

BAREFOOT SAFARIS & Adventure Tours

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TRIP DOSSIER

RWANDA EXTENSION REF: RWD EXT

8 DAYS IN Rwanda.
Compiled May 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, Volcano 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. We will also explore some of Africa's majestic rain forests and celebrated National Parks where you will have the opportunity to observe some of Africa's most amazing animals up close. For bird lovers there is also the opportunity to spot the elusive Shoebill Stork! Your **Barefoot** adventure will also take you on an introspective journey that explores the 1994 Genocide that brought this country to its knees.

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. 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

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. Overnight in Kigali and experience authentic Rwandan hospitality in the bustling heart of Remera suburb.

Overnight: Kigali.

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



A stark reminder of the 1994 Genocide.

Day 2: Nyungwe National Park;

After a scrumptious breakfast we leave the comfort of our hotel, travel south and visit the Royal Palace Museum which offers a detailed look into Rwandan traditional seat of their monarchy, it is an impressive museum, restored to its 19th century state and made entirely with traditional materials.



Royal Palace Museum.

From here we venture further south to the Ethnographic Museum housing one of Africa's finest ethnographic collections. Its seven galleries display historical, ethnographic, artistic and archaeological artefacts accompanied by visual aides, giving visitors a rich insight into the culture of Rwandans.

In Nyungwe National Park you will find an untouched natural rainforest that is filled with exciting biodiversity. Here we will enjoy a canopy walkway inside the impenetrable forest of Nyungwe.



Canopy Walk.

Overnight: Nyungwe

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

Days 3: Chimpanzee trek;

After a brief visit to the park office, we further explore the rainforest to trek the Chimpanzees, with a further 13 species of primates resident in Forest. After lunch, you will have opportunity to visit the powerful and majestic Kamiranzovu waterfall. The forest comprises at least 200 tree species and over 200 birds. We also visit the Gisakura Tea plantation and immerse ourselves into the art of tea harvesting. Overnight in our forest guesthouse.



Chimp Trekking.

Overnight: Ngyungwe.

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

Days 4: Nyungwe to Volcano;

After breakfast, we head to Kibuye along Lake Kivu with its splendid views of the 'land of a thousand hills'. Arriving in Kibuye we have a delicious lunch and later drive north to the impressive Volcanoes National Park. Situated on the Virunga area of dormant volcanoes that extend from east to the west, this park is habitant to famous Mountain Gorillas as well as Golden Monkeys, among other rare primate species on earth.



Volcanoes National Park.

Overnight: Musanze

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

Days 5: Volcanoes to Kigali;

Today we enjoy the highlight of this trip; tracking Mountain Gorillas. These gorillas have been habituated to the presence of humans. 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.



Silverback

We will track the gorilla family through jungle which consist of mixed rainforest, bamboo, haegenia and sub alpine forest within the volcanoes. Afterwards this adrenaline filled yet serene day, we return to Kigali for a well-deserved rest in our hotel.

Overnight: Kigali.

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

Days 6: Kigali to Akagera National Park;

After a calorie packed breakfast, we head to the impressive Akagera National Park, comprised of a blend of wetland, savannah and

woodland. The location of the park lies at a lower altitude compared to rest of the country, therefore it is not only warmer but drier. Some of the wildlife you will see here include: Giraffe, Buffalo and Elephant as well as a profusion of birds. If fortunate, we may be able to sight the elusive Shoebill Stork, especially around the shores of the lake.



Akagera National Park.

Overnight: Akagera National Park.

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

Day 7: Akagera National Park

Today is another adventure filled in Akagera National Park. Akagera is, above all, big game country! Herds of elephant and buffalo emerge from the woodland to drink at the lakes, while lucky visitors might stumble across a leopard, a spotted hyena or even a stray lion.



Akagera National Park.

The park is run by the African Parks Network, and offers game drives along these ancient tracks which today are being revitalized by this organization. There is also the opportunity to enjoy boat cruises on the adjacent lakes.

Overnight: Kigali.

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

Day 8: Departure

After breakfast, we head to Bugesera to visit the genocide memorial sites of Ntarama and Nyamata and in the afternoon we will return to Kigali. Should time allow we may enjoy a city tour prior to your flight departure.

After this you will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight and the end of our services.

Optional excursions:

Please inform us in advance if there are 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 prescription 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 recommended that you obtain a visa prior to arrival, however there are exceptions.
- ◆ Source: <http://www.rwanda-online.org/rwanda-travel/rwanda-visa/>

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 www.masta.org 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 itinerary. 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.

Coffee/tea	USD	3.00
Soft drink	USD	1.50
Medium beer	USD	2.00
Bottle of wine	USD	6.50
Local snack lunch	USD	5.00
3-course dinner*	USD	10.00

* Reasonable mid-range tourist class restaurant.

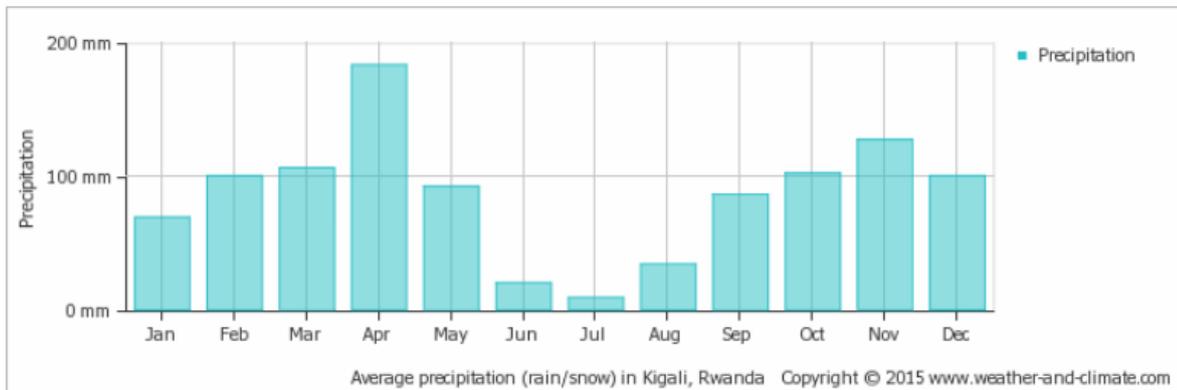
Weather:

Scroll down for historical data.

WEATHER FORECAST

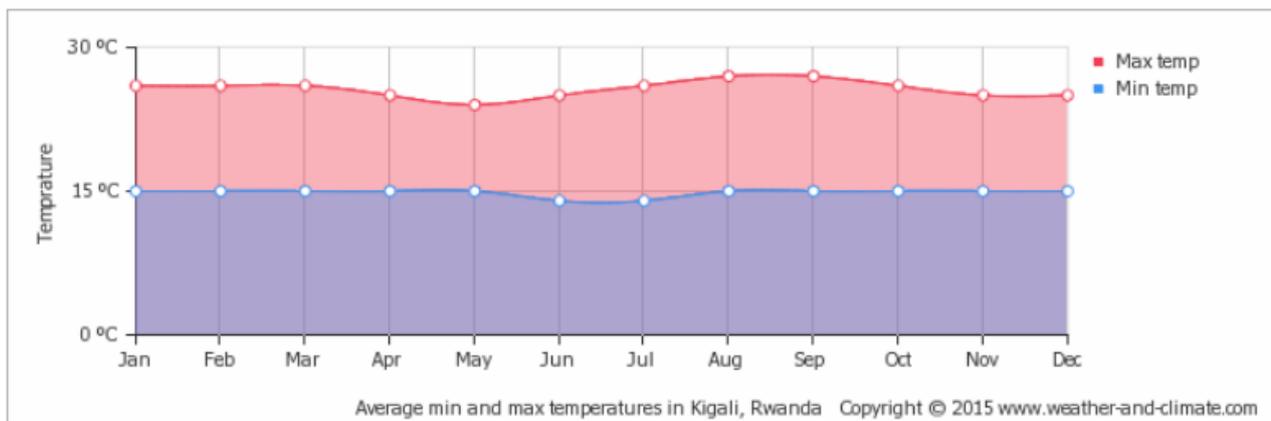
AVERAGE MONTHLY PRECIPITATION OVER THE YEAR (RAINFALL, SNOW)

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>