Activities and Experiences

RWANDA
KIGALI CITY TOUR
Kigali is divided into 3 districts: Nyarugenge, Gasabo and Kicukiro and is populated by a million people. Your Kigali City Tour starts as a historic journey with a guided tour through the initial modern building from which this capital was founded, to the fast developing neighborhoods which are changing the appearance of this city. Kigali is among the cleanest, most friendly and safest cities in Africa. During the tour, guests will pass through the older commercial “quarters”, residential areas and business areas of Kigali.

SHOPPING IN CAPLAKI
Caplaki is an association offering a surprising variety of local handicrafts for every taste and budget. From traditional masks and musical instruments to lovely paintings and jewelry, there is no doubt that this small village within the city is one of the best places to stroll around and get some souvenirs for your loved ones.

KIGALI GENOCIDE MUSEUM
The Kigali Genocide Memorial is the final resting place for more than 250,000 victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. It forms part of a meaningful tribute to those who perished, and provides a powerful educational tool. Visitors can choose to be guided by one of the staff (many of the guides are survivors of the Genocide against the Tutsi) or purchase the digital guide which provides an audio-visual tour.

When considering a trip to Rwanda most people think of gorilla tracking. Whilst this is the main, incredible, experience there are a number of other unique and different activities available in various areas of Rwanda.

This activity & excursion document will provide you with an overview of what is available in each area listed.

Please contact us for the prices of the activities.

Please note that activities are subject to availability and may be seasonal or specific to individual camps and lodges in each area.
Activities - Akagera National Park

FISHING ON LAKE SHAKANI
Fish along the shores of Lake Shakani while listening to the snorts of Hippos and the cries of water birds and hopefully, the only other noise will be the sound of a fish on your line! In Akagera you have the added pleasure of being in the African Wild and watching the wildlife all around you while you fish.

BOATING SAFARI ON LAKE IHEMA
You can opt to take a boat trip on the beautiful Lake Ihema. You will cruise along the water edge which is covered with trees, drift past numerous giant hippos and see several crocodiles some in the shallows of the water and other basking on the shore. Each day, there are four scheduled boat trip leaving at 7.30am, 9.00am, 3.30pm and 5.00 pm. Private trips outside of this schedule can also be organized.
Activities - Volcanoes National Park

**MOUNTAIN GORILLA TREKKING**
Most guests travel to Rwanda to see the rare mountain gorillas in the thick bamboo vegetation of Volcanoes National Park. The park features ten habituated groups and the trek takes from 30 minutes to 8 hours depending on location of gorillas, nature of the habitat, walking speed and other factors. Visitors are given one hour to be with the gorillas in the wild. Across the world, it is only in Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo where you can catch a glimpse of these rare species while they are still in their natural habitat. Mountain gorillas are listed as critically endangered species and there are fewer than 900 that are left in the entire world today.

**GOLDEN MOKEY TRACKING**
Besides tracking mountain gorillas in Rwanda, the Volcanoes National Park is where silver meets gold! The golden monkeys are fascinating creatures that are worth tracking while on safari in Rwanda. The trek can last up to four hours with one hour of face to face encounter with the primates. Most of these unique species largely live within the bamboo forest of Volcanoes National Park.
Activities - Volcanoes National Park

HIKING TO DIAN FOSSEY’S TOMB SITE
For those who have watched the movie “Gorillas in the Mist”, you will know about Dian Fossey’s life and her research camp in the Volcanoes National Park. Dian Fossey is known to have saved the critically endangered mountain gorillas that the world is proud of today. She conducted her research on mountain gorillas for over 18 years but unfortunately she was murdered by unknown people in 1985. The trek to Dian’s Resting site lasts for about three hours.

THE TWIN LAKES WALK
The twin lakes include Lake Burera and Ruhondo. The hike to these Lakes rewards visitors with magical views of not only the Lake but also the Russumo waterfalls. You will also meet local residents paddling their canoes and plenty of birdlife like cinnamon breasted bee eater, common moorhen, paradise fly catchers, stonechat, grey throated tit, long crested eagle, African marsh harrier and many more. This activity can be done in the morning or afternoon.

IBY’IWACU CULTURAL VILLAGE
This cultural encounter is a local community project made up of people who were previously poachers in the park but have now chosen to support conservation and protection of mountain gorillas and other wildlife species. Rwanda’s past and present are showcased for tourists to personally engage in cultural experiences. You can participate in riding a wooden bicycle, grinding millet and sorghum, shooting bows and arrows or be entertained by the Intore dances people. There is an opportunity to learn more about banana and sorghum, these are staple foods in Rwanda. You can also engage in an botany safari with traditional healers which will educate you about the herbs that are used for treatments.
VISIT THE DIAN FOSSEY GORILLA FUND
Visit the Karisoke exhibit to learn about the history of the Fossey Fund as well as the current research and protection practices of gorillas. The exhibit features Dian Fossey artifacts, a 3D interactive model of the Virunga Mountains, casts of real gorilla nose prints, and more. Visitors are welcome to stop by to see the exhibit or guided tours can be arranged.

CAVE EXPLORATION
Musanze caves feature among the few most historical sites in Rwanda. They are situated within Musanze town just adjacent to Volcanoes National Park. The caves have existed for over 65 million years and they have 31 entrances and extend up to 21 kilometers inside. They were formed from the flow of Basalt layers of Lava that spread form Virunga Volcanoes of Sabyinyo and Bisoke. The Musanze caves offered home to many people as well as storage of supplies and food by the kings of Rwanda during the war time. The exploration lasts for two hours. It can be done in the afternoon with an escort.

VILLAGE WALK
A walk through a local farming community is a great way to get in a little exercise and gain an invaluable insight into local life in modern Rwanda. Seeing how modern Rwandans live and work away from the hustle and bustle of Kigali and Musanze town’s tourism driven economy gives a very different impression of the country.
Activities - Lake Kivu

VOLCANIC HOT SPRINGS
Referred to as "magic waters," the Amashuza Hot Springs are a 15-minute drive from Gisenyi. The minerals in these waters are known to contain medicinal values and a soak is thought to heal muscle disorders and numerous other ailments. The site is a great place to relax, unwind, swim and get even get a massage.

HIKE THE SMOLDERING NYIRAGONGO VOLCANO
The Nyiragongo Volcano is one of the most active volcanoes in the world, famous for the lava lakes that have formed in the summit crater. The hike to the summit takes approximately four to six hours and can be difficult in humid conditions, but you are rewarded by sightings of rare birds and animals such as monkeys and bushbucks. The summit offers wonderful views of Gisenyi Town.

BOAT TRIP ON LAKE KIVU
A boat ride on Lake Kivu offers a chance to see a variety of birdlife and different water animals on the lake shore. The bird life around Lake Kivu is fantastic: pelicans, crowned cranes, malachite kingfishers etc.
CHIMPANZEE TREKKING
The Chimpanzees in Nyungwe have been fully habituated. The activity starts in the morning at 8.00am from the park headquarters. The two to six hour activity involves traversing the jungle dotted with birds, lush flora and impressive hiking landscapes before you approach the apes in their natural habitat. One full hour is allowed to watch the chimps as they forage, socialize and hunt.

COLOBUS MONKEY TRACKING
The Nyungwe Forest National Park is known to provide shelter to the largest grouping of black and white colobus monkeys in Africa. It is an amazing moment to come across the section of the forest full of the black and white colors as they chatter and play with one another. The colobus monkey tracking commences at 8.00am and tends to last two – five hours with one full hour of direct encounter.

FOREST CANOPY WALK
Established in October 2010, the Nyungwe canopy walk way extends to 200 feet above the ground stretching to 90m in length. The canopy walk allows you to explore the higher forest canopy landscapes with the sights of beautiful butterflies, primates and birds in the branches of the trees. The Nyungwe canopy walk commences at Uwinka visitor center and tends to last about two hours.

HIKING IN THE FOREST
This park is a hiking paradise. There are 13 various hiking trails with over 130 kilometers of trails through and in the Forest. Visitors can spend a good week here hiking the various trails, exploring the ancient rainforest and discover habitats found in the forest. Individual hikes are from one to eight hours. Hiking in Nyungwe Forest is a time of discovery in a primal rainforest that will amaze most visitors with its fairy tale like appearance, its wildlife, primates, birds, flowers, plants, trees, and butterflies.
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