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## GEEO ITINERARY

Uganda and Rwanda 7/5/2025

### **Day 1: Nairobi Arrive in Kampala at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.**

Arrive in Kampala at any time. Uganda's only international airport is **Entebbe International Airport (EBB)**, approximately 25 miles (1 hour) outside of Kampala. Due to the potential for flight delays or cancellations, we recommend that you plan to arrive in East Africa (e.g., Nairobi, Addis Ababa, or Dar es Salaam, if not Kampala itself) at least a day or two in advance. This will also give you time to adjust to the time difference and overcome any jet lag. We can book extra hotel nights for you in Kampala before the trip if you arrive early. **Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting** Please note that check-in at the hotel is usually around 2:00-3:00 p.m. There are no planned activities until an intro meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., usually in the hotel lobby. Check for a sign or ask at the reception desk about the exact time and location of the group meeting. Please make every effort to arrive in time for this meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up tomorrow. After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another. If you are arriving in Kampala early, you can pre-book a Nile River whitewater rafting experience in Jinja on Day 1 and be back in time for your evening welcome meeting. We strongly advise arriving in Kampala at least one full night early to facilitate the activity's early time (approximately 7:30 a.m. from Forest Cottages). Enjoy an exciting day testing your paddling skills in the rapids while waves crash into and over your eight-person raft. This activity is suitable for rafters of all experience levels. Enjoy a BBQ and drinks with your group after conquering the rapids. The excursion includes approximately 4 hours of round-trip transportation to and from Jinja from Kampala. **Joining Instructions** If you would like to pre-book an airport transfer in Kampala, please contact us by email. If you pay in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call the local contact number on your transfer voucher. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the hotel via taxi and notify us of the issue. If you take a taxi, look out for yellow-band cars for hire. Each taxi has an identification number and inscription "AIRPORT TAXI" in black letters. Please note this number for reference in case you experience any issues. A taxi to Kampala costs \$40 or 100,000 Ugandan shillings, and the journey takes about 40-60 minutes depending on traffic. Be sure to agree on a fare before getting in, as taxi meters are not commonly used in Uganda. **Accommodation:** Forest Cottages (or similar) \* For the actual hotel your specific departure will be using, please check your voucher.

### **Day 2: Kampala/Fort Portal Take the scenic route to Fort Portal at the edge of Kibale National Park.**

Drive across Uganda to Fort Portal in the Western Region. Driving in Uganda can be unpredictable, but the road is generally in good condition, although some sections may have potholes or ongoing construction. The scenery becomes more picturesque as you approach Fort Portal, with views of the Rwenzori Mountains in the distance. Spend the night on a guest farm listening to the sounds of monkeys and birds. Accommodation tonight is in simple furnished tents with shared bathroom facilities.

**Approximate travel time:** 4-6 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Kluges Guest Farm (or similar)  
**Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

### **Day 3: Kibale National Park Explore the evergreen rainforest in the morning or afternoon. Enjoy a traditional lunch in the Bigodi Community.**

Embark on a chimp trek in Kibale National Park with a park ranger/guide. Learn about the ecosystem and keep an eye out for other animals. Although chimp sightings are not guaranteed, visitors stand a good chance of hearing and seeing our distant cousins, as they are accustomed to humans watching their daily behavior. In Bigodi, sit down for a traditional buffet-style lunch prepared with fresh, organic local ingredients. Guests dine in a grass-thatched hut and learn about Bigodi dining etiquette. Listen as your

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local hosts describe how the ingredients used in the dishes are grown, harvested, and prepared. During your free time, opt to venture deeper into the wetlands to spot more wildlife on a guided walk through the Bigodi Wetlands Sanctuary. On the tour, you will likely see several kinds of monkeys including black and white colobus, red colobus, mangabey, red tail, vervet, and L'Hoest. Other wetlands mammals include baboons, sitatunga (an increasingly endangered swamp antelope), bush pigs, civet cats, mongooses, bushbucks, and an occasional chimpanzee. The area also boasts an incredible bird population. **Accommodation:** Kluges Guest Farm (*or similar*) **Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

#### **Day 4: Kibale NP/Queen Elizabeth NP Continue on to Queen Elizabeth NP, stopping at the equator. Head out on a wildlife safari drive in the afternoon.**

Depart Fort Portal for Queen Elizabeth National Park, stopping at the equator along the way. Queen Elizabeth NP is characterized by open savanna, large areas of swamp around Lake George, the extensive Maramagambo Forest in the southeast, and the forested Kyambura Gorge along the border with Kyambura Game Reserve. Upon arrival in the afternoon, head out on a wildlife safari drive. Keep your eyes peeled for warthogs, elephants, buffalo, five different species of primates, hyenas, lions, and hippos—and possibly the elusive leopards. The park is home to Uganda's largest groups of wildlife. Accommodation in Queen Elizabeth NP is in simple furnished tents with shared bathroom facilities. **Approximate travel time:** 3 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Queen Elizabeth Bush Lodge (*or similar*) **Meals included:** Breakfast | Dinner

#### **Day 5: Queen Elizabeth National Park Take an early morning wildlife safari drive and enjoy lunch inside the park. Opt for an evening cruise along the Kazinga Channel.**

Take an early morning wildlife safari drive and enjoy lunch inside the park. Opt for an evening cruise along the Kazinga Channel. Enjoy a wildlife safari drive with possible sightings of buffaloes, waterbucks, warthogs, lions, leopards, hyenas, giant forest hogs, and elephants. Queen Elizabeth National Park Wildlife Safari Drive Queen Elizabeth National Park Morning Enjoy a wildlife safari drive inside Queen Elizabeth National Park. The park is home to Uganda's largest wildlife populations. Keep an eye out for buffalo, elephants, hippos, hyenas, lions, warthogs, and the elusive leopards. Kazinga Channel Cruise Queen Elizabeth National Park 30USD per person Take a boat cruise on the Kazinga Channel, a waterway inside Queen Elizabeth National Park that connects Lake George and Lake Edward. Look out for a variety of wildlife who are drawn to the channel shores. Spot birds, crocodiles, hippos, and reptiles. **Accommodation:** Queen Elizabeth Bush Lodge (*or similar*) **Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

#### **Day 6: Queen Elizabeth NP/Bwindi Impenetrable NP Enjoy the scenic drive south to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, with views of forests, volcanoes and lakes.**

The drive from Queen Elizabeth National Park to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is a journey through some of Uganda's most stunning and diverse landscapes, with views of forests, volcanoes, and lakes. As you approach Bwindi, the scenery becomes increasingly lush and mountainous, with dense vegetation. Spend the night on the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. Accommodation is in simple furnished tents/rooms with ensuite bathroom facilities. **Approximate travel time:** 5-6 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Rushaga Gorilla Camp (*or similar*) **Meals included:** Breakfast

#### **Day 7: Gorilla Trekking Rise early for the tour's main highlight - gorilla trekking!**

Early in the morning, head into Bwindi Impenetrable National Park to meet the park ranger/guide for orientation. In the local Runyakitara language, spoken by the Bakiga and Bantu people who live in the region, the word "Bwindi" means "impenetrable," which aptly describes the dense, thick forest that characterizes the park. This impenetrability has helped preserve the park's rich biodiversity, including its famous population of mountain gorillas. Embark on the gorilla trek, which can vary in length (1-6 hours)

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and difficulty depending on the location of the gorilla family that is being visited. Bwindi Impenetrable National Park has four areas; Rushaga, Buhoma, Nkuringo, Ruhija. Depending on permit availability, your group could be tracking gorillas from different areas of the park. Spend 1 hour (max) observing these beautiful and endangered creatures, a truly unforgettable experience. A close encounter with these amazing animals is simply breathtaking. Make the trek back and return to town, and then enjoy free time in the afternoon. Get prepared before heading out: Bring plenty of water and waterproof clothing (it can rain with only a few minutes' notice), and be sure to bring dry sacks if you are carrying a camera and film. Dress in layers with long sleeves and long pants to protect against stinging nettles found in the forests. The trek is often chilly at first, but the walking will warm you up. You have the option to hire a local porter to carry your day pack throughout the trek. Please note: Ugandan authorities are fiercely protective of this natural treasure and currently permit only a maximum of eight people per day to visit any given gorilla family. The group will be split into multiple sub-groups for the trek if necessary. Depending on the number of participants, the different sub-groups may need to do their trek on different days. **Accommodation:** Rushaga Gorilla Camp (*or similar*) **Meals included:** Breakfast

**Day 8: Bwindi/Kigali Cross the border into Rwanda, then head to the capital city, Kigali. Visit the genocide museum to learn more about the dark history of this fascinating country. Enjoy lunch at the G Adventures supported Nyamirambo Women's Centre. The program ends this evening in Kigali; consider booking post-trip accommodation with us if you do not have a flight booked out of Kigali tonight.**

Depart Bwindi this morning and cross the border to Rwanda at the Gatuna/Katuna Border Post. In Kigali, visit the Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre, which serves as a museum and permanent memorial to those who fell victim to the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The Centre opened on the tenth anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide in April 2004 and was built on a site where more than 250,000 victims are buried. Also in Kigali, enjoy lunch at the Women's Center in Nyamirambo, the largest and most vibrant township in Rwanda. The center provides women and girls from a diverse range of backgrounds with the opportunity to support each other and succeed through education and training programs. Lunch will be prepared by women employed at the center, allowing you to try local foods and popular dishes. After lunch, take some time to browse the center's shop, which features handmade, high-quality crafts and clothes made by some of the women at the shop as well as other women's cooperatives throughout Rwanda. Proceeds from the meal and shop help support the center's education and training programs, including a community library. The program ends today upon arrival at Kigali View Hotel. **Please note that accommodation at the hotel is not included tonight**, but we can arrange accommodation for you if you intend to spend the night in Kigali. Otherwise, when arranging your departure flight, please book flights that depart after 8:00 p.m. That departure time takes into consideration the travel time to the airport and normal check-in and security wait times. The city's airport is **Kigali International Airport (KGL)**. If you book post-trip accommodation at Kigali View Hotel, please note that the check-out time the next day is mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEE0 programs in the same school year and receive a discount! GEE0 will give you 10% off the lesser-value program(s) (up to three programs per year). If you would like to extend your time abroad but don't see another GEE0 program that interests you, [let us know](#). We can help you find a trip from our partner tour's much larger catalog. Their tours are open to the general public and not designed specifically for educators, but we can still offer you and your travel companions a discounted educator price on any of their tours, and you would still receive GEE0's fast and attentive customer service. **Approximate travel time:** 4.5–5.5 hrs by private vehicle (not including border crossing formalities) **Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch

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**\*Itinerary Disclaimer:** *While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*