

About Uganda

Referred to as “the Pearl of Africa”, Uganda represents an astonishing portrayal of a “Condensed Africa”. With its capital Kampala – the safest city in Africa, this landlocked country is regarded as the most beautiful and potentially the richest country in East Africa in terms of tourist attractions. Mount Rwenzori – one of world’s best snow-capped mountain ranges; the semi-arid plains of Karamoja, the luxuriant montane forests of Bwindi and Mgahinga - harboring some of the last remaining Mountain Gorillas; the crater lake zone of western part of the country offering some of the spectacular sites for scenery viewing; the fresh waters of the papyrus-fringed Lake Victoria – the source of the Nile; over 15 national parks, game and forest reserves. All these harbor over 50% of the world’s endangered mountain gorillas, nearly 11% of the world’s bird population, the breathtaking flora and fauna represented by over 100 species of mammals including 14 primate species, 1200 species of butterflies and moths; all beautifully blended with warm and spirited local people; Uganda is an equatorial country of substantial contrasts and variety.

About Us

We are a Nature and Cultural Safaris company locally based and operating only in Uganda by local Ugandans. Our tours are specially designed for travelers especially ecotourists who enjoy spending their holidays exploring the most remote, untapped cultural and natural treasures of the world. We take you to carefully selected places; among them are fragile ecosystems managed by vulnerable and marginalised communities in Uganda. Our Ecotour packages are well researched by our committed team with over 25 years of combined experience. The prices are competitive, adapted to suit your interests, budget and other requirements. We pride ourselves for being among the first travel providers in Uganda to hold and abide by the eco-principles.



UGANDA ECO TOURS MISSION STATEMENT

To foster a shift from the traditional tourism to current and future market trends by exploring specialty market niches that detail nature, adventure, culture, education, wilderness ethic, environment stewardship enlightenment, benefits plus responsibilities, and green reality (eco ethnic)



What We Offer

Uganda, famed for big game safaris, gorilla tracking, chimpanzee tracking and other tourists' activities that take place in protected areas, is endowed with several other lucrative social, cultural and natural tourist attractions across the country. On top of the famed tourist activities above, Uganda Eco Tours is proud to bring to you the following packages:

Wilderness Tours / Nature Exploration Safaris.

We design such trips specially for curious travelers with their 'demand' for the exotic - getting to see sights in Uganda or travel to places that others can't imagine; expose the traveler to a part of planet earth that they, would probably never think of going or never thought “such a thing existed on earth”, i.e., the African people and the ecosystem. The trips blend people with nature and take you to places where you will have the chance to view some of the most endangered ecosystems and the most vulnerable tribal groups of people in the world.

We also intend to help travelers access safe “out of their comfort” zones, and into the realm of where a big percentage of Uganda disadvantaged populations live; day-to-day survival, and the ability to be happy with few of the material comforts in life.

Sightseeing Tours and Nature Photography

Uganda offers some of the most remote and spectacular natural sites of stunning beauty and pristine wilderness. The associated wildlife is unique, and for great memories of your trip, Uganda Eco Tours feels that such tours are a priority to some travelers. Open savannas offer great views beyond which the naked eye can see; the rugged terrain of the southwestern mountains impress the eye as if they were sculptured by man; how about the beautiful flowers, plants, birds and other animals! Travel with us and we will turn your dream into reality.



Birding Trips

Uganda is one of the most species rich countries in the whole world as well as one of the most admirable birding locales in Africa. This is due to a combination of different habitats and a well-developed wildlife conservation system; the dry semi arid plains of the Karamoja region on the border of Sudan; through the African classic savannahs of Murchison, Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo national parks; to wetland systems including papyrus swamps, open water, and rivers, woodland and the lush misty forests of the Albertine Rift region. Uganda as a birding destination per excellence has to be one of the world’s best kept secrets. Though not holding many country endemics, out of the total 1046 species, this small east African country hosts 24 out of 28 Albertine Rift endemics, one of the most sought-after birds: the shoebill stork, a considerable number of more elusive species of sunbirds, greenbuls, cisticolas and warblers. Uganda Eco Tours network and team comprises a big number of strong, friendly and helpful birding fraternity and dedicated professional bird guides. Whether you are an amateur or a twitcher, we will satisfy your curiosity.

Voluntourism

Voluntourism is a recent form of tourism which involves volunteering for charitable causes by travellers to help communities or the environment in the places they are visiting. Uganda Eco Tours recognizes voluntourism as one way of contributing towards development of environmentally, economically and culturally responsible travel because of its anticipated positive outcomes. As one of our motives behind the foundation of Uganda Eco Tours, we do believe that there are so many travelers out there who are able and willing to have an opportunity to bring benefits to the people in the under developed world like Uganda. Besides, we have received a good number of travellers who have shown interest in helping the local person in one way or the other. Thus we do believe that we stand in a better position as a local partner to make sure that whatever it meant for positive empowerment of our communities is effectively and efficiently delivered to the intended recipient since we have a long-standing and rich relationship with a our local communities. We have therefore prioritized some of the

needs of our communities and established avenues where we are sure that we can perform effectively. Check www.ecouganda.com/voluntourism for details.

Family Adventure Holidays

Family adventure holidays are specifically designed with the needs of teenagers and kids in mind. Uganda Eco Tours recognizes that nothing compares to the pleasure of spending time with your loved ones, your family members in particular. Such trips feature more adventurous activities that suit younger and older children and parents or guardians, offering valuable learning experiences accompanied with lots of fun. Do you love more adventurous travel? We don't see why you should stop just because you have kids. Try our Family Eco Adventure Holidays, you will live to remember.

Eco Camping Safaris and Cultural Tours

Uganda contains some of the oldest and most sophisticated cultures of the African continent represented by over 50 tribes each with a different language, traditions and beliefs. The incomparable mix of attractions ranging from natural and cultural, to social lifestyle, makes Uganda a country of superlatives. Such tours take you to archaeological sites, historical & religious places, museums, ancient traditional monuments and monarchy establishments and any other site with cultural related attachment and experiences

Natural History Tours

Natural history safaris are designed to provide a grand overview of the natural wonders of Uganda, offering travelers a chance to experience the full spectrum of its fascinating landscapes with the associated wildlife. Ugandan landscapes were partly a result of extensive volcanic activity 12 million years ago that uplifted the land by around 1300m and formed the great mountain peaks. Further developments of the rift valley have been marked by violent tectonic activity. The icy peaks of Mount Rwenzori are remnants of once extensive glaciations during the ice ages. According to National geographic Society, the Ruwenzori classic trails are amongst the top 15 hikes in the whole world and the best in Africa. Uganda, which is the same size as the state of Oregon or Great Britain is worldly renowned for hosting:

- ✔ the second largest fresh-water body in the entire world, Lake Victoria;
- ✔ the world's second longest river; the mighty Nile which begins its journey in Uganda;
- ✔ the world's most endangered primates, the mountain Gorillas are found in the southwestern mountain forests of the country;
- ✔ and the most diverse conservation area in terms of habitat and species in Africa, i.e. Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Luxury Adventure Holidays

We design luxury eco-adventure trips in an exceptional way to experience authentic African culture, the natural wonders of Uganda, and the eco-friendly and most luxurious lodges unifying Ugandan's with their ecosystems.

The guides we use are amongst the best tour guides in east Africa with extensive knowledge of all the species and their ecosystems including macro and micro habitats, and local cultures.

We normally encourage individual travelers to small groups for such tours. We use customized and more luxurious tour vehicles designed to offer great comfort.

Various traditional performing groups, historical /archeological sites, village life experiences, and other natural wonders, make Uganda an ideal destination country for adventure travelers around the globe. For those interested in customized tours; tell us your interests, your budget and the amount of time you have; we will help you plan your dream holiday. Most importantly, our tour packages include lectures, storytelling and education about the existing Ugandan/African human activities, culture and cuisine, and sometimes history.

Day-to-day life of a Ugandan villager

We tailor such packages for only those in search of "unusual". It is an ideal trip for travel writers, film makers and adventurers, exposing them to unimaginable but true experiences. The trip takes the traveler to out-of-comfort zone, to a part of this world where the word "luxury" is perceived differently. The adventurer enjoys the benefit of being a participant than being told.

Some of the activities include among others;

Village Walks: Involves walking through engrossing local farms and gardens and strolling quiet village streets; studying plants in the gardens and farms including those that are used as traditional herbal medicine.

Visiting local brewer communities; take part in the local gin processing activities and learn the entire process you can keep a sample to take back home! Compliment that by visiting a local bar selling only local brew.

Exploring traditional fishing villages; learn the traditional fishing methods by engaging in the fishing activities, interact with the fishermen and learn about their way of survival; and above all, observe water birds & wildlife at fishing site or lake, on the treetops, etc

Taking part in community gatherings; like the village meetings watch local football teams competitions, cultural dance and performances. Attend a traditional customary marriage ceremony and be part of the celebrations!

Visiting a local school and holding a responsibility as the 'teacher on duty'; conduct language class lessons, helping in planting trees etc. Such visits are pre-arranged to specially target voluntourists. On a local market day, join dozens of farmers in colorful attire, selling fresh, locally grown produce, and meet with master weavers to learn about their craft.

Taking part in daily household chores; Stay at one of the local eco-homes - hosted in a family of one of the local homesteads. Household chores include going to the nearby stream to fetch water, go firewood collection in the nearby bush, and help to process food locally, like; processing millet flour on a grinding stone; enjoy mouth-watering local cuisine.

TYPICAL AFRICAN RURAL COMMUNITY ADVENTURE



A Karamajong woman processing millet flour on a grinding stone



Target Clientele

We welcome both domestic and international individuals and group travelers

- Adventure travelers
- Tour wholesalers
- Family groups on holiday
- Student groups on study tours or leisure trips
- Researchers and volunteers
- Ecotravel writers & Film makers
- Nature photographers and
- Other nature enthusiasts who seek to explore the cultural and natural resources of the African continent.
- Special interest groups like birders are equally catered for.

Uganda Eco Tours also encourages those travelers who are willing to interact freely with the local people; eager and willing to enjoy the traditional local cuisine - "live and dine with the locals"; able to volunteer and participate in community projects; keen on experiencing the village day-to-day life of a rural Ugandan; able to stay in simple but yet luxurious eco-friendly establishments like camps, farms and other facilities that are built purposefully for ecotravel experience.



For bookings and further information please contact

Uganda Eco Tours Co. Ltd
Plot 181, Bombo Road, Crown House
P.O.Box 3750 Kampala, Uganda - East Africa
E-mail: inquiries@ecouganda.com or ugandaecotours@gmail.com
Tel: +256 772 833615, +256 772 859834, +256 703 630944
Skype: [uganda.eco.tours](https://www.skype.com/u/ua/uganda.eco.tours)
URL: www.ecouganda.com



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Nature & Cultural Safari Specialists



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