

EXPERIENCE UGANDA & RWANDA

ROBERTS SAFARIS

EST. 1976





ITINERARY UGANDA & RWANDA

DAY 1: No 5 BOUTIQUE HOTEL, Entebbe

Landing into Entebbe International Airport you will be met by representatives from Roberts Safaris and assisted through the airport to your private transfer to No. 5 Boutique Hotel in Entebbe. Traffic in and around Entebbe and Kigali is notorious and this tends to be a single night stop on most itineraries. However scratch below the surface of Entebbe and you will find a bustling and vibrant scene. Attractions here include the extensive National Botanical Gardens, the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre (UWEC), which also serves as the national zoo and of course Lake Victoria.

DAYS 2 - 4: BAKERS LODGE, Murchison Falls

This morning you will fly into Northern Uganda and the beauty of Murchison Falls. Murchison Falls National park in the north-west of the country is Uganda's largest national park, and together with adjoining wildlife reserves forms a vast wilderness covering over 5 000 km². It is home to a wide variety of wildlife, forest primates and 450 bird species.

The mighty Nile, the longest river in the world, flows through the heart of the park for a distance of 120 km, on its 6 500 km journey from Lake Victoria to Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea. The park's centrepiece is the explosive, 40-metre high Murchison Falls where the Nile is forced through an 8-metre gap in the Rift Valley escarpment. Downstream, the Nile flows quietly towards Lake Albert which it enters through a large papyrus delta. It is this peaceful 40 km stretch of river which provides the park's prime wildlife spectacle. Chimpanzee tracking in nearby Budongo Forest is available and definitely worthwhile spending an extra day for, and bird-watchers will be delighted by the variety of localised species including Shoebill. For the fishermen, there is the challenge of catching the massive Nile Perch.

Enjoy game drives in Murchison Falls National Park, as well as a memorable boat cruise up the Nile River to the foot of the Falls.

The immense force of the water and the views of the Falls are spectacular from the close-up viewing points. Enhance your park experience by combining river voyages with a safari. Travel by boat to the Nile Delta and return with a game drive through the game-rich Buligi area. Drive to the top of the falls and hike down to the bottom of Fajao Gorge, before returning to Baker's Lodge by boat.

DAYS 5 & 6: NDALI LODGE, Kibale Forest

Leaving the Falls behind you, today you will head south to the wonders of the Kibale and the mystery's that it holds.

Beautifully placed overlooking the Rwenzori Mountains is Ndali Lodge, a gem of a property with panoramic views over the crater lakes of the area. Owner run and managed, attention to detail is the centre of this option as well as the long history that the land has here.

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DAYS 5 & 6: NDALI LODGE, Kibale Forest

With accommodation for up to 16, the 8 cottages are spacious, airy stone and thatch builds, which, if need be, are large enough to accommodate families. Each en-suite room possesses a double or twin bed, plenty of space, an internal seating area and a private outdoor veranda. There is also a main swimming pool and a sauna on site.

The main reason for visiting this area is the chimpanzee's and trekking with the rangers through the Kibale Forest following their daily activities, gives a great insight into their habits, friendships and troop dynamics! Aside from this we would also recommend a walk in the Bigodi wetlands.

DAYS 7 & 8: ISHASHA WILDERNESS CAMP, Queen Elizabeth National Park

An early morning departure for the Kazinga Channel - This is a wide, 32-kilometre (20 mi) long natural channel that links Lake Edward and Lake George and a dominant feature of Queen Elizabeth National Park. The channel attracts a varied range of animals and birds, with one of the world's largest concentration of hippos and numerous Nile crocodiles.

The best way of viewing this is by boat and we would stop for a 2 hour boating experience to take in the area. After this, you will drive onto the southern most part of the Park for a late lunch at Ishasha Wilderness Camp.

This area is well known for the tree climbing lions but aside from these, you will see a number of plains game, elephants, buffalo and much more. The last time we visited were lucky enough to spend time at a den with very young hyaena pups and watch them interact.

Queen Elizabeth National park spreads over an area of 1 978 km² in the western arm of the Great East Rift Valley. Its savannah and riverine habitats are home to elephant, lion, hippo, leopard, buffalo, and Uganda kob, baboon, and over 600 species of birds. Ishasha is an unspoilt and remote sector of Queen Elizabeth, famous for its tree-climbing lions that can sometimes be spotted resting in the branches of the area's large fig trees. The camp's location, midway between the Mweya area of Queen Elizabeth and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, make it a natural place to spend a few nights.

DAYS 9 & 10: CLOUDS, The Impenetrable Forest

Heading further west and now towards the border with Rwanda, we would recommend 2 nights at Clouds - Built on a forested ridge near the entrance to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge eight spacious cottages are built from volcanic stone. Beautiful views stretch all the way to the Virunga Volcanoes of Rwanda, as well as across the border into the Virunga Congo, on clear nights the ethereal glow of the Nyiragongo Volcano can be seen.



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DAYS 9 & 10: CLOUDS, The Impenetrable Forest

The cottages are well appointed with open fire places to take the chill away, spacious bedrooms with separate seating areas give way to well thought-out bathrooms with plenty of hot water for warming showers after gorilla trekking. The outdoor veranda's and seating areas allow guests to immerse themselves in the beauty of this area. Gorilla trekking here is the name of the game but there are also plenty of community projects and interaction for those who would like to. Meals are prepared using the freshest local ingredients and served in front of a roaring fire in the dining area.

DAYS 11 & 12: SABYINYO, Parc National des Volcans

After breakfast head to the border and cross into Rwanda for a 2 night stay at Saybinyo and your second gorilla trek of the itinerary. We would always recommend that guests do a minimum of 2 treks with the gorillas as this allows you 2 very different experiences. Sabyinyo is beautifully placed, very close to the park headquarters to make this an ideal option.

Gorilla treks take place in the morning and depart from the Park Headquarters at around 07:30am. Prior to departure, you are given a briefing by park staff, assigned a gorilla family to visit and rangers to guide you. The treks take place on the slopes of the Virunga Volcanoes and clients should be in good physical condition as some of the trek can be physically demanding. The trek normally lasts between 2 and 5 hours depending on the location of the gorilla family and a maximum of eight visitors is allowed per gorilla family. Once you reach the gorillas, you are permitted to stay for one hour to view them.

DAYS 13 & 14: MAGASHI, Akagera National Park

Akagera National Park is Central Africa's largest protected wetland and the last remaining refuge for savannah-adapted species in Rwanda. Perched on Magashi Peninsula, Magashi Camp looks out over scenic Lake Rwanyakazinga towards the Mutumba Mountains in the west. On the peninsula's western side, waterbuck, impala and warthog can often be seen grazing, while on the eastern flank, eland frequent the lakeshore. The shore itself offers views of hippo, large crocodiles and a chance of elephant bulls, while the core of the Amahoro lion pride is encapsulated by this spit of land.

Six spacious and airy tented guest rooms offer uninterrupted views over Lake Rwanyakazinga while Magashi's main area comprises a luxurious lounge and dining area, bar and pool, as well as an expansive viewing deck with convivial fire pit. The architecture and interiors pay homage to traditional Rwandan culture.

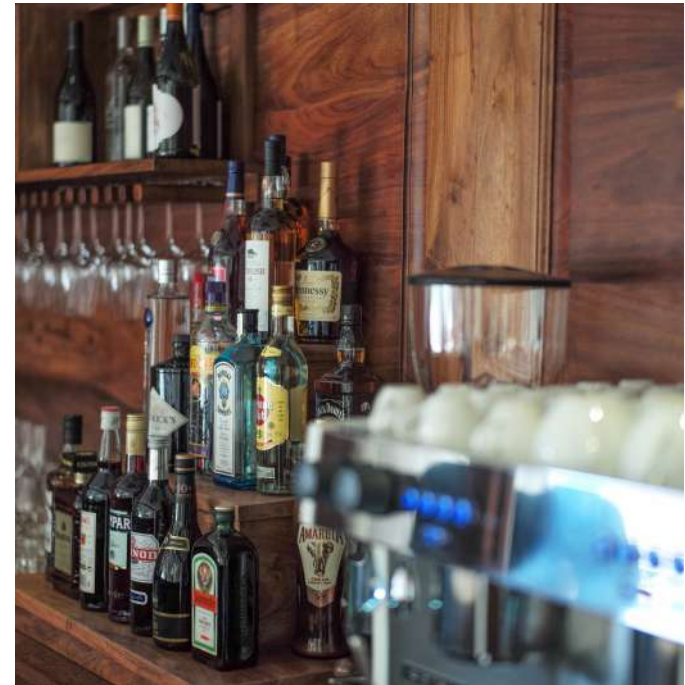
DAY 15: Departure

NO 5 ENTEBBE



No 5 Boutique Hotel

ENTEBBE



Nestled in the leafy suburbs of Entebbe, is the new and stylish boutique hotel, Hotel No.5. From the moment you arrive, you are warmly welcomed and cared for. With luxurious rooms opening onto the garden and swimming pool, this is a great option for guests looking for an intimate stay in a tranquil setting.

Make yourself at home – unwind beside the swimming pool, pamper yourself with a spa treatment or work up a sweat in the hotel gym.

For one of the most flavoursome dining experiences in Entebbe, carefully planned menus are paired to an international wine list, and served with pride. Attention to detail and an attentive guest experience are synonymous with Hotel No. 5, making it the perfect choice for a restful stay in this busy town.

About The Area: Entebbe is a small town located on the shores of Lake Victoria and is easy to explore on foot, boda bodas (local motorbike) or taxis. Soak up the local markets filled with clothes and crafts, shop for souvenirs in curio shops, explore the Botanical Gardens or take a cruise on Lake Victoria.

BAKERS LODGE





BAKERS LODGE

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MURCHISON FALLS

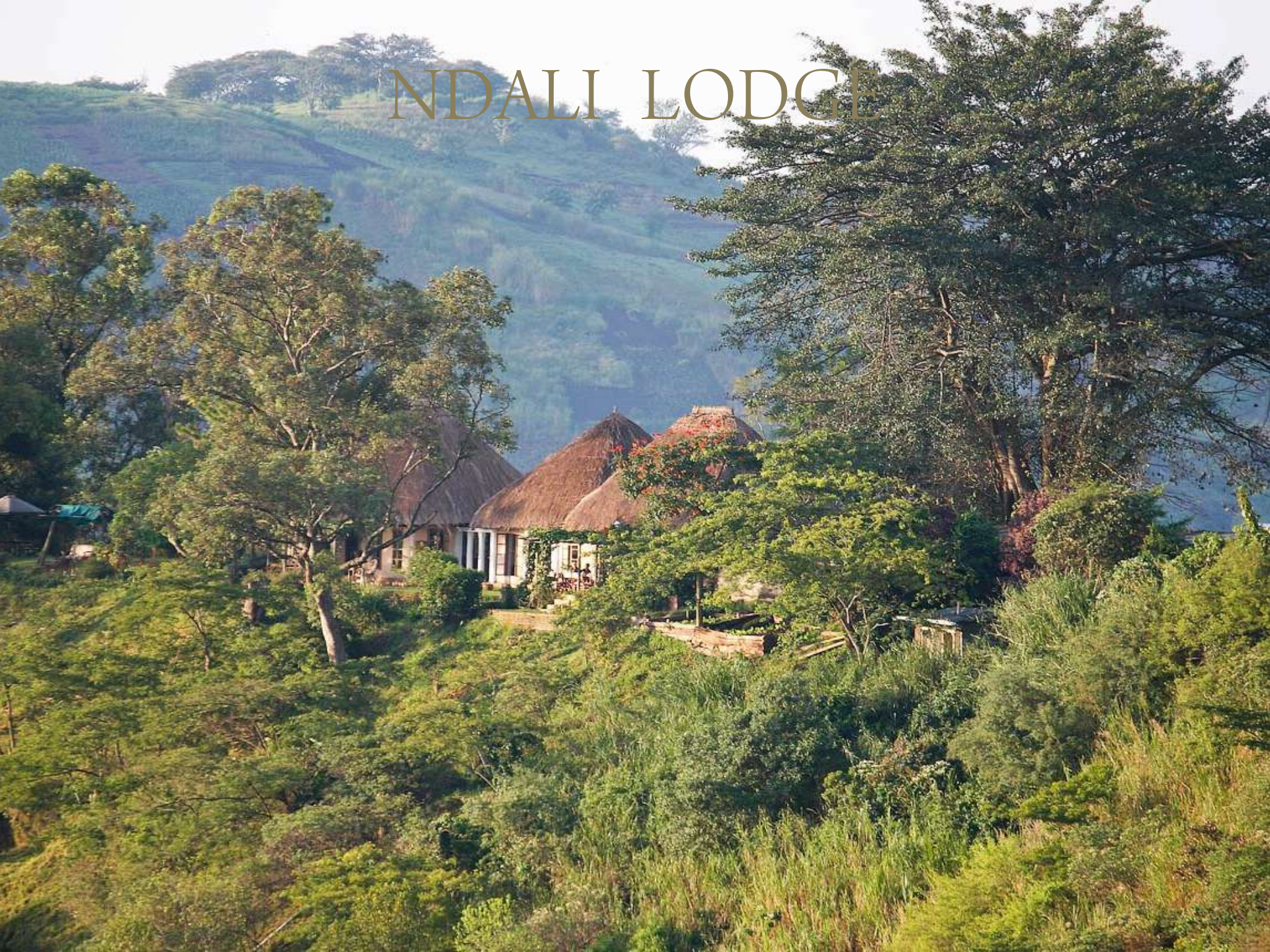


Set on the southern bank of the mighty Nile River, Baker's Lodge boasts ten beautifully appointed safari suites, all with tranquil river views. Named after the English explorer Samuel Baker – the first European to view the falls and name it – the lodge rests amongst large shady trees and wetland areas.

With a thatched central lounge, dining and bar area, this eco-friendly lodge offers an 'Africa of olde' feel. Cool off in the refreshing swimming pool, lounge with a book under shady trees as the river flows gently by, and round the day off with a sundowner or two. The sunsets here are truly magical. Outside dining and multi-course dinners are a real treat for guests, all served by attentive staff. Built on raised wooden decks to take full advantage of cool breezes and spectacular river views, each spacious thatched cottage offers beautifully appointed en-suite bathrooms with solar-heated showers (some also feature bathtubs).

You may well spot the resident hippo pod wallowing in the shallows just steps from your room, which are spaced far apart allowing ultimate guest privacy.

NDALI LODGE



NDALI LODGE



NDALI LODGE

KIBALE FOREST



Ndali Lodge is a fantastic traditional colonial lodge set in a stunning location on the rim of an extinct volcano which has now filled with water to become the breathtaking Lake Nyinambuga - 250 acres in size and 130 meters deep. This is a great base from where to track the chimpanzees of Kibale Forest.

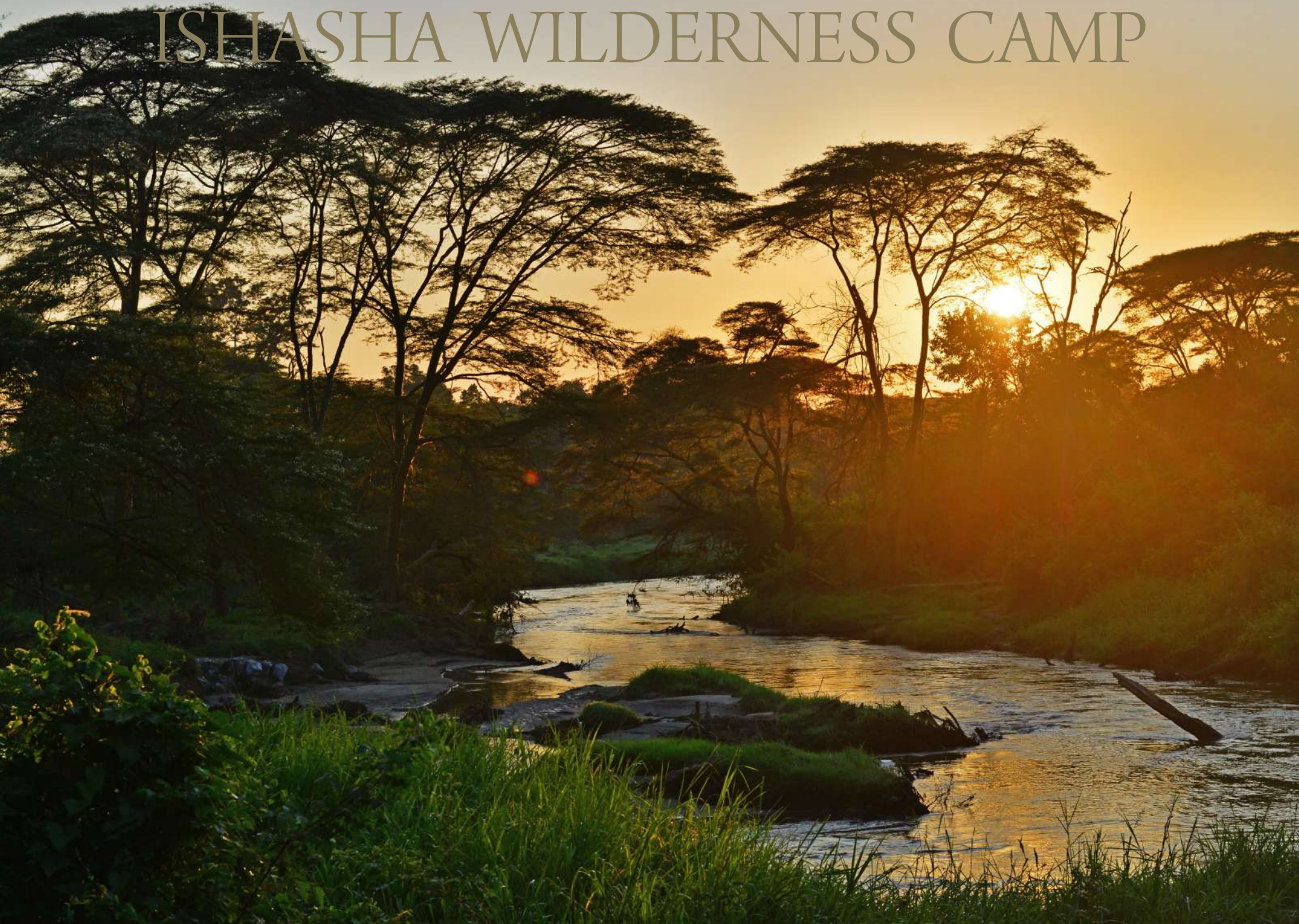
There is a main thatched lodge with spacious sitting room, reception area and dining room, flanked by eight cottages providing luxurious accommodation for 16 guests. Built of local stone and thatch, the 8 luxury bandas offer views over the dramatic Rwenzori Mountains; each banda is en-suite with a private veranda. The dining room and lounge offer relaxing views over the crater lake below.

Walks round the 1000 acre farm and to Mahoma waterfall, boating on the lake, swimming in the lake, trips to a tea plantation and to Kibale Forest National Park (chimp tracking) and the Bigodi wetland sanctuary. Facilities include a swimming pool, lounge and library, dining room, laundry.

ISHASHA WILDERNESS CAMP



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QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK



Ishasha Wilderness Camp is an idyllic retreat for people who truly enjoy the wilderness, coupled with superb accommodation and exceptional service. The thatched central lounge and dining area provides a cosy and relaxed space for guests, although meals are often served 'al fresco' beside the river. In the evening, the outdoor fireplace beside the river is the perfect place for guests to relax over sundowners and share their day's experiences. Each of the ten spacious framed canvas rooms, privately nestled along the riverbank, is comfortably furnished and feature en-suite bathrooms. Wake to the delicious aroma of morning coffee served on your private verandah. Resident troops of Black-and-White Colobus and Vervet monkeys abound and if you are lucky you'll spot Henry, the lone hippo, wallowing lazily below our viewing deck. Game roams freely through camp, with Elephant making frequent guest appearances. Designed to respect and complement the environment, this low impact, eco-sensitive camp is really something special, and after a few days unwinding here, you may well not want to leave.

CLOUDS LODGE



CLOUDS LODGE



CLOUDS

THE IMPENETRABLE FORREST



The spirit of Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge

Set on a forested ridge near the entrance to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge boasts eight spacious cottages built from volcanic stone. Spectacular views stretch all the way to the Virunga Volcanoes of Rwanda, as well as across the border into the Congo, where the glow of Nyiragongo Volcano can be seen on a clear night. Warm and welcoming, each cottage features a bedroom, ensuite bathroom with walk-in shower and separate lounge. Comfortable chairs on the outdoor verandas provide the perfect vantage point to admire the unforgettable vistas of the forest below. Blazing fireplaces create a cosy glow as evening falls.

Meals are prepared using the freshest local ingredients and served in front of a roaring fire in the dining area or in the privacy of your stone cottage. The lodge is situated within easy walking distance of the trail where guests can begin their gorilla trekking adventure. Guided forest walks and birdwatching expeditions explore the surroundings, while local community visits give a glimpse of traditional life.



SABYINYO LODGE

SABYINYO LODGE



SABYINYO

VIRUNGA NATIONAL PARK



Set on the edge of the Parc National des Volcans in a lush green property of 11 hectares, Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge enjoys fabulous and dramatic views of the surrounding volcanoes.

All guest cottages are discretely situated in the folds of the hills and amongst the verdant vegetation of the Sabyinyo property. Each beautifully appointed ensuite cottage, with its country-chic style and open log fires, is a perfect haven of warmth and luxury. The main lodge building is designed with the guest in mind. Assorted seating areas in the main lounge, reception and entertainment room provide for intimate privacy, or the opportunity to meet other guests, and open-log fires throughout create a luxuriously warm and inviting atmosphere. Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge is an exciting combination of a world-class lodge and a financial source driving socio-economic development and conservation initiatives in the areas adjacent to the Parc National des Volcans. Sabyinyo

The idea was to develop a lodge whose revenue streams would improve the lives of local community members and directly support gorilla conservation. In partnership with The African Wildlife Foundation ("AWF") and The International Gorilla Conservation Program ("IGCP"), it was decided that the ownership of the lodge would rest with a Community Trust, "SACOLA". Lease rentals and a community development levy paid by every guest staying at the lodge are received by SACOLA. These income streams, now totalling over \$3.1 Million, are the driving force behind the socio-economic development projects undertaken by SACOLA and have directly benefited some 5,800 households and had a very positive impact on the lives of local people and gorilla conservation.

AKAGERA



MAGASHI



MAGESHI

AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK



Magashi Camp is situated in the productive and phenomenally diverse north-eastern corner of Akagera National Park, overlooking beautiful Lake Rwanyakazinga. Akagera comprises some of the most scenic savannah in East Africa – open plains, woodlands, lakes, swamp and grassy low mountains – and is home to one of Africa’s highest hippo densities, some very large crocodiles as well as the rare sitatunga and more than 520 bird species.

Teeming with plains game, Akagera now also boasts a healthy population of lion, which were reintroduced into the park in 2015 after a 20-year absence, as well as black rhino which were reintroduced in 2017. Magashi – the only exclusive-use area in Akagera – also harbours a good density of leopard.

Six spacious and airy tents offer uninterrupted views over Lake Rwanyakazinga, while Magashi’s main area comprises a luxurious lounge, dining and bar area, pool and expansive viewing deck with a convivial fire pit. The architecture and interiors pay homage to traditional Rwandan culture.



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