forest
Chimp tracking — Budongo Forest	~$130	—	Alternative to Kibale, quieter experience
Chimp tracking — Kyambura Gorge	~$100	—	Combine with Queen Elizabeth game drives

Typical Trip Budgets

Package style	Typical daily cost	What's included
Budget	$150 – $250 / day	Guesthouses and budget lodges, group transport, standard permits
Mid-range	$300 – $500 / day	Comfortable tented camps or 3-star lodges, private 4x4, full-board
Luxury	$600+ / day	Premium lodges, fly-in safaris, private guide, exclusive experiences

Permit fees do not include accommodation, meals, transport, park entry fees, or tips — we build all of this into a single, transparent quote so there are no surprises once you land.



Travel Essentials

Visas

- Most nationalities need an eVisa — apply online in advance at the official Uganda immigration portal
- Consider the East Africa Tourist Visa if you're also visiting Kenya or Rwanda on the same trip
- Entebbe International Airport is Uganda's main international gateway

Health

- Yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for entry
- Malaria prophylaxis is strongly recommended — consult your doctor before travel
- Comprehensive travel insurance covering trekking, medical evacuation, and trip cancellation is essential
- A basic personal first-aid kit is useful, though our guides carry emergency supplies on all treks

Packing List for Gorilla & Chimp Trekking

Category	Essentials
Clothing	Long-sleeved shirts and trousers in neutral colors, waterproof jacket, warm layer for high-altitude sectors
Footwear	Sturdy waterproof hiking boots, gaiters (optional), gardening gloves for gripping vegetation
Gear	Daypack, refillable water bottle, insect repellent, sunscreen, hat
Documents	Passport, permit confirmation, yellow fever certificate, travel insurance details
Optional	Walking stick (often provided free), camera with zoom lens, binoculars for birding





Responsible & Ethical Travel

Mountain gorillas share around 98% of human DNA, which means human illnesses can be dangerous — even fatal — to them. Responsible trekking protects both the gorillas and the communities who depend on them.

- Maintain the required distance from gorillas and chimpanzees at all times, as directed by your ranger guide
- Never trek if you are feeling unwell — report any cough, flu, or fever to the park warden before setting out
- Keep voices low and movements calm around wildlife
- No flash photography, and no eating or littering near the animals
- Support community-run enterprises — cultural walks, craft cooperatives, and local guesthouses

Our Commitment: The Nakiganda Bernadette Foundation

At Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours, every trip you take has a purpose. 10% of every booking goes directly to support the Nakiganda Bernadette Foundation, helping orphans, vulnerable children, and youth in Uganda. When you trek with us, you become part of a movement that uplifts communities, protects wildlife, and honors a legacy of love and kindness.

Sample Safari Itineraries

3-Day Gorilla Trekking Express

Day 1: Fly or drive to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park; evening briefing and rest.

Day 2: Gorilla trekking day — spend a life-changing hour with a habituated gorilla family.

Day 3: Morning nature walk or Batwa cultural visit, then transfer back to Entebbe / Kigali.

6-Day Primates & Plains

Day 1: Arrive Entebbe, transfer to Kibale Forest area.

Day 2: Chimpanzee tracking in Kibale Forest National Park.

Day 3: Transfer to Queen Elizabeth National Park; afternoon Kazinga Channel boat cruise.

Day 4: Morning game drive for lions, elephants, and buffalo; transfer toward Bwindi.

Day 5: Gorilla trekking in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

Day 6: Community and cultural visit, then return transfer to Entebbe.

10-Day Grand Uganda Safari

Day 1–2: Murchison Falls National Park — game drives, Nile boat cruise to the base of the Falls.

Day 3: Chimpanzee tracking in Budongo Forest.

Day 4–5: Transfer to Kibale Forest — chimpanzee tracking and forest walks.

Day 6–7: Queen Elizabeth National Park — game drives, Kazinga Channel cruise, Kyambura Gorge.

Day 8–9: Bwindi Impenetrable National Park — gorilla trekking and Batwa cultural encounter.

Day 10: Relaxed morning, scenic drive back to Entebbe via Lake Mburo, departure.

> ***Travel Tip***
> *Every itinerary above can be tailored — add a Rwenzori hike, Nile rafting in Jinja, or extra nights with a tribal community. Just tell us what excites you most.*

How to Plan Your Custom Safari

Booking with Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours is simple, transparent, and personal:

1. Tell us your travel dates, group size, and interests — gorillas, chimps, big game, culture, or all of the above.
2. We check permit availability with the Uganda Wildlife Authority and reserve your gorilla and/or chimpanzee permits.
3. We build a tailored itinerary and transparent quote covering accommodation, transport, permits, and guiding.
4. You confirm and pay — permits must be paid in full at booking to secure your dates, so we move quickly on your behalf.
5. We handle the logistics; our expert local guides and rangers take care of you from arrival to departure.

Travel Tip

Gorilla and chimpanzee permits sell out quickly in peak season (Jun–Sep, Dec–Feb). We recommend booking 3–6 months in advance to secure your preferred dates and sector.





READY TO PLAN YOUR SAFARI?

With Tribes Gorilla Trekking Tours, you're not just booking a safari — you're joining a movement of conservation, culture, and unforgettable adventure.

CONTACT US

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Plan Your Trek Today — Secure your gorilla permit and let us craft your dream safari.