

**UTB LEADS THE WAY  
WITH RESPONSIBLE  
TOURISM**



## **New Rates for UWA Parks**

**UTB Leads the  
way with  
Responsible  
Tourism**

**TRAVEL TRADE**

# **PEARL**

**APRIL 2024**

**of Africa**



01

## Message from Lilly Ajarova

CEO UTB talks about the upcoming POATE

02

## Uganda Tourism Info

Visa's, Consulates and other travel information

03

## Uganda Wildlife Authority

Pricing and listings for wildlife parks

04

## Out and About with UTB

Fam Trips, Meeting People in Tourism and News

05

## Exhibitions through Africa

Uganda shows off at WTM and Meetings Africa in South Africa

**Please note : Numbers are not page numbers. Click on the tabs to move around the magazine**



When you see the video image, click to watch a video

**Brought to you by**



All telephone, website and other relevant links are connected so feel free to connect directly using those links



**Monthly Directory of Tour Operators**



**LILLY  
AJAROVA  
CEO**

Welcome to the first edition of Pearl of Africa for the travel and tourism trade. This month we are full steam ahead with organizing, the Pearl of Africa Tourism Expo which serves as a platform for showcasing the country's tourism potential to a global audience. Held annually in Uganda's capital city, Kampala, the expo brings together tourism stakeholders, travel professionals, and enthusiasts from around the world. Through a series of exhibitions, seminars, and networking events, participants gain insights into Uganda's tourism offerings while fostering meaningful partnerships and collaborations.

**Key Highlights and Activities:**

The expo features an array of activities designed to spotlight Uganda's diverse tourism products and experiences. Highlights include:



## **Destination Showcases:**

Exhibitors from various regions of Uganda showcase their unique attractions, including national parks, cultural sites, and adventure activities. Visitors have the opportunity to learn about lesser-known gems and off-the-beaten-path destinations.

## **Cultural Performances:**

Vibrant performances showcasing Uganda's rich cultural heritage take center stage, with traditional music, dance, and storytelling captivating audiences and fostering cross-cultural exchange.

## **Adventure Tourism Expo:**

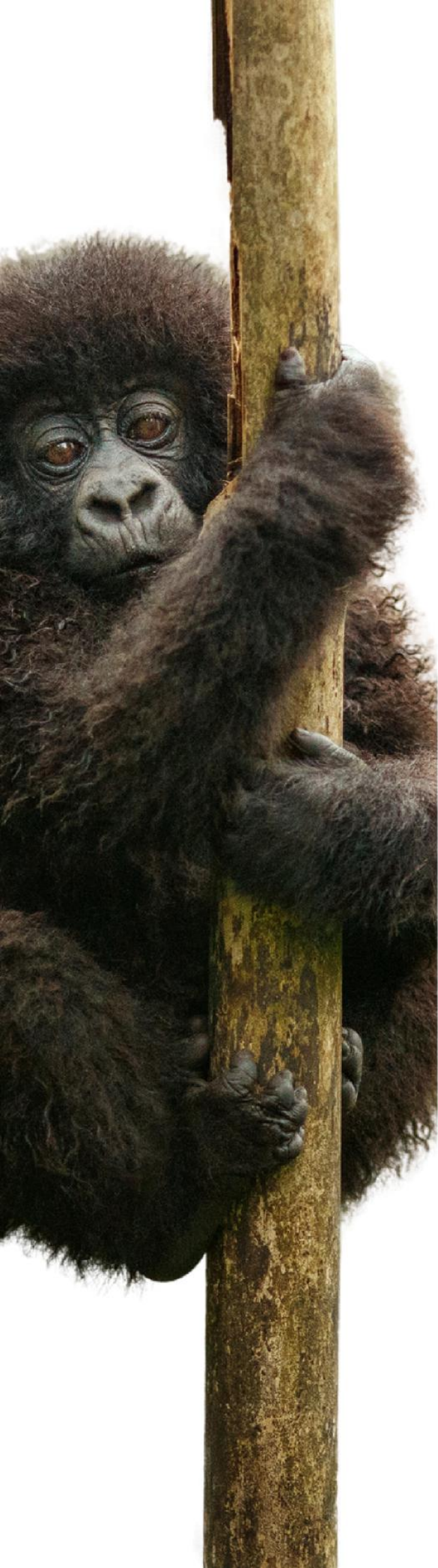
Adventure enthusiasts can explore a wide range of adrenaline-pumping activities, from white-water rafting on the Nile River to trekking in the lush rainforests of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

## **Sustainable Tourism Symposium:**

Recognizing the importance of responsible tourism practices, the expo hosts discussions and workshops focused on promoting sustainability, conservation, and com

## **Impact and Future Prospects:**

The Pearl of Africa Tourism Expo plays a pivotal role in promoting Uganda as a top-tier tourist destination while driving economic growth and development. By showcasing the country's natural beauty, cultural heritage, and hospitality, the expo attracts investment, stimulates job creation, and contributes to the conservation of Uganda's precious ecosystems.



## **Community engagement within the tourism industry.**

Looking ahead, the expo holds immense potential for further expansion and innovation, harnessing digital technologies and strategic partnerships to reach a broader audience and enhance the visitor experience. As Uganda continues to position itself as a must-visit destination on the global tourism map, the Pearl of Africa Tourism Expo shines brightly as a symbol of the country's boundless possibilities and enduring allure.

### **Conclusion:**

In the tapestry of Africa's diverse landscapes and cultures, Uganda stands out as a shining gem, beckoning travelers to embark on a journey of discovery and adventure. The Pearl of Africa Tourism Expo serves as a gateway to Uganda's treasures, inviting the world to explore its natural wonders, encounter its wildlife, and experience its rich cultural heritage. As Uganda continues to evolve as a premier tourist destination, the expo stands as a testament to the country's resilience, creativity, and unwavering spirit of hospitality. See you there!

*Lilly*



Theme:  
**Responsible  
Tourism**

 **23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>  
May 2024**

 **Speke Resort  
Convention Centre,  
Munyonyo**

Register at: [www.poate.co.ug](http://www.poate.co.ug)

EXPLORE  
**UGANDA**  
THE PEARL OF AFRICA



Calling all industry professionals and enthusiasts! The Pearl of Africa Tourism Expo (POATE) is a prime source of valuable information for anyone passionate about the future of tourism.

#POATE2024 offers a diverse array of seminars covering topics such as sustainable tourism practices, emerging trends, tourism technology, sports tourism, and more. It's the perfect opportunity to gain insights from experts and industry leaders from around the world.

Join us at Speke Resort & Conference Centre Munyonyo from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May and discover how Uganda can leverage these opportunities to drive sustainable socio-economic development and create lasting impacts on local communities. Learn about financing opportunities for tourism businesses, designing exceptional business event experiences, and igniting destination growth through strategic business initiatives.



Don't miss this opportunity to access valuable information and be part of the dialogue shaping the future of tourism in Uganda.

#POATE2024 | #ResponsibleTourism

POATE presents numerous opportunities such as;

**1. Global Exposure;**

Showcase your products and services to a diverse audience of regional and international stakeholders. With over 250 exhibitors expected to attend, POATE 2024 offers unparalleled exposure and visibility for your brand.

**2. Networking Opportunities;** Connect with over 70 hosted buyers and 5,000 trade visitors and consumers from around the world. Forge valuable partnerships, explore collaboration opportunities, and expand your professional network.

**3. Business Deals;**

Engage in productive B2B meetings and negotiations with potential clients, partners, and investors. POATE 2024 is the perfect platform to secure new business deals, drive sales, and accelerate your company's growth.

4. Market Insights;  
Gain valuable insights into the latest trends, innovations, and developments shaping the tourism industry. Attend informative seminars, workshops, and panel discussions to stay ahead of the curve and position your brand for success.

Visit the official POATE website at [poate.co.ug](http://poate.co.ug) to secure your spot and join us at the Speke Resort Convention Centre, Munyonyo, Kampala from 23rd to 25th May 2024.

Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your brand, expand your network, and unlock new opportunities in the dynamic world of tourism.





FEEL THE RUSH

# RWENZORI MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE



## PACKAGES FROM

Standard

**\$1500**

/package

Luxury

**\$2000**

/package

## YOU'LL GET

- Accommodation
- Meals
- Guide & Rescue Team
- Transfers
- Snacks & Drinks
- Documentation Video

## GET READY TO GET HIGH?

Join Our Gorill!

+256 752 300 111 Reservations

More Information

[reservations@letsvamos.travel](mailto:reservations@letsvamos.travel)



Vamos Luxury Travel  
Lot 29 Katzamiti Rd, Kampala Uganda

**Explore Uganda with us in this, our monthly magazine, Pearl of Africa.**



**The Pearl is blessed with an undeniable natural beauty. In the west, the Rwenzori peaks reach towards the sky, the perfect challenge for bold explorers - Across the nation, parks are home to some of the world's most exotic animals: Silverbacks, lions and countless others, ooh... Uganda is home to Africa's big 5.**



**Winding roads lead to places of grand beauty and unique cultures for those who dare to explore. There's a story at every turn, especially from our people, who are renowned for their warmth and charm.**



# EXPLORE UGANDA

THE PEARL OF AFRICA

Visit [www.exploreuganda.com](http://www.exploreuganda.com)

# Out and About with CEO of UTB Lilly Ajarova



Uganda Tourism Board (UTB) is a Government of Uganda statutory organization given the responsibility to market and promote Uganda as the preferred holiday destination both domestically and internationally. Lilly Ajarova is a leader and manager who is enthusiastic about sustainable tourism development, marketing, and environmental conservation.



April 25th 2024 - Uganda Tourism Board-UTB's Board Chairperson, Pearl Kakooza, and CEO Lilly Ajarova, recently convened with Ms. NwanneObahor Vwede, the United Nations Development Programme - UNDP Resident Representative, to discuss potential collaborative ventures. The meeting aimed to identify opportunities for boosting Uganda's tourism sector and leveraging it to generate employment and empower communities across the nation.

As Uganda's premier tourism authority, UTB is committed to harnessing the transformative power of tourism to drive socio-economic development. By partnering with esteemed organizations like UNDP, we can amplify our efforts to create sustainable livelihoods and foster inclusive growth in communities nationwide.

We extend a warm welcome to Ms. Nwanne Vwede-Obahor to the Pearl of Africa.

[#ResponsibleTourism](#) | [#ExploreUganda](#)



April 3rd, 2024 - Happy Birthday to Jane Goodall, a renowned primatologist who revolutionized our understanding of Chimpanzees.

Having left formal education at the age of 18, her passion for Africa led her to work alongside famed paleoanthropologist Louis Leakey.

In 1960, she defied traditional methods by entering the chimpanzees' world at Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania. Her detailed observations, like naming chimps and attributing human-like emotions to them, challenged scientific norms. Goodall's lifelong dedication to conservation has earned her titles like "Chimp Lady" and "Messenger for Chimps".

Today, she continues to be a tireless advocate for chimpanzees and a global inspiration for environmental action.

Jane Goodall Institute Uganda, Uganda Tourism Board-UTB, Explore Uganda, the Jane Goodall Institute



Tour operators and Travel agents from countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia and South Africa visited Queen Elizabeth Park, Semiliki and Kibale. The Nigerian team visited Kabaka palace, Museum, Jinja and a few hotels in Kampala. Are you up for a trip to the Pearl of Africa?

# FAM Trips







## **New UTB Board tasked with transforming Uganda into a Premier Tourist Destination**





The Minister of Tourism, Wildlife, and Antiquities Hon. Tom Butime has tasked the newly appointed Board of Directors of the Uganda Tourism Board (UTB) to transform Uganda into a premier tourist destination.

Comprising a team of 11 members, each selected for their exemplary expertise in Uganda's tourism sector, the board's inauguration ceremony held on February 8th at Mestil Hotel Nsambya marked a pivotal moment in Uganda's journey towards global tourism prominence.

Led by Pearl Hoareau Kakooza, the Board embodies a fusion of seasoned professionals poised to steer Uganda's tourism narrative towards unequaled heights. Other members include Olive Birungi Lumonya, Sally Sandra Kebirungi, Vincent Operemo, Stephen Sanyi Masaba, Vivian Lyazi, Margaret Arach Ojara, Tony Mulinde, Rashid Kiyimba, Ronald Kazooba Kawamara and Lilly Ajarova.

Minister Butime, in his address to the new Board, articulated a compelling vision for Uganda's tourism future, emphasizing the sector's pivotal role in driving economic growth, fostering job creation, and nurturing social and cultural development.

"The tourism industry in Uganda holds immense potential for economic growth, job creation and social and cultural development of our people. It is therefore imperative that UTB under the guidance of the new board continues to pursue innovative strategies, sustainable practices and partnerships that enhance Uganda's competitiveness in the global tourism markets," Butime affirmed.



Lilly Ajarova, the CEO of UTB and secretary of the Board, echoed Butime's sentiments, urging her fellow board members to champion sustainable tourism initiatives, safeguard Uganda's rich natural and cultural heritage, and foster inclusivity within the sector.

"We must work tirelessly to ensure that Uganda remains the destination of choice for travellers who are seeking authentic experiences, breathtaking landscapes and warm hospitality. I am confident that we shall overcome challenges, seize opportunities and realize the full potential of Uganda's tourism sector," Said Ajarova.

In a stirring transition of leadership, the outgoing Board chairperson Daudi Migereko imparted invaluable wisdom to the new board, urging them to diligently execute President Yoweri Museveni's directives issued the previous year.

These directives, he said, ranging from infrastructure development to staff training, serve as a clear strategy for Uganda's tourism renaissance, demanding swift and decisive action from the newly appointed board.

The board embraced Migereko's charge with fervor, pledging unwavering commitment to realize Uganda's full tourism potential on the global stage.

With the new board at the helm, the tourism sector in Uganda stands poised to follow a transformative journey, promising unprecedented opportunities for growth, prosperity, and global acclaim.





**wtm**<sup>®</sup>

**AFRICA**

**Cape Town, 7-9 April 2021**





# TOUR OPERATORS



Click on each logo to  
access the tour  
operators page

## VAMOS

LUXURY AFRICAN TOURS

+256 752 300111

[www.letsvamos.travel](http://www.letsvamos.travel)

[reservations@letsvamos.travel](mailto:reservations@letsvamos.travel)



Exclusive interview with CEO  
of Vamos Luxury African  
Travel - Isaac Mulindwa

A safari of a lifetime begins with single exploration. Wanting others to experience the same African adventure inspired founding of Kibo Slopes Safaris in 1994.

[www.kiboslopes.com](http://www.kiboslopes.com)

Email: [kampala@kiboslopes.com](mailto:kampala@kiboslopes.com)



## KIBO SLOPES SAFARIS

your adventure tour specialist

EAST AFRICA

We make every trip a memory and every visit makes you want to come back for more!

24/7 contact numbers;

+256 779 086 547 / +256 772 867 943

[info@jewelsafaris.com](mailto:info@jewelsafaris.com)

[www.jewelsafaris.com](http://www.jewelsafaris.com)



## JEWEL Safaris

THE ULTIMATE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE



[info@selfdriveuganda.com](mailto:info@selfdriveuganda.com)

[www.selfdriveuganda.com](http://www.selfdriveuganda.com)

Self Drive Uganda Started initially as 4x4 Car Rental Company, the company emerged as an early authority in the Independent travelers on Car Hire , being able to offer comprehensive advice and first-hand experience for journeys into East Africa on Self Drive option.

Each month we feature 4 Tour Operators listed with the Association on of Uganda Tour Operators. To apply to be listed please email [geniene@flipmagz.co.za](mailto:geniene@flipmagz.co.za)



Uganda Tourism Board is training hotel owners and managers from Northern Uganda in Arua city and Gulu city on grading and classification of accommodation facilities.

The objective is to raise awareness among hoteliers about the importance of hotel grading and classification, and encourage hoteliers to get their facilities registered, inspected, licensed and graded to meet regional standards.

Adhering to standards ensures consistent quality, professionalism, and trust among tourists, driving competitiveness and enhancing the country's reputation as a desirable destination, leading to sustainable economic benefits.



# Uganda Wildlife Authority: Spearheading Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Excellence in the Region

# INTRODUCTION

Nestled in the heart of East Africa, Uganda boasts a diverse array of wildlife and breathtaking landscapes. At the forefront of preserving this natural heritage and promoting sustainable tourism is the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). Established as a statutory body in 1996, UWA has emerged as a key player in orchestrating the delicate balance between conservation efforts and responsible tourism in the region.

## **1. Conservation as a Cornerstone:**

**Biodiversity Protection:** UWA's primary mandate is the protection of Uganda's rich biodiversity. This involves managing and conserving the country's ten national parks, twelve wildlife reserves, and numerous sanctuaries. Through strategic planning, habitat restoration, and anti-poaching initiatives, UWA ensures the survival and flourishing of diverse flora and fauna.

**Community Engagement:** UWA recognizes the symbiotic relationship between wildlife conservation and local communities. The authority actively involves communities in conservation efforts, fostering a sense of shared responsibility. Initiatives include education programs, sustainable livelihood projects, and collaborative decision-making processes.

## **2. Responsible Tourism Practices:**

**Ecotourism Initiatives:** UWA has championed the cause of responsible tourism by promoting ecotourism initiatives. This involves designing tourism experiences that minimize environmental impact, respect local cultures, and contribute to conservation efforts. The goal is to offer visitors an immersive experience while safeguarding the integrity of Uganda's ecosystems.

**Revenue Sharing:** A hallmark of UWA's approach is the equitable distribution of tourism revenue. A significant portion of the funds generated from tourism activities goes back to local communities, incentivizing their active participation in conservation and creating a sustainable economic model.



### **3. Innovative Conservation Strategies:**

**Technology Integration:** UWA leverages modern technology to enhance conservation efforts. The use of drones for surveillance, GPS tracking to monitor wildlife movements, and data analytics for informed decision-making exemplify the authority's commitment to adopting innovative solutions in wildlife management.

**Translocation Programs:** In response to ecological challenges, UWA implements translocation programs to relocate species to more suitable habitats. This proactive approach helps maintain healthy population levels and genetic diversity, ensuring the long-term viability of Uganda's wildlife.



## 4. Collaboration and Partnerships:

**International Cooperation:** UWA collaborates with international organizations, governmental bodies, and non-profits to strengthen its conservation endeavors. These partnerships facilitate knowledge exchange, capacity building, and access to resources that contribute to the overall effectiveness of UWA's conservation programs.

**Tourism Industry Collaboration:** Recognizing the pivotal role of the tourism industry, UWA collaborates with tour operators, hospitality providers, and travel agencies. These collaborations aim to enhance the visitor experience, promote sustainable tourism practices, and create a positive impact on local economies.



## 5. Education and Awareness:

**Educational Programs:** UWA places a strong emphasis on education and awareness. The authority conducts educational programs in schools and local communities to instill a sense of environmental stewardship. By fostering a connection between people and nature, UWA lays the foundation for a conservation-minded society.

# CONCUSSION

Uganda Wildlife Authority stands as a beacon of conservation excellence in East Africa. Through its multifaceted approach encompassing biodiversity protection, responsible tourism, innovation, collaboration, and education, UWA has not only safeguarded Uganda's natural treasures but also positioned the country as a global leader in sustainable wildlife management. As the authority continues to evolve, it sets a compelling example for other regions seeking to balance the preservation of biodiversity with the promotion of responsible tourism. Uganda's wildlife thrives under the thoughtful guardianship of UWA, creating a legacy that resonates far beyond the borders of this vibrant East African nation.

Report this

Published by

Discover Wildlife Tourism WorldDiscover Wildlife Tourism World

Follow

UGANDA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY: SPEARHEADING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND TOURISM EXCELLENCE IN THE REGION

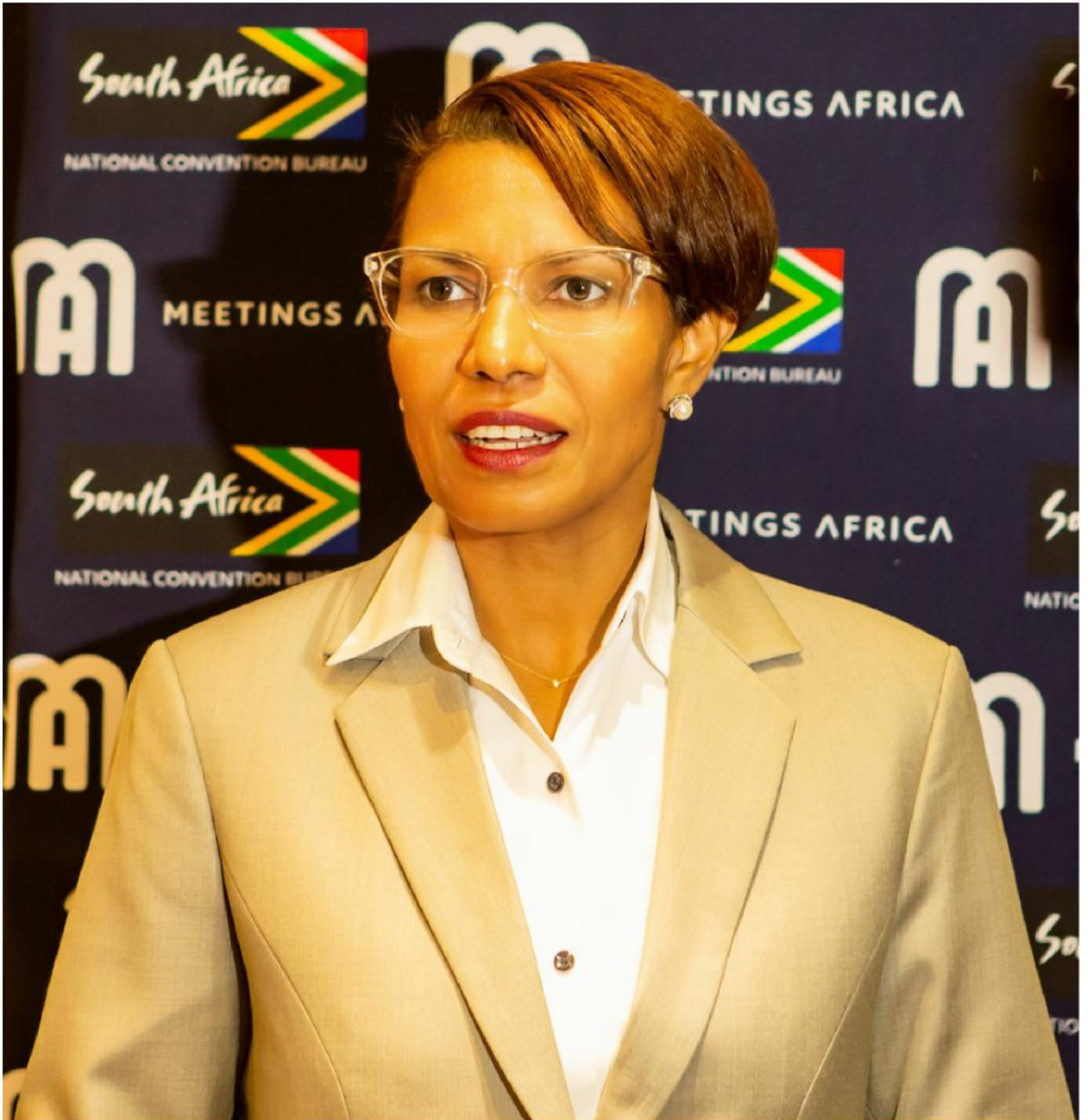
Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) is a conservation trailblazer, excelling in biodiversity protection, responsible tourism, innovation, collaboration, and education. Their holistic approach ensures Uganda's natural treasures flourish, setting a global standard for sustainable wildlife management and fostering a legacy of environmental stewardship.

hashtag#UWA hashtag#ConservationLeader

hashtag#SustainableTourism hashtag#BiodiversityProtection

Uganda Wildlife Authority Uganda Wildlife Authority Mercy Chagara Nelson Besigye Fred Kayondo Martin Martin

# UGANDA EMBRACES SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FOR A THRIVING FUTURE



## Lilly Ajarova, CEO Uganda Tourism Board talks to Diana Kinyanjui at Meetings Africa 2024

Uganda, often referred to as the “Pearl of Africa,” is not only a land of breathtaking beauty but also a champion of responsible eco-tourism. This commitment is evident in their national tourism policy, which prioritizes sustainability and inclusivity. The Ugandan Tourism Board made a splash at Meetings Africa 2024, held at The Sandton Convention Centre in February. This prestigious event, hosted by South African Tourism, fosters the growth of Africa’s business events industry, driving economic development across the continent.

“Uganda’s tourism policy first of all states that it is responsible sustainable eco-tourism that we are developing,” explains CEO of The Ugandan Tourism Board, Lilly Arajova.

This translates to a focus on empowering local communities and ensuring everyone benefits from the tourism industry. The policy actively encourages “Ugandan small informal businesses to participate, fostering a spirit of “tourism is everyone’s business.”

The policy recognizes the importance of domestic tourism. “We want every Ugandan to be part of tourism,” Arajova emphasizes.

This focus on domestic tourism strengthens the foundation for international tourism. A vibrant domestic tourism sector fosters appreciation for the country’s beauty and ensures Ugandans are active participants in its growth.

## **Community Partnerships: Sharing the Benefits**

Sustainability extends beyond environmental concerns. Uganda recognizes the crucial role local communities play. “We also have a policy that 20% of the park revenue is shared with the community living in the vicinity of the national parks,” Arajova highlights. This ensures communities directly benefit from tourism, fostering a sense of ownership and encouraging conservation efforts. Additionally, prioritizing employment for local communities strengthens the social fabric and ensures a skilled workforce.



# Preserving the Environment: A Shared Responsibility

Uganda has implemented a policy encouraging responsible resource usage: “we also have a policy that encourages them to replant every tree they cut down,” shared Arajova. This ensures the long-term sustainability of Uganda’s natural beauty and protects the environment for future generations of tourists and residents alike.

By prioritizing responsible eco-tourism, Uganda is fostering a thriving industry that benefits both the environment and its people. This commitment to sustainability ensures the “Pearl of Africa” continues to shine brightly for generations to come.





MEETINGS AFRICA

EXHIBITION- 27.02/28.02

BONDAY- 26.02

SANDTON CONVENTION CENTRE  
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



**Training your staff is key to all sectors of the tourism industry - and hospitality is no exception!**



To listen to the podcast of the full interview

Oh to access the energy in that hall and bottle it for export! Against a background of serious networking voices at the recent World Travel Market event held in Cape Town, Geniene Preston of Urban Edge Radio, and Francine Zana, CEO and Founder of Exclusive Hospitality Concepts (EHC) had a conversation that just makes a person want to travel to see and experience and take pictures and relax ... you get the picture!

“It’s Housekeeping, may I come in please?”

“How can I order Uber?”

“Where is the nearest Bureaux de Change?”

“Is it safe to go out for a walk right now?”



These questions are answered all in a day's work for EHC-trained staff. Francine, who has worked in all grades of hotels up to 5-star, speaks easily about her plain hardwork and ambition-filled journey to date. She saw a gap and a unique opportunity which led to establishing EHC and the focused practical hands-on 'this- is-how-it's-done' training and consulting services she offers to guest establishments and staff. "We train hospitality staff and consult within the hospitality industry. It's a unique concept because I founded it after I had worked in the industry for more than 19 years."

My philosophy? "I believe hospitality is the only sector that can turn just a normal somebody into a businesswoman like myself. It opens doors for anyone because it's 95 percent practical and 5 percent theory. That's my take. So, it's all about how hard you work and how hard you want something. So that's, that's my belief."

It turned out that Francine's backstory was most interesting.

From a humble and simple beginning, growing up in the township in Port Elizabeth, with her never-say-die attitude, hard work, dedication and real desire to better herself, Francine went from domestic cleaner to company CEO. Indeed, nobody could call Francine Zana lucky, unless lucky means hard work!



Her drive and enthusiasm are compelling and her story is one that inspires anyone from a disadvantaged background with an example of how to follow your desired path in life. Her story is one of dogged perseverance and ambition and one that shows that your early background, and “where you start in life, does not have to determine where you finish.”

After dropping out of college at age 19 for financial reasons, the only job she could find at the time was that of a domestic worker and little did she realise then that that was the start of an exciting and fulfilling future!

The conversation then went on to ask (and answer or suggest) ways in which all staff could take ownership of their roles to improve guest experiences. Include here understanding how the hotel works; who does what and why; how matters could be bettered with engaged and well-trained staff.

- **About First Aid for example.**

it's a different thing altogether, it's up to hotels and companies to invest in such training with services that specialize in first aid training or similar. “As part of our consulting, we do will recommend this specialist training to our clients. It's one thing to say we need training and another to offer it. It's easy for someone to say, oh, but they need training. Correct. But the thing is, there are those who do not want to invest in training. But then when we approach, we find there's always a lack of budget. We don't back down though, we push.”





- **On improving basic communication and language skills:**

“That's one of the things that I would say I specialize in because wherever I go, those are requirements of all properties employing staff to work for the guests' comfort.”

- **On Housekeeping in general:**

“Part of the service I advocate for is that a housekeeper should not be treated as 'just a cleaner.' It is not just cleaning. There's much more absolutely! It is a profession. Housekeeping, and all its aspects and sections, has taken me to where I am today. I will forever be a housekeeper.”

- **On understanding the different roles within a hotel or guesthouse:**

“Part of what I do is making sure that the trainees and staff improve their communication skills, number one, and understand the brand and the vision and their surroundings - also very important training to cover.”

- **On getting staff to shadow different functions:**

“Every staff member is an Ambassador for the hotel, and knowing what 'your' job entails and being taken as a part of the whole means loyal and satisfied staff and good staff retention.”

On closing the interview, one sees how 'giving back to the community' is important to Francine. "I provide complimentary training [on all subjects] to the community, and later assist them in terms of placing them in jobs in different hotels. And I've built good relationship with different hotels and to date about 120 people have been permanently employed."

"So, I also consult in private homes as well. With private homes, I bring in the boutique services, you know, people with big homes, they like the hospitality feel in their homes. I have clients in Cape Town, Johannesburg and across South Africa."

Thank you Francine, it has been such a pleasure chatting to you. I really look forward to chatting to you again at Africa's Travel Indaba, in Durban in May.

"Yeah, I will be there and I'd love to chat to you again too. I'm sure we'll have more time. Then we get to chat to other things that we didn't cover. And part of those things is like, this housekeeper has won about nine awards."

A fitting end to a charming conversation!

Geniene Preston from Urban Edge Radio. Next stop? Africa's Travel Indaba, in Durban in May.

Contacts:

Francine Zana

[francine@exclusivhospitality.co.za](mailto:francine@exclusivhospitality.co.za)

[exclusivhospitality.co.za](http://exclusivhospitality.co.za)

+27 (0)791459089



Join Us Now for

# AFRICAN WILDLIFE SAFARI

GORILLA TRACKING

BWINDI  
NATIONAL PARK



TOTAL COST  
PER PERSON  
**\$2500**

Contact us now:

PO Box 26029 Kampala.

+256 772 867 943

+44 7466 004653



## Places to visit

3 Days consisting of:

- ✓ Day 1: Drive to Bwindi
- ✓ Day 2: Gorilla tracking in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and transfer to Lake Bunyonyi
- ✓ Day 3: Departure



**JEWEL**  
*Safaris*

THE ULTIMATE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

PACKAGE COST OFFER INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Exclusive Safari transport in custom made Safari 4x4WD Land Cruiser with AC
- Services of English-speaking driver guides
- Gorilla trekking Permit (One per person)
- Pick-up and drop-off in Kampala
- Bottled water
- All Meals included

info@jewelsafaris.com • www.jewelsafaris.com



# PARK ENTRY

PRICING - MAY 2024

Queen Elizabeth National Park offers visitors an exceptional safari experience with its rich biodiversity, breathtaking scenery, and exciting activities, making it one of Uganda's most popular and iconic national parks. Here are the entry fees;

Foreign Non-Residents; \$40 USD

Foreign Residents: \$30 USD

Rest of Africans: \$30 USD

Ugandan Adults: UGX 20,000

Ugandan Children: UGX 5,000

Pupils/Students: UGX 3,000

Tertiary Institutions: UGX 5,000

Uganda Wildlife Clubs: UGX 2,000



Choose from a variety of thrilling activities;

Game Drive per Guide: \$25 USD (FNR), \$20 USD (FR), and 25,000 UGX

Self Game Drive: \$10 USD (FNR & FR), and 10,000 UGX

Launch Trip: \$30 USD, \$25 USD, and 30,000 UGX

Birdwatching and Nature Walks: \$25 USD, \$20 USD, and 20,000 UGX

Mongoose Watching: \$30 USD, \$25 USD, and 30,000 UGX

Hippo Census: \$100 USD, \$80 USD, and 100,000 UGX

Guided Short Nature Walks for Children: \$5 USD, \$5 USD, and 10,000 UGX

Painting and Artwork: \$10 USD, \$10 USD, and 20,000 UGX

Children Scouts Adventurous Activities: \$10 USD, \$10 USD, and 20,000 UGX

Adventure awaits you at Queen Elizabeth National Park.



Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is home to the largest number of the world's remaining mountain gorillas. The park is a haven for our close relatives and a vast variety of animals, birds, and plant species. Here is your guide to the thrilling adventures that await and how much they cost:

**Gorilla Tracking.**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$800 USD

Foreign Residents: \$700 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 300,000

**Gorilla Habituation.**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$1,500 USD

Foreign Residents: \$1,000 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 750,000

**Birdwatching and Nature Walks:**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$40 USD

Foreign Residents: \$30 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 30,000

**Guided Long Walks.**

Rushaga to Nyabaremura and Buhoma to Nkuringo:

Foreign Non-Residents: \$60 USD

Foreign Residents: \$50 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 50,000

**Long Walk Rushura Hill (Muzabajiro Loop).**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$40 USD

Foreign Residents: \$20 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 10,000

**Bamboo Walk in Ruhija.**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$40 USD

Foreign Residents: \$20 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 10,000

**Batwa Forest Experience (Exclusive of Entrance).**

Foreign Non-Residents: \$40 USD

Foreign Residents: \$40 USD

Rest of Africans: UGX 40,000





EXPLORE  
**UGANDA**  
THE PEARL OF AFRICA





# UGANDA

*Pearl of  
Africa*



Uganda is a landlocked country in East Africa whose diverse landscape encompasses the snow-capped Rwenzori Mountains and immense Lake Victoria. Its abundant wildlife includes chimpanzees as well as rare birds. Remote Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is a renowned mountain gorilla sanctuary. Murchison Falls National Park in the northwest is known for its 43m-tall waterfall and wildlife such as hippos.



***Where the great rivers meet***

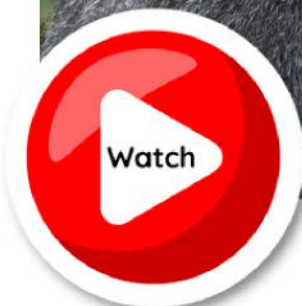


The official languages are English and Swahili. Uganda's official language is English, which is spoken by most educated Ugandans. The three major indigenous language families are Bantu, Central Sudanic, and Nilotic. Swahili and Luganda are also widely spoken.

Ugandan tourism is centered on the country's landscape and animals. It is a key source of employment, investment, and foreign cash, accounting for 4.9 trillion Ugandan shillings (US\$1.88 billion or €1.4 billion as of August 2013) in Uganda's GDP. Tourist attractions in Uganda include national game parks, game reserves, traditional sites, and natural tropical forests. Traditional occasions like Mbalu in eastern Uganda, boat riding, waterfalls etc.

Uganda is a melting pot of different cultures and traditions. It was named the most diverse country on earth by a study from Harvard University. If you want to see the 'real' Uganda, you must incorporate cultural safaris or at the very least a visit to the local community, either for an overnight stay or a few hours to learn about their culture, participate in music and dance, or simply enjoy the food.

***Watch the trek to find the Gorillas of Bwindy***





Winston Churchill called Uganda 'the pearl of Africa', presumably basing his opinion on the country's great natural beauty. From the moment the visitor lands at Entebbe's international airport, with its breath-taking equatorial location on the forested shore of island-strewn Lake Uganda is where the East African savannah meets the West African jungle. In this lush country, one can observe lions prowling the open plains, track chimpanzees through the rainforest undergrowth, then navigate tropical channels teeming with hippos and crocs before setting off into the misty mountains to stare deep into the eyes of a mountain gorilla. Victoria, it is clear that Uganda is no ordinary safari destination. Visit the second-largest town in Uganda, Jinja, on the shores of Lake Victoria. The town is somewhat under-populated but there is a very lively Saturday market. Enjoy the botanical gardens and lakeside beach at Entebbe, the major gateway to Uganda for air travellers. Set off for a climbing expedition in Kisoro, the starting point for trips to Mounts Muhavura and Mgahinga. Experienced mountaineers should head to Mount Elgon, the Rwenzoris and the Virungas for easy and medium climbs.

Capital:	Kampala (EBB)
Currency:	Uganda Shilling (UGX)
Language:	English. Luganda, Kiswahili, Runyankole, Rukiga & Rutoro are also widely spoken.
Dialling code from SA:	+ 256
Time Zones:	UTC/GMT +3 hours (1 hour ahead of South Africa)
Public Holidays 2022:	Jan 1, 26; Feb 16; Mar 8; Apr 15, 18; May 1, 3; Jun 3, 9; Jul 10; Oct 9; Dec 25-26
Side of the Road:	Left
Best Time to go:	January - February & June - September
Best For:	Primates, especially Mountain Gorillas
Plugs:	240 volts AC, 50Hz. British-style three-pin plugs are used.
Drinking Water:	All water should be regarded as being a potential health risk.



<p><b>Health:</b></p>	<p>Outside of Kampala, health care facilities are limited and ill-equipped. Visitors should bring their own medication, however certain medications are banned for import (check with embassy prior to arrival).</p>
<p><b>Customs:</b></p>	<p>Expressing emotions, including anger, is frowned upon and counter-productive.</p>
<p><b>Local Offences / Laws:</b></p>	<p>Drug abuse is illegal. Homosexuality is illegal, and homosexuals are subject to persecution. A permit is required to take pictures of military buildings and airports.</p>
<p><b>Duty Free:</b></p>	<p>The following items may be imported into Uganda by visitors over 18 years without incurring customs duty:• 250g of tobacco products.• 1L of spirits or 2L of wine.• 500ml of eau de toilette, of which not more than a quarter may be perfume.• Goods up to the value of US\$500 (returning residents).</p>
<p><b>Prohibited Imports:</b></p>	<p>Narcotics, pornography, counterfeit items, cultural artefacts and objects of cultural importance, henna, palm tree products and explosive material are not permitted. Some medication may also be restricted; check before you travel. Meat and meat products, along with domestic and wild birds and their products from countries affected by bird flu, are also prohibited. Live animals require a health certificate showing proof of necessary inoculations, and endangered species and products may only be brought into Uganda with permission of CITES. Hunting weapons are only admitted with authorisation from the Ministry of Interior.</p>
<p><b>Prohibited Exports:</b></p>	<p>A special permit is required to export game trophies.</p>



### Issuing Authorities

Ugandan High Commission

882 Stanza Bopape St, Pretoria (Cnr Balmoral & Church St),

Tel: 012 342 6031 /2 /3

E-mail: ugacomer@mweb.co.za

Web: www.pretoria.mofa.go.ug

### Visa Requirements

Visas are required by SA passport holders.

Visas must be applied for online at

<https://visas.immigration.go.ug/>.

Once the visa is approved online, you can schedule an appointment to collect your visa sticker at the Uganda High Commission in Pretoria (take visa approval letter, passport and copies of documents uploaded online)

### REQUIREMENTS

#### Single Entry:

A letter stating reason for transit and country of destination

Return Ticket

Cover letter detailing the purpose of visit

Support Document for the purpose of visit (Medical)

Immigration Status of the Host

Return Ticket

Invitation Letter

Invitation letter for the Conference

Recent Passport-size Photograph

Passport bio-data page (with validity of at least 6 months)

Vaccination Certificate (Yellow Fever)

#### Transit:

Passport (Bio-data page) with atleast 6 months validity  
A letter stating reason for transit and country of destination  
Vaccination Certificate (Yellow Fever)  
Recent Passport size Photograph  
Visa Cost  
Single entry / Transit: US\$50  
Multiple entry US\$100

NOTE: Online payments are subjected to a 3% surcharge fee. The eVisa system currently accepts only the following credit card/debit cards: MasterCard and Visa.

SA Representative  
SA High Commission  
15A Nakasero Road, Kampala  
Tel: +256 41 770 2100  
E-mail: [kampala.sahc@dirco.gov.za](mailto:kampala.sahc@dirco.gov.za)  
Web: [dirco1.azurewebsites.net/uganda/](http://dirco1.azurewebsites.net/uganda/)

Travel Health  
Compulsory: Yellow Fever  
Recommended: Hepatitis A & B, Meningitis, Rabies, Typhoid,  
Tetanus, Polio  
Malaria Risk

Carry more  
**Baggage**  
to/from **Dubai**

Effective  
29th April, 2024 to 31st May, 2024

**90KG**  
3 Pieces  
30kg each



**Uganda Airlines**



Fly the Crane to the Pearl of Africa

## Kampala Sales Office

Address:

Victoria University Towers

Esso Corner, Jinja Road, Kampala - Uganda.

Telephone:

+256 (0)200 406 400, +256 (0) 417 406 400

WhatsApp: +256 (0 )754 355 860

Email:

reservations@ugandairlines.com

## Entebbe International Airport Office

Address:

2nd Floor, Departures,

Entebbe International Airport Passenger Terminal Building

Telephone:

+256 (0)740 008 118

WhatsApp: +256 (0) 754 355 860

Email:

ebbticketing@ugandairlines.com

## Cargo Office

Address:

Entebbe International Airport

3rd Floor - Departures

Telephone:

+256 740 007 707 / +256 740 008 881

Email:

cargo@ugandairlines.com

## Head Offices

Address:

Uganda National Airlines Company Limited dba Uganda

Airlines EagleAir Hangar Complex, Entebbe International Airport

- Old Airport P.O. Box 431, Entebbe, Uganda

Telephone:

+256 (0) 200 406 4005

WhatsApp: +256 (0) 754 355 860

Email:

info@ugandairlines.com

If you're planning a trip to Uganda, it's important to know the travel requirements before you go. Here's a comprehensive guide to help you prepare for your journey:

COVID-19 Requirements

Visa Requirements

Health Insurance

Currency

Culture and Etiquette

COVID-19 Requirements

Uganda has been determined as a low-risk zone for Covid-19. Covid vaccines are not required, but recommended, especially in conjunction with other vaccines for the listed problematic diseases. The country has no official closure or lockdown in effect preventing travel due to Covid-19.

## UGANDA TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS



### Travel details

- Passport
- Visa if not from visa-free country
- Yellow fever vaccine
- Ugandan Shilling (UGX), or USD, GBP or EUR cash for exchange
- You do not need to show a COVID vaccination certificate or negative COVID test to enter Uganda.

If you are symptomatic, it is advised to delay any travel plans until full recovery with negative tests. No testing is required before or after arrival in Uganda.

### Visa requirements

#### Passport validity

If you are a resident in Uganda, your passport must be valid for 6 months from the date you arrive.

Check with your travel provider to make sure your passport and other travel documents meet their requirements.

#### Visas

Most foreign passport holders need a tourist or business visa to enter Uganda. Uganda has introduced an 'e-visas' system through which applications can be submitted and approved online in advance of travel.



## VISA-EXEMPT COUNTRIES:

ANGOLA  
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA  
BAHAMAS  
BARBADOS  
BELIZE  
BOTSWANA  
BURUNDI  
COMOROS  
CYPRUS  
ERITREA  
ESWATINI  
FIJI  
GAMBIA  
GHANA  
GRENADA  
IRELAND  
JAMAICA  
KENYA  
LESOTHO  
MADAGASCAR  
MALAWI  
MALAYSIA (6 MTHS)  
MALTA  
MAURITIUS  
RWANDA  
SAINT VINCENT AND  
THE GRENADINES  
SEYCHELLES  
SIERRA LEONE  
SINGAPORE  
SOLOMON ISLANDS  
SOUTH SUDAN (6 MTS)  
TANZANIA  
TONGA  
VANUATU  
ZAMBIA  
ZIMBABWE

### Health insurance

When traveling to Uganda, it is crucial to prioritize your health and safety by obtaining comprehensive health insurance that covers any medical expenses incurred while abroad. While Uganda has made significant progress in healthcare, it's essential to be prepared for unexpected medical situations. Healthcare facilities in Uganda can vary in quality, and medical costs, especially for foreign nationals, can be significant. Having reliable health insurance ensures that you have access to necessary medical services without the burden of exorbitant expenses.

In the event of illness, accidents, or any medical emergency, having valid health insurance provides peace of mind and ensures that you can receive appropriate medical care without financial strain. Adequate coverage also includes medical evacuation, which may be necessary in severe cases that require specialized treatment available in neighboring countries.

### Currency

Uganda's currency is the Ugandan Shilling (UGX). When traveling to Uganda, it is advisable to have some local currency on hand for daily expenses and transactions. The Ugandan Shilling is widely accepted throughout the country.

Exchanging foreign currency into Ugandan Shillings is relatively easy, and you can do so at banks, authorized Forex bureaus, and some hotels in major towns and cities. It's recommended to exchange your currency at official establishments to ensure fair rates and avoid counterfeit notes.

While the Ugandan Shilling is the primary currency, US Dollars are widely accepted in Uganda, especially in larger hotels, tour operators, and some tourist areas. It is advisable to carry small denomination US Dollar bills, preferably in good condition, as larger bills may not always be accepted, or you may receive a lower exchange rate for them.

Credit cards with Visa or Mastercard logos are generally accepted in larger hotels, restaurants, and major businesses in urban areas. However, it's important to note that smaller establishments, local markets, and rural areas may primarily operate on a cash-only basis. Therefore, it is recommended to carry some local currency for day-to-day expenses, especially when venturing into remote areas.

ATMs are widely available in major cities and towns, allowing you to withdraw cash in the local currency. Inform your bank in advance about your travel plans to ensure that your cards are authorized for use in Uganda. It's also advisable to carry a backup payment method, such as cash or a second card, in case of any issues with ATMs or card acceptance.

### **Culture and Etiquette**

Uganda is a culturally diverse country with a rich heritage, and it is important to respect and appreciate local customs and traditions while visiting. Ugandans are generally friendly and welcoming, and showing an interest in their culture will be highly regarded.

When interacting with locals, it is customary to greet them with a handshake and use appropriate titles such as Mr., Mrs., or Doctor when addressing someone.





All international flights land at Entebbe International Airport  
 International airlines: Turkish Airlines, Qatar Airways, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Emirates Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Fly Dubai, Hahn Air (Germany), APG Airlines (France)

**Inter-Africa Airlines:Visas:**

Uganda Airlines, Aerolink Uganda, Ethiopian Airlines, RwandAir, Kenya Airways, Airlink (South Africa), Tarco Aviation (Sudan)  
 Easily available online US\$ 50

AFRICA MAP



UGANDA



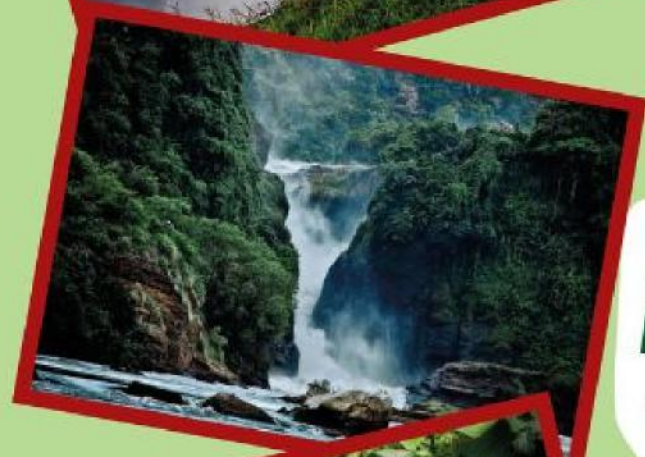
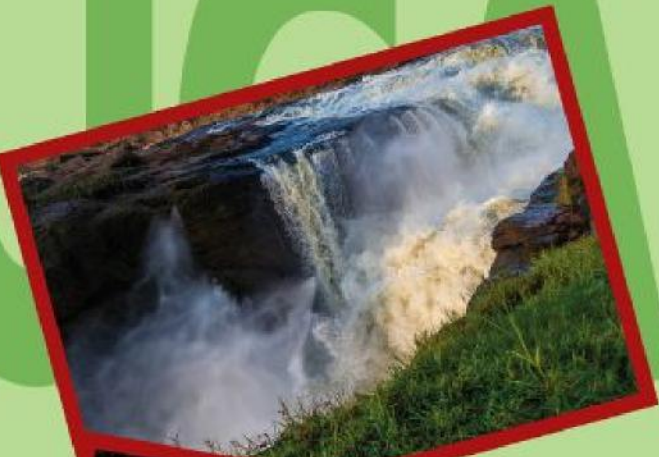
EXPLORE

**UGANDA**

THE PEARL OF AFRICA

Pearl of Africa magazine is produced under licence by FlipMagz for Explore Uganda  
[www.exploreuganda.com](http://www.exploreuganda.com)

# UGANDA

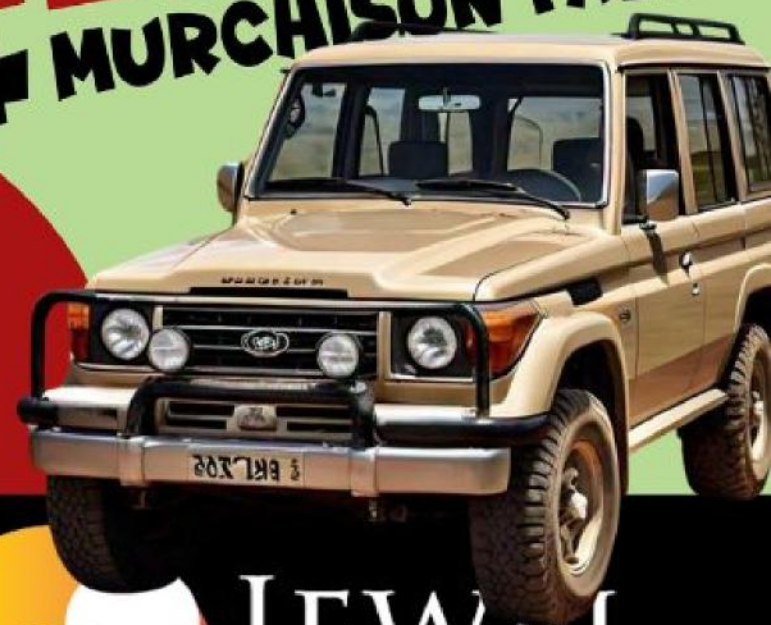


Join Us Now for

# AFRICAN WILDLIFE SAFARI

GORILLA TRACKING

✦ MURCHISON FALLS



TOTAL COST PER PERSON  
**\$3741**

Contact us now:

PO Box 26029 Kampala.

☎ +256 772 867 943

☎ +44 7466 004653

### Places to visit

5 Days consisting of:

- ✓ Day 1: Entebbe – Murchison falls national
- ✓ Day 2: Explore Murchison Falls National Park
- ✓ Day 3: Murchison Falls – Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
- ✓ Day 4: Gorilla tracking
- ✓ Day 5: Bwindi – Entebbe/Departure



# JEWEL Safaris

THE ULTIMATE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

### PACKAGE COST OFFER INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Exclusive Safari transport in custom made Safari 4x4WD Land Cruiser with AC
- Services of English speaking driver guides
- Park entrance fees
- Chimpanzee permit
- Gorilla trekking Permits
- Pick-up and drop-off in Kampala
- All park entrance fees
- Bottled water (2 bottles per day)
- Meals included till dinner

info@jewelsafaris.com • www.jewelsafaris.com