## **BAREFOOT SAFARIS & Adventure Tours**

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#### **TRIP DOSSIER**

RWANDA REF: RWD

4 DAYS IN Rwanda. *Compiled April 2016* 

The Land of a Thousand Hills, also known as Rwanda is a small land locked country in east central Africa and in recent years has built a reputation of successfully rebuilding its economy with coffee and tea being its main exports. Most of Rwanda is situated at 5,000 ft. (1,520 m) or higher, and the country has a rugged relief made up of steep mountains and deep valleys. The principal geographical feature is the Virunga mountain range, which runs north of Lake Kivu and includes Rwanda's loftiest point, Volcan Karisimbi (14,787 ft. /4,507 m). It is here that your Barefoot Adventure really takes shape, within the magical and misty volcanic craters of Volcanoes National Park. Here you will come face to face with one of Africa's truly special animals, the Mountain Gorilla. Your Barefoot adventure will also take you on an introspective journey that explores the 1994 Genocide that brought this country to its knees. Please scroll down for a detailed look at what your Barefoot Safaris adventure has in store for you.

Grading: Anyone in good health with a sense of adventure should be able to take part. You can expect to hike around 4-8 hours on the Gorilla tracking day and 4-5 hours on the Golden Monkey tracking day. During the tracking an effort is made to group people with similar physical abilities together. Minimum age for a hiker is 12 years old.

NB: Although it is our intention to operate this itinerary as printed in the brochure and detailed below, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of alterations to flight/boat/train schedules, climatic conditions, or other operational factors. As a consequence, the

order or location of overnight stops may vary from those outlined. Included meals are indicated in the daily itinerary (i.e. BLD - Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner).

#### Day 1: Kigali - Musanze

Arriving at Kigali International Airport, your driver/guide will meet and greet you. After a delicious lunch you visit the world renowned Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre, one of many such centers in the country that commemorate the Rwandan genocide. Here you will get a sobering and thought provoking introduction into what happened on the days at least 800,000 Rwandans were killed by

their countrymen in one of the darkest moments in Rwandan history and indeed humanity. Following this visit you will be transferred to Musanze whilst enjoying the views of the Rwandan countryside along the way and checked into your hotel for a well-deserved rest.

Overnight: Musanze. Standard Room; 1 x night. (L, D).



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Aftermath of the 1994 Genocide.

#### Day 2: Gorilla Tracking

G day! At the crack of dawn we will make our advance to the edge of Volcanoes National Park where you will receive an introduction from the Park ranger at the Rwanda Development Board Office, the primary government institution in charge of tourism. A guide will then brief you about the do's and don'ts of gorilla tracking and interaction. Once the briefings are done and last checks concluded we will start the gorilla tracking which may last anything from 4-8 hours. We will track the gorilla family through jungle which consist of mixed rainforest, bamboo, haegenia and sub alpine forest within the volcanoes.



Silverback!

Please note we will also be accompanied by armed rangers as you may also have the chance to see other animal species that reside in the area, most notably buffalos, spotted hyena, duiker, bushbuck, and elephant. For bird lovers there is the opportunity to see some of the 178 bird species of which 29 are endemic to the area. Following this very special experience we transfer you to visit the beautiful twin lakes of Burera and Ruhondo with its deep blue waters surrounded by steep hills and tall waterfalls.

Overnight: Musanze. Standard room; 1 x night. (B, L, D).

#### **Days 3: Golden Monkey Trekking**

Early this morning we venture back to Volcanoes National Park to track endangered Golden monkeys. Over the next 4-5 hours we will track this subspecies of the blue monkey with the aim of learning a bit more about this relatively unstudied animal. They typically live in groups of 30-80 individuals with the females being fiercely territorial. During this trek your guide will fill you in on the peculiar behavior of these fascinating primates.



Cheeky monkeys.

In the afternoon we can visit the culture community to experience the culture and ways of living of local people. Following this visit we drive to Gisenyi, a city on the shores of Lake Kivu known for its wonderful beaches and water sport.



Lakeside!

Overnight: Gisenyi. Standard room; 1 x night. (B, L, D)

#### Days 4: Gisenyi – Kigali. Departure

After a filling breakfast and perhaps some morning beach activities we

drive to Kigali for a city tour and some final souvenirs shopping; Souvenirs include locally weaved baskets, Rwanda's traditional Agaseke baskets have become famous the world over.



Craft market

A distinctively Rwandan craft is the Imigongo or cow dung paintings that are produced by a local cooperative in the village of Nyakarambi near the Rusumo Falls border with Tanzania. Dominated by black, brown and white whorls and other geometric abstractions, these unique and earthy works can be bought in Kigali, We also visit a natural cultural history museum and the local market in Kigali. In the afternoon (exhausted no doubt) you will be transferred to the airport for your departure.

#### **Optional excursions:**

Please inform us in advance if there is any particular areas of interest you wish to visit for a tailor-made itinerary.

#### **Price Includes:**

- Airport transfers and meet & greet service by our local representatives at Kigali International airport.
- All Accommodation in standard rooms.
- Meals as described by B (Buffet Breakfast), L (Lunch), D (Dinner).

- 1-litre bottled mineral water per person per day whilst on safari.
- Ground Transportation.
- Services of a professional English speaking driver/guide.
- Game drives, sightseeing and excursions as described in the itinerary, inclusive of applicable entrance fees.
- Local taxes.

#### **Price Excludes:**

- International airfare.
- Gorilla permit: 750 USD per permit per person.
- Meals not described in the itinerary above.
- Tips and gratuities to driver/guide; hotel/camp and restaurant staff; room service etc.
- Travel Insurance.
- Items of a personal nature i.e., telephone/internet usage, laundry, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, etc.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Climate:

Most rainfall (rainy season) is seen in February, March, April, October, November and December. Kigali has dry periods in June and July. On average, the warmest month is August. On average, the coolest month is May. April is the wettest month. July is the driest month.

Don't forget to check the weather in Rwanda (Kigali) before you go out – knowing what to expect will help ensure you're wearing the right clothes and whether to carry an umbrella or your sunglasses.

#### Baggage:

 As per airline regulations. Soft duffel style bags travel better in Africa than the Samsonite wheeled versions. It also looks cooler!

#### **Clothing and Footwear:**

- For comfort in the heat, lightweight cotton is best. Long trousers and long sleeves is a must for the Gorilla and monkey tracking.
- Well-worn in hiking shoes.
- Leather gloves to protect against stinging nettles in park.
- Shorts and cool shirts for evenings.
- Light raincoat.
- Trainers or sandals for relaxing.
- Sunhat.
- Swimming gear.

#### **Equipment:**

- Water bottle or hydration pack (at least 3 litres of water).
- Sunglasses, sunscreen and lip salve.
- Insect repellent.
- Personal first aid kit.
- Binoculars.
- Camera, no flash.

#### Medicine:

- Basic personal first aid kit.
- Any perscription drugs required.
- Female sanitary products.
- Malaria prophylaxis (area considered moderate risk).

#### **Visas and Permits:**

- Please see the link below for visa info. Generally it is reccomended that you obtain a visa prior to arrival, however there are exceptions.
- Source: <a href="http://www.rwanda-online.org/rwanda-travel/rwanda-visa/">http://www.rwanda-online.org/rwanda-travel/rwanda-visa/</a>
- Contact a reputable travel agent for the latest information.

## Vaccinations & Health Advice:

Vaccination requirements & other health advice can change, so please check with a specialised travel clinic for up to-date information before you depart. For useful advice you can visit The Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad <a href="https://www.masta.org">www.masta.org</a> or the CDC website:

http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/clinician/none/rwanda

#### Food:

Although every effort will be made to accommodate any dietary requirements. Any special dietary requirements should be explained to us as early as possible. Gluten free flour should be brought with you if required.

#### **Local Costs:**

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included as per itenarary. You must pay for all other meals yourself (you can eat very well for 10 USD a day). Approximate costs are given for guidance only and may vary widely according to location and type of establishment.

USD	3.00
USD	1.50
USD	2.00
USD	6.50
USD	5.00
USD	10.00
	USD USD USD USD

<sup>\*</sup> Reasonable mid-range tourist class restaurant.

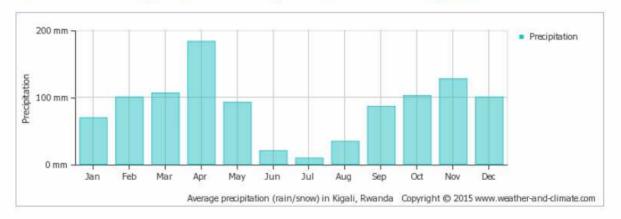
#### Weather:

Scroll down for historical data.

### WEATHER FORECAST

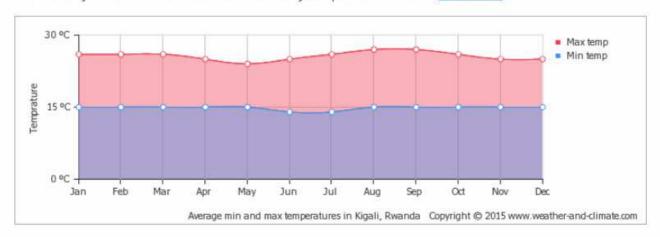
## AVERAGE MONTHLY PRECIPITATION OVER THE YEAR (RAINFALL, SNOW)

This is the mean monthly precipitation, including rain, snow, hail etc. Show in Inches »



## AVERAGE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OVER THE YEAR

The monthly mean minimum and maximum daily temperature. Show in Fahrenheit »



#### Source:

https://weather-and-climate.com/average-monthly-Rainfall-Temperature-Sunshine,Kigali,Rwanda

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