

11-DAY AFRICA ADVENTURE'S PLAINS AND PRIMATES SAFARI TO KENYA AND RWANDA

Flying Safari in Kenya to the Maasai Mara
Gorilla trekking in Volcanoes National Park

FEATURES OF YOUR SAFARI

Program highlights:

- ❑ One of our classic programs where you game view in the vast plains of the Maasai Mara, Kenya and explore the forested areas in Rwanda for mountain gorillas.
- ❑ This itinerary features Classic and Premier Accommodation options.
- ❑ Mountain gorilla trekking in Volcano National Park (Parc National des Volcans) is by far Rwanda's major international attraction. After the release of the feature film, *Gorillas in the Mist*, about the late Dian Fossey's pioneering work habituating the gorillas, interest in gorilla trekking reached new heights.

11-Day Plains and Primates Safari to Kenya and Rwanda



There are currently twelve gorilla groups acclimated for tourist. Each gorilla group may be visited by up to eight tourists per day.



Day	Destination	Accommodation
01	Fly USA – Europe	Travel
02	Fly Europe – Nairobi	Fairmont Norfolk
03	Fly Nairobi – Maasai Mara Afternoon game drive	Little Governor’s or Governor’s II Moran
04	Maasai Mara	Little Governor’s or Governor’s II Moran
05	Maasai Mara	Little Governor’s or Governor’s II Moran
06	Fly Mara – Nairobi – Kigali	Kigali Serena Hotel
07	Drive Kigali - Musanze Volcanoes National Park	Mountain Gorilla View Lodge or Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge or Singita Kwitonda Lodge
08	1 st Gorilla Trek Volcanoes National Park	Mountain Gorilla View Lodge or Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge or Singita Kwitonda Lodge
09	2 nd Gorilla Trek Drive Musanze – Kigali	Kigali Serena
10	Kigali City Tour Fly Kigali – Europe	Travel
11	Fly Europe – USA	Travel

GORILLA TREKKING

It is estimated that there are about 170 gorillas in the park. They are very sociable animals, living in groups of three to thirty. Being sedentary, they are continually looking for food in a living space that is comparatively restricted. They are active only during the daytime and build nests in which they pass the night. The nests built in trees are occupied by the females and young ones, while the males seem to prefer nests on the ground. Their food consists mainly of leaves, buds, tubers and sorts of wild celery from the umbelliferous family.

The trek to find gorillas can be quite short, but on most days an hour or two of rough hiking is necessary. The climb begins through the lush terraced farmland of the lower volcanic slopes. As the slopes become steeper and rockier, the vegetation becomes thick and tangled; the guides must use their machetes to help clear a path. Huge trees, clinging vines and undergrowth add to the challenge of swift streams and slippery red mud underfoot.

The altitude at the Park Head Quarters is 7546ft (2300m), while the ranging of gorilla groups' locations is between 7874ft – 9842ft (2400m-3000m) at the lowest altitude (for easy and medium tourist trekking groups) and between 9842ft-12139ft (3000m and 3700m) at the highest altitude (for relatively medium and difficult trekking groups).

Usually at around 8,000 foot signs of the huge animals become apparent. Damage to the bamboo trees is an obvious sign as the gorillas relish the young tender shoots and break older stems to suck the sap. The smell of gorilla may waft by in the stray breeze or, if one is really near, it is strong and unmistakable. Sounds, which can be remarkably loud crashes or dull reverberating growls of contentment, tell the visitor that the troop is nearby.

The troop consists usually of a dominant male and up to five or more females and their young. It is basically a stable family with the young only leaving after they reach sexual maturity. Females join another group while young males remain solitary until they have an opportunity of forming their own troop.

There are few animals in Africa about which so many legends circulate. Because of the gorilla's enormous size, extraordinary strength and the fact that he lives in a mysterious forest have all contributed to his mystique. This primate is of impressive dimensions; some males (such as the silverback of Sabyinyo Group that you may visit) attain over six feet in height and weigh more than 440 pounds. The head is massive and the huge jaws are equipped with powerful teeth. Far from being an aggressive animal, as the legends claim, the gorilla is gentle and peaceful in its habits. It is only when threatened that he adopts an intimidating attitude in which he howls in a most frightful way and beats his chest with his fists. Should visitors find themselves in his presence at this moment, they will be advised to assume a submissive, non-threatening attitude. Once his confidence has been restored, the gorilla goes on about his business accepting the intruder.

Gorilla Groups:

Susa	18 members – including 3 silverbacks and 6 juveniles and infants.
Igisha	25 members – including 4 silverbacks and 10 juveniles and infants.
Isimbi	16 members – including 1 silverback and 8 juveniles and infants.
Sabyinyo	16 members – including 3 silverbacks and 6 juveniles and infants.
Amahoro	18 members – including 4 silverbacks and 7 juveniles and infants.
Umubano	12 members – including 4 silverbacks and 4 juveniles and infants.
Agashya	21 members – including 1 silverback and 7 juveniles and infants.
Hirwa	18 members – including 1 silverback and 10 juveniles and infants.
Kwitonda	29 members – including 2 silverbacks and 12 juveniles and infants.
Muhoza	7 members – including 1 silverback and 2 juveniles and infants.
Isabukuru	14 members – including 1 silverback and 5 juveniles and infants.
Mafunzo	12 members – including 1 silverback and 3 juveniles and infants.



2020 LAND ARRANGEMENTS: (Based on 2 people traveling)

Classic Option

Little Governor's & Mountain Gorilla View Lodge

Premier Options

Governor's Il Moran & Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge or Singita Kwitonda Lodge

	Jan 3-Mar / Nov-Dec 14	June	July	Aug-Sep	Oct
Classic Option					
Little Governor's	\$8,275.00	\$7,950.00	\$8,595.00	\$8,995.00	\$8,595.00
Premier Option					
Il Moran	\$10,750.00	\$10,750.00	\$11,695.00	\$12,450.00	\$11,395.00
Surcharge for~					
Singita Kwitonda	+ \$1675.00	+ \$2650.00	+ \$2650.00	+ \$1495-\$2650	+ \$1495.00

** Pricing is quoted per person sharing a room*

April-May please request

AIRFARE ARRANGEMENTS: (subject to change until ticketed)

Please note the following sample airfares. Lower promotional airfares are offered throughout the year so please take a moment to contact our "in house" air department for even better pricing options!

INTERNATIONAL AIR: From \$1,399.00 per person (low season)

From \$1,899.00 per person (high season)

New York/Nairobi/New York (via Europe) - Please call for add-ons from your departure city.

INTER-AFRICA - From \$450.00 per person

Nairobi/Kigali/Nairobi

LAND COSTS INCLUDE:

- All accommodations
- All meals and game activities (Full Board) on safari
- Breakfast only (B)
- Airport, road and charter flight transfers where stated
- Park fees and guiding fees
- Shared game drives in Maasai Mara
- Private driver/guide in Rwanda
- Flying doctor service
- Bottled water in game drive vehicles
- Drinks and laundry at Il Moran and Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge (or Singita Kwitonda Lodge – surcharge applies)
- 2 gorilla permits as stated (\$3000.00 per person)

NOT INCLUDED:

- Tips to staff and driver/guides
- Other drinks and laundry
- Optional ballooning safari in Maasai Mara (\$495.00 per person)
- Inter-Africa air Nairobi/Kigali/Nairobi
- Airport departure taxes
- Items of a personal nature
- Travel insurance
- Kenya and Rwanda visas
- International flights arrangements

NOTES:

- 1) For Single Travelers this program is a wonderful value. Please request details from your safari consultant.
- 2) We can book any camp in the Maasai Mara. Please request options with your safari consultant.
- 3) Please request pricing and details for Bisate or One&Only Gorilla's Nest Lodge.
- 4) Vehicles have 2 rows, 4 seats in total.
- 5) This trip is ideal for friends and families traveling together. Please request rates for 3 or more people traveling together.
- 6) A surcharge applies for travel during Easter and Christmas-New Years. Please ask for details.

Tour Code: KENRWANDA11

Trip Report:

All I can say about Kenya and the Maasai Mara is absolutely the best place ever. The accommodations were excellent, the guide was superb (Jimmy) and the entire staff was wonderful. We saw things we never could have imagined. Tons of lions -- females, adult males and cubs. We saw 11 cheetahs including cubs (all the ones you saw on safari live on Nat Geographic Wild). We saw 3 leopards with cubs and tons of giraffe...We saw 2 river crossings of the wildebeest and zebra from the migration. We saw a croc come up and take down a zebra and a wildebeest. We saw wildebeest jumping off cliffs to get into the river. The migration in Kenya is absolutely the most incredible spectacle I've ever witnessed. We videotaped both of the crossings...

In conclusion, it was another great safari adventure in Kenya so thank you for helping us get there.

Regards,
Lori Dumont

Beth and I had an absolutely amazing time in Africa! Thank you for helping us with all the arrangements. Our guide in Rwanda, Sula, was very accommodating. He helped us with so many things I can't even begin to list them all.

Of course, the gorillas were AMAZING! We never expected to be that close. I have some great shots and will share them with you. Also great shots of the Golden Monkeys.

Julie Botel