



Ultimate Safaris

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RT-3: PRIMATES AND BIRDS IN RWANDA – PNV AND NYUNGWE (6 Days)

A 6 day safari, which starts and ends in Kigali.

The tour takes visits to Nyungwe, in South West of Rwanda, a huge afro-montane forest. With over 10000sq.km in size, Nyungwe is the undisputed giant in Central Africa. The natural forest is renowned for its large troops of colobus monkeys, chimpanzees, butterflies and a rich variety of orchids. Over 300 bird species have been recorded. Visit some cultural sites en route - the Museum in Butare and the palace at Nyanza.

Visit Parc National des Volcans (PNV) in the north of Rwanda where about 300 mountain gorillas live. There are four habituated gorilla families - Amahoro **B**, “Group 13”, Sabinyo and Susa - each of the groups allows up to 8 participants per day. You can track gorillas, climb the Visoke volcano, track the golden monkeys or visit the Karisoke Research Centre, which Dian Fossey the famous primatologist set up, or visit local villages.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive at Kanombe (Kigali) airport. Meet, greet and start for Nyungwe Forest National Park. Along the way, make stops at places of interest including local markets, the traditional palace of Rwanda’s Former King in Nyanza. Drive past green fields of tea scattered across the hillsides and the small wooden houses unique to the areas surrounding Nyungwe Forest. [Approximate driving time: 6 hours]

Overnight: ORTPN Gisakura Guest House

Meal Plan: Lunch and Dinner.

DAY 2

Guided nature walk in the forest to see a variety of animals and some of the three hundred bird species found here, which include the Rwenzori turaco and black and white casqued hornbill. Go on an escorted walk in search of large groups of colobus monkeys - sometimes as many as 400 in a group. OR go chimp tracking. Picnic lunch. Return late afternoon.

Overnight: ORTPN Gisakura Guest House

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY 3

Return to Kigali. Along the way, in Butare, visit the Botanical Gardens and a cultural museum. Arrive Kigali City in time for lunch. Afterwards drive north to Kinigi via Ruhengeri. Enjoy the rolling hills for which Rwanda is well known.

Overnight: Gorilla Nest Hotel

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY 4

Transfer to Kinigi Park Headquarters to track gorillas in Parc National des Volcans. Gorilla tracking through the forest, hills and swamps can be tough, arduous and tiring, sometimes taking up to 8 hours in the forest. But coming face to face with the great primates is well worth the effort.

Overnight: Gorilla Nest Hotel

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY 5

In Parc National des Volcans: Either go gorilla tracking (on payment of gorilla permit supplement at time of booking) or climb the awesome Visoke volcano, or track the golden monkeys or trek to Karisoke Research Centre which Dian Fossey, the famous primatologist, set up, or visit local communities. Alternatively for those who are not up to it, simply relax at Hotel.

Overnight: Gorilla Nest Hotel

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY 6

Leave for Kigali. Time permitting; go for a tour of the city including shopping. Transfer to airport for your flight. [Approximate driving time: 3 hours]

Tour Ends.