

## **Discover Rwanda 7 days**

This is a lodging safari for individuals interested in discovering Rwanda. It involves visiting hidden adventures of Rwanda such the Parc Des Volcan NP for Gorillas and Nyungwe Forest NP for hiker and bird watching. It includes the following activities; Gorilla trekking, game viewing, forest Walk, and visit the Intore dancers, the genocide Memorial centre and Kigali city visit.

This safari can be organized with a minimum of 2 participants and a maximum of 10 participants. It can also be organized for family groups.

Visa for Rwanda is \$30 dollars person.

### **Trip summary – 7 days:**

Day 01: Arrival at Kigali

Day 02: Kigali - Transfer to Butare via Nyanza.

Day 03: Butare - Transfer to Nyungwe.

Day 04: Nyungwe - Transfer to Kibuye.

Day 05: Kibuye - Transfer to Gisenyi by Speed Boat – Kinigi.

Day 06: Kinigi - Gorilla trekking – transfer to Kigali.

Day 07: Kigali visit and Departure

### **What is included on this trip?**

Airport transfers, Lodge accommodation, all meals, mineral water, the services of a Driver-Guide, all park and entry fees, all activities as per the itinerary: visit of Kigali including the Genocide Memorial Centre at Gisozi, visit of the national Museum at Butare, performance of the Intore dancers, all guided primates walks in Nyungwe, speed-boat trip to Gisenyi, 1 gorilla trekking and Kigali visit.

### **What is excluded in this trip?**

Personal expenses, visas, flight charges, all drinks except mineral water and other personal expenditures like tips and donations.

### **Detailed Itinerary:**

#### **Day 1: Arrival at Kigali.**

On arrival to Kigali International Airport, you will be welcomed by A-J Tours staff and transferred to the hotel for the overnight.

Accommodation: **Hotel Chez Lando or Milles Collines.**

### **Day 2: Kigali - Transfer to Butare.**

After breakfast you will be picked up from the hotel in Kigali and transferred to Butare the second largest city of Rwanda. Butare is famous because it houses the National research Institutions and the national University. It is regarded as the academic city of Rwanda.

The traditional Ballet of Rwanda is one of Africa's longest established and least exposed musical traditions. The use of the word Ballet is a product of Belgian colonial rule. In fact, the art form was refined over centuries in the courts of the Rwandan Mwami (kings).

In Butare you will have a visit to the famous national dance "The Intore Dancers". This is the best dance an individual would like to see before you depart Rwanda. This 'Dance of Heroes' is performed by men wearing grass wigs and carrying spears. The background is a dance performed by returning warriors, celebrating victory in battle. The "Intore", once the elite of the traditional Rwanda army, were not only trained as military but also in high jump and dance. They were known for their remarkable technique allowing them to jump over 2m40. The Intore became worldwide famous as dancers in 1958 when the World Expo was held in Brussels. Today Intore dancers are part of the rich Rwanda folklore.

You will also visit National Museum which is regarded as the best Museum in East Africa. The building is displayed with monochrome pictures, traditional tools, crafts wood carvings and basketry. Rwanda has one of the finest traditional handicrafts of Africa. Over night is foreseen at hotel Ibis.

Accommodation: **Hotel Ibis.**

### **Day 3: Butare – Transfer to Nyungwe Forest NP.**

This is a home of hikers and bird watchers. Nyungwe National Park is the largest block of montane forest in East or Central Africa, and one of the most ancient, dating back to before the last Ice Age. A uniquely rich centre of floral diversity, the forest has more than 200 different types of tree, and a myriad of flowering plants including the other-worldly giant lobelia and a host of colorful orchids.

Nyungwe is most alluring for its primates: 13 species in all, including humankind's closest living relative the chimpanzee, as well as the handsome L'Hoest's monkey and hundred-strong troops of the delightfully acrobatic Angola colobus. The most important ornithological site in Rwanda, Nyungwe harbors almost 300 bird species of which two dozen are restricted to a handful of montane forests on the Albertine Rift. Here you will visit the black and white colobus Monkeys.

Accommodation: **Nyungwe Guest House or Cyangugu.**

### **Day 4: Nyungwe – Transfer to Kibuye.**

After breakfast you leave for Kibuye passing through the green tea plantations before you explore the shores of Lake Kivu. The green vegetation along the road near the lake with hills and mountain offers a splendid view of the Islands and Villages. You will reach Kibuye town

at around lunch time. After lunch you will relax the whole evening on the shores of Lake Kivu.

Accommodation: **Bethany Guest House.**

#### **Day 5: Kibuye - Gisenyi by speed boat - kinigi.**

After breakfast you will be transferred to Gisenyi by a speed boat. This is one of the most enjoyable trips on the fresh waters of Lake Kivu. Lunch is foreseen at Gisenyi and in the afternoon you will be transferred to Ruhegeri - Kinigi next to the Virunga chain of the volcanoes.

Accommodation: **Kinigi Guest House or Mountain Gorilla Nest.**

#### **Day 6: Gorilla Trekking.**

After breakfast you will report to the Volcanoes National Park Headquarters where your driver guide will accomplish the necessary formalities for you before trekking the gorillas. You will meet your ranger guides for briefing about the gorillas. After gorilla trekking, you will have lunch and transfer to Kigali for the overnight.

Accommodation: **Hotel Chez Lando or Hotel Mille Collines.**

#### **Day 7: Kigali Visit and Departure.**

You will be picked by our driver guide after breakfast for Kigali city tour. This includes a visit to the genocide Memorial centre at Gisozi and the city in general. After Kigali visit you will be transferred to Kigali International Airport for departure.

#### **What to bring on safari?**

Clothes that are friendly to wildlife observation, good walking shoes, a few long-sleeve shirts, slippers, sweater for cool evenings, sun protection: hat, sunglasses, sun cream, video/photo camera i.e. longer telelens is very useful, reserve batteries, films, binoculars and a torch for dark nights.

Please note that there are daily flights from Nairobi to Kigali with Kenya Airways and Rwandair Express.