



NOMADIC SKIES

VIRUNGA

JOURNEY THROUGH STUNNING
& DIVERSE EQUATORIAL LANDSCAPES

DISCOVER TRAVEL WITH PURPOSE

DISCOVER THE DIVERSITY OF THE GORILLA HIGHLANDS

Explore the incredible wildlife,
landscapes, cultures and people of
the stunning remote Virunga region
of South West Uganda.

Exclusive, expertly guided small-group expeditions through one of East Africa's most breathtaking and diverse regions.

Nomadic Skies is founded on the principle of promoting travel that fosters meaningful connections with, and delivers economic benefits to, fragile, remote, and marginalised communities.

This exclusive small-group expedition, features a 14-day route that crosses lakes, traverses equatorial and cloud forests, and ascends towering volcanoes, all in a way that connects deeply with the people, landscapes, and habitats of one of Africa's most beautiful and diverse regions.



"With local guides, a deep appreciation for place, and an unhurried pace, Nomadic Skies bring a new dimension to travel."

LINDA BEHNKEN

SLOWER & EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL

Nomadic Skies focuses travelling in remote yet inhabited regions. Unlike many operators that simply pass through local communities, we design our journeys around meaningful, mutually beneficial relationships with those who live there—working with individuals whose unique skills, knowledge, and perspectives enrich every expedition.

In Uganda, we collaborate closely with traditional herbalists, Batwa forest guides (the indigenous forest people), local elders, craftspeople, musicians, and farmers, who share their knowledge of local growing and processing techniques.

Our travellers are not just guided, hosted, and entertained by local communities—they are invited to listen to their stories, learn about their culture, and understand their history. This “slower, experiential” journey is truly unique: rather than following established trekking routes, we explore villages, forests, and mountain trails in ways few others do.

Unlike the typical tourism in the region—which often centers on a single-day mountain gorilla trek, with visitors transported in air-conditioned 4WDs, staying in foreign-owned luxury lodges, and leaving the next day—we experience cultural, ecological, and landscape changes at a thoughtful pace. Trekking and

traveling by local boat allow time and space for a deeper exploration of this stunning and fascinating corner of Africa.

TRAVEL THAT BENEFITS LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Nomadic Skies was founded by Gavin Anderson, who brings over 30 years of experience in international and rural development. At the heart of Nomadic Skies is “developmental travel,” designed to ensure that our journeys provide economic, social, and cultural benefits to local communities.

Our trips are led by genuinely local guides from Southwestern Uganda, and we prioritise staying in community-owned accommodation, using local services, and enjoying locally sourced food. We work closely with Twa guides, not only to provide income but also to connect younger generations with the forest knowledge of these indigenous people. As our journeys evolve, we remain committed to listening to communities and continuously seeking ways to maximise the developmental impact of our expeditions.



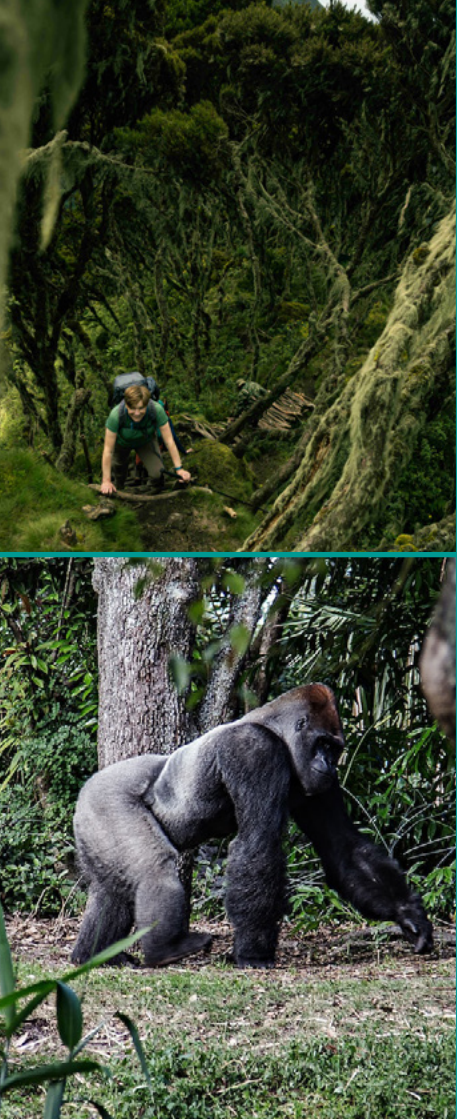
OUR BACKGROUND IN UGANDA

This journey has been shaped by deep, first-hand experience and long-standing knowledge of this part of Africa. Nomadic Skies' founder, Gavin Anderson, first visited Uganda in the early 1990s and later returned to live and work in the country for nine years between 1996 and 2005. Since then, he has continued his involvement in the region as a development adviser.

During his time in Uganda, and in his roles as Expeditions Secretary and later Chair of the Mountain Club of Uganda, Gavin led numerous expeditions and ascents across Uganda and East Africa, including pioneering routes in the southwest of the country.

“The summit regions... of the dormant volcanoes boast luxuriant groves of giant tree-groundsels, along with bold, open clusters of spike-tipped lobillias. when they all burst into flower, the groundsels set the upper mountain slopes ablaze with their tiny yellow florets”

GORDON BOY
FROM SNOWCAPS ON THE EQUATOR
(VITRUNGA VOLCANOES)



A JOURNEY UNLIKE ANY OTHER

- Travel through the villages and across the stunning mountains, lakes, and forests of South West Uganda.
- Explore huge diversity - villages, forests, volcanoes, gorges, rivers, waterfalls, caves and more.
- Experience and view stunning wildlife and birdlife from forest, lakes to Savanna and rivers alive with Africa's iconic wildlife.
- Track chimpanzee and golden monkey, with an option to undertake the iconic mountain gorilla trekking.
- Be hosted by local communities and experience the hospitality of rural Uganda, exploring their cultures.
- Be led through the mountains by local guides of the Abukiga and through the forest by the indigenous Twa people.

14 days / 13 nights, starting in Kigali (Rawanda) and finishing in Entebbe (Uganda).



YOUR JOURNEY



YOUR FULL ITINERARY

- Your journey begins in Kigali, Rwanda, before ascending into the “Gorilla Highlands” of southwestern Uganda,
- Explore three forest regions, multiple lakes, and the dramatic Virunga volcanoes.
- Immerse yourself in the cultures of the Abakiga—“people of the mountains”—and the Batwa, the indigenous forest people who will guide you through their ancestral lands.
- Experience an exceptional diversity of habitats, from crater lakes explored by boat to lush rainforest and cloud forest, high alpine zones and lush fields, homesteads and villages.
- Encounter a rich variety of wildlife, from numerous monkey species to remarkable birdlife, insects, amphibians, and mammals.
- For those who wish, take the opportunity to track and spend an hour with the endangered mountain gorillas of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.





DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN KIGALI

Your journey begins in the Rwandan capital, Kigali. Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport and transferred to a high-quality local hotel. Here, you'll meet your fellow expedition participants, the international group leader, and your Ugandan group leader, setting the stage for the adventure ahead.

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DAY 2: TRAVEL FROM KIGALI TO LAKE BUNYONYI IN SOUTHWESTERN UGANDA

Start your morning with a leisurely breakfast before boarding a small bus for a scenic 3-hour drive to Lake Bunyonyi in Southwestern Uganda. Along the way, you'll pass lush green fields and banana plantations in this densely populated region. Crossing the land border at Gatuna, you'll enter Kabale district—the home of the Abakiga people, whose name literally means “people of the mountains.”

From Kabale town, you will ascend to the high shores of Lake Bunyonyi (1,962m), a stunning crater lake dotted with islands and crisscrossed by local boats and dugouts. You'll stay at the Birdsnest Hotel, a high-quality lodge on the lake's edge, enjoying a night of relative luxury before your trek begins.

After lunch, there's time to explore the lake's shores or hike to spectacular viewpoints—perfect for sundowner drinks. This area, with its developing tourism, will serve as your staging point before venturing off the beaten track.

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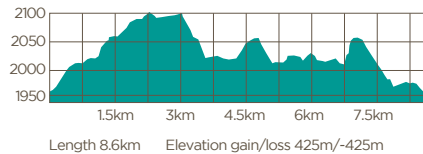
DAY 3: TREKKING & BOAT EXPLORATION OF LAKE BUNYONYI

Your first trek is a short but rewarding 8.6 km (5.3 miles) route. Begin with a boat ride across the lake to a nearby peninsula, where you'll ascend a small hill surrounded by homesteads and fields. Here, you'll meet a local herbalist in Kyabahinga Village, learning about the medicinal plants and traditional healing practices of the Abakiga people.

Lunch will be a homestay experience with Anna Kyomukama, part of a local women's craft group, offering an authentic taste of local life. Afterward, descend to the local pier to board wooden motor launches for a boat exploration of the lake and its northern islands.

Keep an eye out for noisy crested cranes—Uganda's national emblem—as well as kingfishers, cormorants, ibis, and storks. Otters are common in the lake, and with a bit of luck, crayfish caught locally might even appear on your evening menu.

In the late afternoon, you'll arrive at 'Tom's Island,' a family-owned island and the last remaining locally owned island on Lake Bunyonyi. Your luggage and tents will already be in place, and your camp will be ready for the night. Dinner is a collaborative effort between the island family and your camp cooks, served around an evening bonfire, as you hear stories about lakeside life on Bunyonyi.



DAY 4: LAKE BUNYONYI CROSSING BY DUGOUT CANOE & TREK TO ECHUYA FOREST

After breakfast, you'll be met by local dugout canoes for a leisurely 1-hour crossing of Lake Bunyonyi. Lifejackets are provided, and a support boat will follow along for extra reassurance if you prefer.

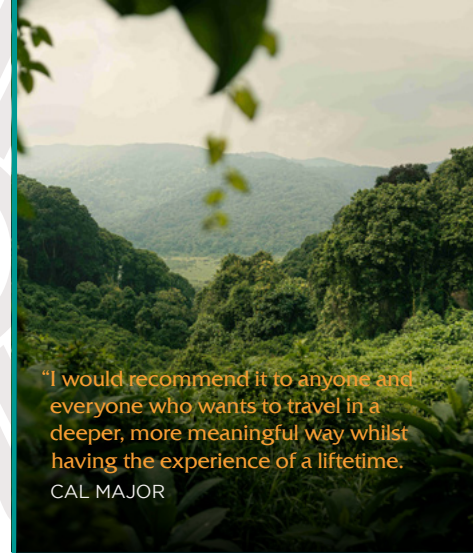
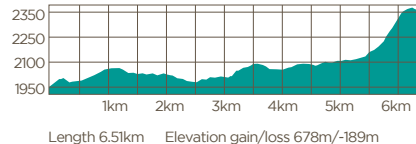
These canoes, carved from the trunk of a single large tree, are a common sight on Bunyonyi and other crater lakes in southwestern Uganda. Surprisingly stable on the water, they offer you the chance to take turns paddling as you make your way

to the much less visited western shores. Keep your eyes open for playful otters and the lake's abundant birdlife during the crossing.

On reaching the eastern shore, you'll begin a short trek of 6.5 km (4.1 miles), ascending to the eastern edge of the Echuya Forest Reserve (2,350m). You'll follow local paths through a mix of fields and forest, where local people may be surprised to see visitors, offering warm greetings and opportunities for friendly exchanges.

The trek concludes at an unsurfaced road near a breathtaking viewpoint overlooking Echuya Forest, and on a clear day, the soaring Virunga volcanoes. From here, it's a short walk to your hosts' homestead, where tents will already be pitched.

Dinner will be a shared experience, prepared by your camp cooks with local dishes included. You'll dine with the family, gaining a deeper understanding of the culture, history, and forest traditions of this remarkable area.



"I would recommend it to anyone and everyone who wants to travel in a deeper, more meaningful way whilst having the experience of a lifetime."

CAL MAJOR



DAY 5: TREK THROUGH ECHUYA FOREST TO LAKE KAYUMBU

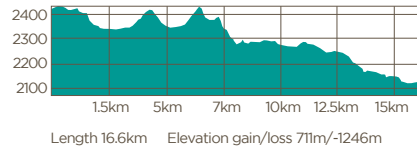
Today offers a varied trek of 16.6 km (10.3 miles). You'll be met by local Echuya Batwa guides—the indigenous forest people whose ancestral home was deep within Echuya Forest before their eviction in the early 1990s. Often called “conservation refugees,” the Batwa were relocated to the forest edge, facing ongoing challenges to their survival and culture.

Your guides will lead you through the forest and wetlands, sharing their culture, beliefs, and traditional uses of local plants and herbs. The forest, home to around 152 bird species, is dominated by moist montane forest and bamboo, with swamp areas featuring sedges, tussock vegetation, and giant lobelias. The cool air and Batwa storytelling make this an unforgettable introduction to the region's forests—the smallest of the three we'll trek.

Emerging into the high fields, enjoy a viewpoint overlooking your afternoon destination, Lake Kayumbu, with Mount Muhavura (4,127m) silhouetted in the distance.

The descent follows village paths beside fields and small trading centres, where locals speak a new language, as the people here, though living in Uganda, are ethnically Rwandan (Banyarwanda).

By late afternoon, you'll reach the shores of the picturesque Lake Kayumbu, where your third community camp has been prepared beside a local church. As the sun sets behind the Virunga volcanoes, your hosts will join you for an evening meal and campfire, sharing stories of lakeside life.



DAY 6: TREK FROM LAKE KAYUMBU TO MGAHINGA PARK BOUNDARY

Today's trek covers 18 km (11.2 miles) along local paths, taking you from Lake Mutanda to the slopes of Mgahinga National Park, gradually ascending above 2,400m and drawing closer to the towering Virunga volcanoes.

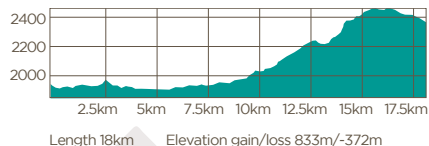
You'll pass between Lakes Kayumbu and Chahafi, walk through small trading centres, and beside fields of maize, banana, plantain, and vegetables thriving on volcanic soil, carved into steep hills and crater edges. Trekkers are rare here, so locals greet you with curiosity—sometimes even offering transport, assuming no one walks unless poor “Wazungu” (foreigners).





Walking gives you time to savour the atmosphere, chat with villagers, and join local events if they arise. You'll cross the main road linking Rwanda and Uganda before a gentle ascent to the Mgahinga park boundary.

By late afternoon, arrive at your fourth and final community camp. Tents will be ready, and dinner served as the sun sets behind the Virunga volcanoes. Here, you'll learn how local communities coexist with mountain gorillas, which sometimes graze in nearby fields.



DAY 7: TREK THE BATWA TRAILS THROUGH MGAHINGA FOREST & NATIONAL PARK

Your short trek today (6.9 km / 4.3 miles) is a slow exploration of Mgahinga Forest with local Batwa guides. The montane forest is home to golden monkeys, olive baboons, and of course, mountain gorillas, as well as forest elephants, cape buffalo, leopards, spotted hyenas, giant forest hogs, and bushpigs—so you'll be accompanied by armed park rangers for safety.

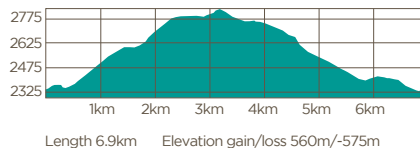
You'll walk through reclaimed forest, once encroached by farming and timber collection, into virgin forest. Learn about the Batwa and visit Garama Cave, an ancient forest dwelling. The forest is rich with birdlife, including many endemic species such as crimson-winged sunbirds, shrikes, flycatchers, warblers, apalis, honeyguides, broadbills, nightjars, turaco, and francolins, and you may also notice insects and small amphibians.

After night rain, you may spot giant African earthworms (*Microchaetus rappi*), up to 1.4 m long, or lines of safari ants crossing your path. Keep an eye out for chameleons, including the remarkable Jackson's three-horned chameleon, almost like a miniature dinosaur.

The trail opens into clearings with a viewing platform offering spectacular vistas of the high Virunga—two of which may be your

goals over the next two days. You'll exit the forest at Gahinga (western) park gate and walk a short distance to Amajambere Iwach Community Camp, where you'll stay in small community-owned huts with beds, fresh linen, and en-suite or nearby hot showers.

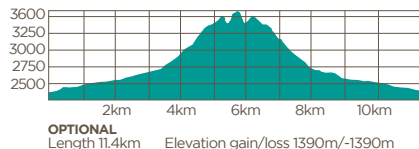
The camp overlooks the forest with abundant birdlife. Dinner is prepared by the community in a log-fire dining room, and as the sounds of the night forest surround you, it becomes your home for two nights.



Your ascent passes through bamboo and virgin forest, giant heather and lichen zones, and at the summits, high African alpine plants like giant groundsels, lobelias, and alpine flowers—a botanical wonderland. Spectacular views stretch across the surrounding Virunga volcanoes.

If you prefer a gentler day, trek to a habituated group of golden monkeys, observing them forage close to human presence. Your 2-hour trek (including 1 hour with the monkeys) includes bird and wildlife spotting, accompanied by a park ranger and guards. Other options include a lower gorge trek, a focused bird walk, or simply resting at the community camp with the possibility of visiting a nearby luxury lodge and spa.

You will spend a second night at the Amajambere Iwach Community huts.



DAY 8: OPTIONAL ASCENT OF SABINYO (DIFFICULT) OR ALTERNATIVE GOLDEN MONKEY TRACKING OR GUIDED BIRD/WILDLIFE TREK

Today you can choose to climb Mount Sabinyo (3,634m), a challenging 7–8 hour trek over three peaks, including several wooden ladders—many climbers stop at the first peak.





“Truely, a trip of a lifetime. The warmth and welcome of the Ugandan people really shines through, from the amazing support team to the communities you walk through on the journey.”

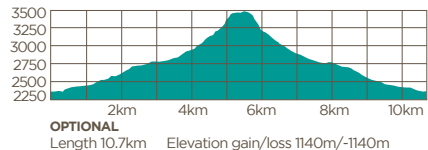
HONOR ROBERTS

DAY 9: ASCENT OF MOUNT GAHINGA (MODERATE) & TRAVEL TO LAKE MUTANDA

You'll pack early and have your bags ready for departure in the afternoon. Today you can ascend the second and slightly lower Virunga volcano – Mount Gahinga (3,474m) – a 6-7 hour trek. This nearly perfect volcano involves a relatively steep but steady ascent of 1,140 metres.

Sabinyo is an easier climb, with no ladders, and takes you through bamboo and virgin forest to a moss-covered crater dotted with giant lobelias. The crater rewards time spent watching sunbirds flit between flowers and marveling at multicoloured mosses. The ascent offers magnificent views.

You'll return to your community camp by mid-afternoon and board a vehicle to drive north through Kisoro town to the southern shores of beautiful Lake Mutanda (45 mins). A wooden motorboat transfers you to lakeside huts. If skies are clear, watch the sun's rays light the Virunga volcanoes. Enjoy an evening meal by the campfire with the sound of frogs and cicadas filling the air.



DAY 10: BOAT JOURNEY ON LAKE MUTANDA & TREK TO RUSHAGA

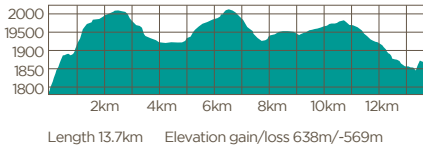
Your day begins with a spectacular 1-hour boat journey along Lake Mutanda, weaving between islands and, in clear weather, offering views south to the mighty Virunga. It's a relaxing, scenic way to spot birdlife before you alight at the northern end of the lake and begin your trek to Rushaga, on the edge of Bwindi Forest (13.7 km / 8.5 miles).

You'll ascend along village paths and lanes, passing a local school, fields, tea plantations, and forest. Occasionally, safari vehicles shuttle visitors to lodges, but most tourists only stay one or two nights in luxury lodges, missing the depth of local life. Your trek takes you slowly through homesteads, villages, and small trading centres—the heart of Abakiga country.

The final section passes through the forest edge to Nshongi Camp, a locally owned group of huts and rooms overlooking forest and wetland. Red colobus monkeys and diverse birdlife are common, and forest elephants sometimes pass through; gorillas have been known to graze in the clearing.



You may be welcomed by a local women's group with song, dance, and displays of handicrafts around the campfire. Your accommodation is in self-contained huts or rooms with en-suite showers and toilets, and music and dance are a highlight of your stay.



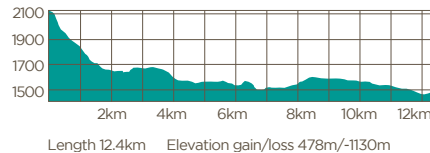
If you choose not to trek, you can relax at the camp, explore the nearby village, or join a guided forest walk. Bwindi, your third forest, feels very different from the others. Its 321 km² (124 sq mi) of thick montane and lowland forest is largely accessible only on foot.

The forest is alive with wildlife: besides gorillas, you may spot red-tail, L'Hoest's, blue, guereza, and black-and-white colobus monkeys, olive baboons, and even eastern chimpanzees. Other mammals include side-striped jackals, golden cats, servals, wildcats, civets, elephants, aardvarks, giant forest hogs, and bushpigs. Many endemic birds add colour and song. Spending time within and beside this forest is truly time well spent.

DAY 11: OPTIONAL GORILLA TRACKING OR GUIDED FOREST WALKS

Today offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience for those opting to track mountain gorillas. In Rushaga, eight habituated gorilla families are visited, with a maximum of eight people per family spending one hour with these highly endangered primates.

You'll be collected from the park entrance, a short walk from Nshongi Camp, and given a briefing before heading into the forest, guided by local spotters who have tracked the gorillas. Some families are near the entrance, others a one-hour (or longer) walk through the forest. Most visitors return by lunchtime.



DAY 12: TREK FROM NKURINGO TO BUHOMA THROUGH BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST

Today you'll rise early and board vehicles for the next stage of your journey, driving northwest around the perimeter of Bwindi Forest to Nkuringo park gate (about 45 minutes). Here you'll meet local guides, park guards, and Batwa who will lead you on a trek through Bwindi, travelling from south to north (12.4 km / 7.7 miles).

Your journey begins at a high viewpoint overlooking the forested hills of Bwindi, then descends through fields to the forest edge. You'll cross lush rivers lined with ferns beneath a high canopy of trees. Your Batwa guide will point out native species significant to their ancestral forest life and share stories of the Bwindi Batwa.

The trail leads through deep forest to the sacred Munyaga waterfalls—a series of three cascades revered by the forest-dwelling Batwa. Emerging from the forest, you'll arrive at Buhoma Community Village bandas, overlooking lush forest where monkeys, birds, and occasionally gorilla groups appear.

Your evening meal will be served in the dining room with forest views. Accommodation is in self-contained bandas with hot showers and en-suite toilets.

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DAY 13: COMMUNITY EXPLORATION & DRIVE TO KIGALI VIA QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

In the morning, you'll visit Eliza Tudyomurugendo, a local coffee grower, who will guide you through the process of coffee cultivation, roast beans, and prepare fresh coffee in a village setting.

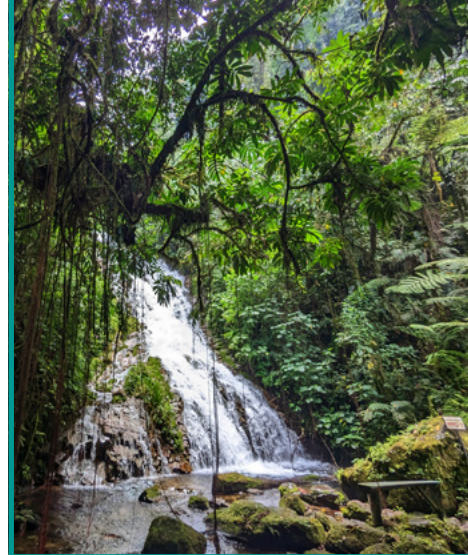
If you are not taking the optional extension, you'll then depart by vehicle for Kigali (around 6 hours, including a border crossing). Your journey takes you north of Bwindi Forest, with a stop for lunch along the way, before arriving in Kigali in the afternoon.

In the evening, you'll enjoy a final farewell group dinner to celebrate your journey.

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DAY 14: DEPARTURE DAY

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“This trip changed me in ways I didn’t expect and am happy to receive. I have returned with my soul overflowing from the warmth and kindness of the Ugandan people.”

LERIN PIERCE

OPTIONAL 3-DAY EXTENSION TO QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK, FINISHING IN ENTEBBE

DAY 13: DRIVE TO QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK

If you opt for the extension, you’ll board safari vehicles to travel from the Gorilla Highlands to the Albertine Rift Valley. The drive (around 5 hours) passes through Queen Elizabeth National Park, with potential wildlife sightings in the Ishasha sector. In the afternoon, you’ll arrive at your safari lodge at the park’s edge.

in the trees or even moving across the forest floor. The chimps are habituated to humans and often oblivious to your presence.

Your trek takes about 3 hours. On emerging, you may spot elephants and other wildlife before continuing to the Kazinga Channel for a 3-hour community boat cruise. In the midday heat, you can expect to see dozens of elephants, hippos, buffalo, waterbuck, crocodiles, and numerous bird species. The cruise brings you surprisingly close to the animals and is one of the best ways to view elephants and hippos.

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DAY 14: CHIMPANZEE TRACKING, KAZINGA CHANNEL CRUISE, & OPTIONAL SUNSET GAME DRIVE

You’ll rise early for a short 15-minute drive to the edge of Kyambura Gorge, a deep forested river gorge carved through the flatlands of Queen Elizabeth. Here, you’ll meet a park ranger and descend on foot into the forest to track chimpanzees.

By mid-afternoon, you’ll return to your safari lodge. If you’re eager for more wildlife, a sundowner drive through Queen Elizabeth is possible. You’ll spend your second night at the lodge.

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Rivers teem with hippos, and monkeys and birds abound. The sounds of chimps echo through the gorge, and due to the confined forest, you’re very likely to see them feeding

DAY 15: DRIVE FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH TO ENTEBBE

You'll leave Queen Elizabeth National Park and head east to Central Uganda (about 7 hours). Your journey ascends from the Albertine Rift Valley past tea plantations, lakes, and forests. You'll cross the Ankole uplands, famous for their long-horned cattle, and travel through Mbarara and Masaka, stopping for lunch along the way.

Within an hour of your destination, you'll stop at the Equator for tea or coffee. At Buwaya Landing on Lake Victoria, you'll board a ferry to the Entebbe peninsula. Your lakeside hotel will meet you for the short transfer, where you'll settle in for your final two nights. Enjoy an evening meal overlooking the lake as the sun sets.

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DAY 16: EXPLORATION OF LAKE VICTORIA & ENTEBBE

Today is a relaxed final day. You can take a boat onto Lake Victoria to enjoy the birdlife and cruise along the papyrus-lined shores, hoping to spot nesting shoebill storks.

Alternatively, you can visit Entebbe Botanical Gardens, where forested clearings are alive with birds—this is also said to be the filming location of the first Tarzan movie. Simply relaxing by the shores of Lake Victoria is another peaceful way to spend the day before your flights home.

In the evening, you'll enjoy a final celebratory meal with the group.

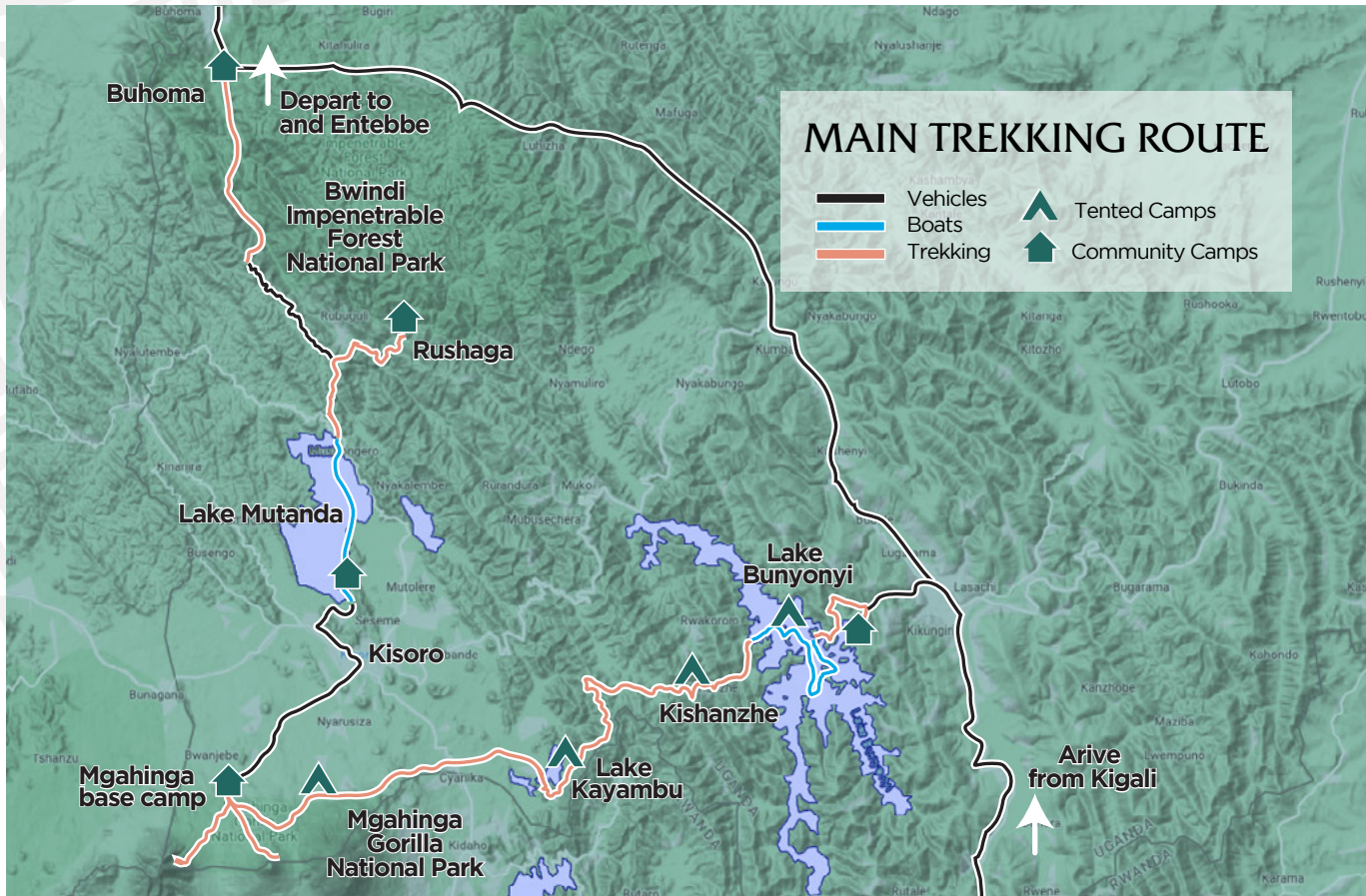
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DAY 17: DEPARTURE DAY

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Every Nomadic Skies Journey is unique and takes advantage of seasonal activities ceremonies and opportunities that arise with our local contacts and interaction.







JOURNEY DETAILS

“The best part by far was walking through the most beautiful mountain villages and meeting Uganda’s incredible people in a way that felt so deeply connecting, humbling and heart warming as to make this a trip like no other I’ve ever experienced.

This was a way of travelling I could never have even imagined. The places we went to and the experiences we had were so varied, rich and beautiful that this trip of a lifetime will stay with me forever. It has totally changed the way I think about travel, and about genuinely benefitting and connecting with the people whose country I have the great privilege of visiting”

CAL MAJOR

YOUR TRAVEL & BOOKING INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATION: 14 DAY JOURNEY

- 4 nights in hotels in Kigali and Bunyonyi
 - 2 nights in Kigali (1 on arrival and 1 on departure)
 - 1 night in a high quality lodge on the edge of Lake Bunyonyi.
- 4 nights camping hosted by local households / communities.
- 6 nights in community and locally owned - huts/rooms/tented camps
 - 2 nights beside Mgahinga National Park: in a community camp with huts (hot showers) beside the forested slopes of the Virunga
 - 1 night in a locally owned fixed tented camp on a peninsula on the lakeside of Mutanda - with an ensuite facilities. Reached by boat.
 - 2 nights in a locally owned lodge within Bwindi Impenetrable Forest - with good quality rooms with ensuite facilities.
 - 1 night at a community owned camp on the Northern edge of Bwindi - with good quality huts overlooking lush forest.

You'll stay predominantly in community- and locally-owned accommodations, reflecting our philosophy of connecting with and supporting local initiatives. In places like Mgahinga, Lake Mutanda, and Bwindi Forest, these huts offer stunning locations within forests or beside lakes. Staying with local communities in areas with little or no tourism gives you a truly authentic experience and a direct connection with local households and their way of life.

ACCOMMODATION: OPTIONAL EXTENSION

- 4 nights in hotels in Kigali and Bunyonyi
 - 2 nights in a Safari Lodge in Queen Elizabeth National Park
 - 2 nights in a Lakeside Hotel in Entebbe

GROUP SIZE AND LEADERSHIP

Our group size will be 8 to 10 international participants, local support staff and guides and an international group leader





CLIMATE

Temperatures: Your trek will mostly take place at altitudes above 2,000 m, with moderately warm days (20–25 °C) and cool nights (10–15 °C) – ideal trekking conditions. In lower areas like Queen Elizabeth National Park and Entebbe, expect hotter temperatures.

Precipitation: Treks are scheduled for the driest months (June–August and December–February), but rain can occur any time in this rainforest and cloud forest region.

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HEALTH

Inoculations: Check with your doctor and official travel advice for required inoculations. Yellow fever vaccination is mandatory for entering Rwanda and Uganda.

Malaria and insects: Trekking above 2,000 m keeps malaria risk low, but Queen Elizabeth and Entebbe are malarial areas, so medical advice on prophylactics is recommended. Mosquito nets are provided in all huts and hotels. Forest insects are unlikely to cause significant irritation.

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LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY OF THIS TREK

Apart from Sabinyo, this is a moderate trek along good paths. You'll cover 82.7 km / 51.4 miles over 7 days, not including the Virunga ascents and chimp or gorilla tracking. Echuya Forest may be overgrown and muddy.

Optional Sabinyo ascent (3,634 m): Only for those with high fitness and balance; the wooden ladders can be treacherous.

Gahinga ascent (3,474 m): Easier but still involves 1,114 m of ascent from 2,360 m.

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EQUIPMENT

You'll receive a full kit checklist upon booking. All camping gear (including mats) is supplied for the 4 nights of camping, except your sleeping bag – a three-season bag is sufficient.

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WILD ANIMALS

In Mgahinga, Bwindi, and Queen Elizabeth, wildlife such as forest elephants, cape buffalo, leopards, spotted hyenas, giant forest hogs, and bushpigs could pose a rare threat. During trekking in national parks, you'll be accompanied by at least two armed park guards as a precaution.

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COSTS

Check our website for journey costs. Gorilla tracking requires a separate permit, which must be arranged at least 6 months in advance due to high demand. Contact us for current permit rates.

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BOOKING PROCEDURES

To register, request a booking form. Journeys are confirmed once 8 participants have registered. A deposit is required to secure your place, with the balance due six weeks before departure. Gorilla tracking payments must also be made at this time to secure permits.

Nomadic Skies is a member of the UK Travel Trust Association (TTA), and your payments are held in a trust account, fully protected by the TTA.





WHAT'S INCLUDED

TRAVEL

- All airport transfers in Kigali (& Entebbe for the extension).
- All Vehicle transport.
- Boat transport on lakes Bunyonyi and Matanda.
- Support vehicle to transport luggage (and equipment) between camps and hotels/huts/lodges.

ACCOMMODATION

- All accommodation.

FOOD

- Breakfast and dinner in Kigali and Entebbe (lunches not included).
- All food (outside Kigali and Entebbe)

GUIDING

- Local lead guide and camp support staff.
- International guide

PARK FEES AND EXPERIENCES

- National park entry and fees in Mgahinga (3 days), Bwindi Impenetrable Forest (2 days)
- Guided ascents of 2 Virunga Volcanoes (or alternative forest/wildlife/bird guided walks).
- Forest wildlife / bird trek in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.
- 3 forest trail guided walks with Batwa guides
- Chimpanzee tracking in the Kyambura Gorge.

FOR THE OPTIONAL EXTENSION

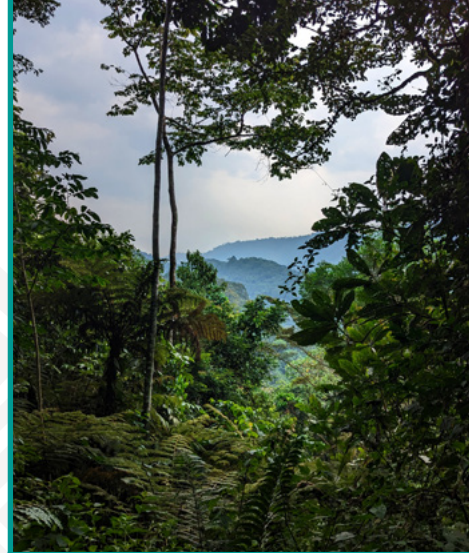
- Queen Elizabeth National Park (1 day)
- Boat launch for wildlife viewing on the Kazinga Channel of Queen Elizabeth National Park.
- Optional sundown wildlife drive in Queen Elizabeth National Park.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

- 100% consumer financial protection via the UK Travel Trust Association

AND WHAT'S NOT

- International flights to Kigali and from Entebbe.
- East African Tourist Visa (US\$100)
- to be obtained before departure.
- Lunches in Kigali and Entebbe.
- Alcoholic and bottled drinks (other than water).
- Travel insurance (for ascents up to 3600m)
- Required vaccinations (please check with your medical practitioner).
Note – Yellow Fever vaccination is mandatory for entry to East Africa.
- Tips for local guides and staff (optional)



To book or make enquiries contact:

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Online

www.nomadicksies.com

 facebook.com/nomadicksiesexpeditions

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