

## Rwanda Gorillas, Game & Forests

Kigali | Volcanoes NP | Akagera | Nyungwe Forest

11 days/ 10 nights

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*travel* **AFRICA**



*From the misty slopes of Volcanoes National Park, across the rolling, verdant hills that earned Rwanda the nickname “Land of a Thousand Hills,” to the diverse landscapes of Akagera and the ancient rainforests of Nyungwe, this 11-day adventure is packed with wildlife encounters. Trek gorillas and golden monkeys in Volcanoes, spot chimpanzees, colobus and mangabeys in Nyungwe, and seek out the Big Five in Akagera.*

[Click here to view your digital itinerary](#)



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## Day 1: Kigali Serena , Kigali

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You'll be met on arrival at Kigali Airport by our representative holding a sign with your name. They'll assist you through immigration and baggage collection before escorting you outside to meet your driver-guide.

Enjoy a private, one-way transfer to your hotel — a journey of around 20 to 30 minutes.

Rwanda's capital and biggest city stretches across lush undulating hills surrounded by towering mountains, the largest of which is Mount Kigali, rising 1850 metres above sea level. Kigali is the country's financial, commercial and cultural hub, offering a collection of restaurants and points of interest, including the Kigali Genocide Centre, an atmospheric market and numerous craft shops. With its interesting architecture, busy streets, meandering boulevards and green hillsides, Kigali is one of the most attractive cities in Africa.

**Overnight: Kigali Serena Hotel**      [View iBrochure](#)

Ideally located on one of Kigali's most charming boulevards, the 148 room five-star Kigali Serena Hotel is built around a polished granite atrium, which showcases the very best of Rwandese cultural art. Relaxed yet elegant, the hotel centres on the Executive Lounge and Bar, which opens onto a wide sundeck overlooking the swimming pool. The popular Milima Restaurant offers a wide range of all-day buffet choices, while the relaxed Sokoni Café offers inside and outside poolside seating.

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## Day 2-5: Tiloreza Volcanoes Ecolodge, Volcanoes National Park

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Discover Kigali on a guided city tour, including a visit to the Genocide Memorial Museum — a deeply moving experience that offers insight into Rwanda's dark past and remarkable journey of recovery and unity.

Then leave the city behind and enjoy a scenic +/- three hour drive through rolling hills and past rural villages to Musanze, the gateway to Volcanoes National Park, home to the endangered Mountain Gorilla population that primatologist Dian Fossey dedicated her lifetime to studying and protecting. It's Africa's oldest rainforest, and the oldest surviving tropical rainforest on earth.



Here, you can enjoy gorilla trekking, hike to see the playful golden monkeys, or take on the challenging hike to Dian Fossey's grave site.

## Overnight: Tiloreza Volcanoes Ecolodge x 3 nights

Tiloreza Volcanoes Ecolodge is a modest boutique hotel located in the town of Ruhengeri, offering 22 simple rooms set in gardens with hammocks for guest's relaxation. Well positioned as a base for gorilla and golden monkey trekking, facilities include a restaurant, heated swimming pool, basic fitness centre, massage service and bicycle hire. The lodge is known for its friendly and helpful staff, good food and cozy atmosphere.

### *Gorilla Trekking Volcanoes National Park*

After an early morning briefing with National Parks' personnel, you will be taken to the start of your Gorilla trekking hike. Your walk to the gorilla family may take anything from 30 mins to several hours – following your guide through the beautiful forests. Along the way you may encounter golden monkeys, as well as a range of birdlife and other forest dwellers.

Once you reach the Gorilla family, you will be privileged to spend an hour watching them as they interact with each other: sleeping, eating, grooming or playing. It's a humbling experience to sit amongst our 'cousins'. Be sure to enjoy the experience fully, and not just through the lense of your camera - as the hour goes by so fast!

### *Dian Fossey Grave – optional*

Dian Fossey played a key role in creating awareness around the plight of the mountain gorillas in the 1970s and early 80s. This challenging 1.5-hour hike to reach her grave provides ample opportunities to view forest hogs and elephants, as well as a number of primates. Fossey's house still stands today, with her grave adjacent to it. She rests here next to her favourite gorilla friend Digit as well as 20 other gorillas.

### *Golden Monkeys – optional*

Golden Monkeys are among the most endangered primates in Africa and it is believed that the only viable population of these monkeys is found in the forests surrounding the Virunga Volcanoes. The golden monkey is a distinct species of guenon - *Cercopithecus kandti* and is endemic to the Albertine Rift. It's usually a 4hr trek, but this depends on one's fitness.




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## Day 5-8: Ruzizi Tented Lodge, Akagera National Park

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Drive east to Akagera National Park, located in the northeast of Rwanda along the border with Tanzania. This remarkable reserve is Central Africa's largest protected wetland, a mosaic of woodlands, swamps, mountains, lakes, and rolling savannah — a landscape of striking contrasts.

Thanks to the outstanding conservation efforts of African Parks in recent years, Akagera is now home to the Big Five. Hippos and crocodiles are often seen lounging around Lake Ihema in the park's southern region.

Enjoy game drives and optional boating activities.



### **Overnight: Ruzizi Tented Lodge x 3 nights**

With nine rustic, but extremely comfortable and spacious tents spaced far apart on the banks of Lake Ihema, Ruzizi Tented Camp offers an intimate escape with peace and quiet assured. The wooden decked dining area allows uninterrupted views over the vast lake, and the wholesome meals served around a crackling bonfire are delicious.

Drift off to sleep to the distant sounds of hippos wallowing in the waters below and wake to chirping birds and scampering monkeys on your private patio. Set in the south of Akagera National Park, it's the perfect choice for clients seeking an intimate stay with personalised service.

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### **Day 8-11: Nyungwe Top View Hill Hotel, Nyungwe Forest National Park**

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From Akagera, we travel southwest to the pristine Nyungwe Forest.

Spanning 970 km<sup>2</sup> in southeast Rwanda, it is one of the world's oldest rainforests, dating back to before the Ice Age. Its mountainous terrain is teeming with wildlife and birdlife, including a small population of chimpanzees and 12 other primate species, such as the L'Hoest's monkey, endemic to the Albertine Rift Valley.

Activities in Nyungwe include chimp trekking, colobus/ mangabey spotting and forest walks.

Take the canopy walk, suspended 75m above the forest, or experience the thrilling zipline for a unique perspective over one of Rwanda's most important ornithological sites, home to almost 300 bird species.



### Overnight: Nyungwe Top View Hill Hotel x 3 nights

Nyungwe Top View Lodge is idyllically situated on top of one of the hills of Nyungwe Forest, the largest single forest block in East Africa and the biggest water reservoir for Rwanda. Each modest but comfortable room offers a sitting area with a fireplace to warm you up and a balcony with picturesque views of sunrise or sunset as well as incomparable views of the Nyungwe National Park, Kahuzi Biega National Park, tea plantations, Lake Kivu, the volcanoes and Idjwi Island.

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### Day 11: End of Itinerary

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On your final day, the 5–6 hour drive back to Kigali Airport offers a perfect last snapshot of Rwanda, with scenes of rolling hills, lively villages and vibrant markets.

### End of itinerary

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Contact us on [reservations@wildfrontiers.com](mailto:reservations@wildfrontiers.com) for a quotation, or to tailor this safari to your individual requirements.

### Included:

- Meet & Greet Kigali Airport
- Transfer airport to Kigali Hotel
- 1 night Kigali Serena including breakfast
- Kigali City & Genocide Memorial Tour
- Services of driver/ guide and private safari vehicle
- 3 nights Tiloreza Volcanoes Ecolodge on a full board basis
- 3 nights Ruzizi Tented Lodge on a full board basis
- Game drives
- 3 nights Nyungwe Top View Hill Hotel on a full board basis
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance

## Excluded:

- Gorilla Permit (USD 1500 per person)
- Chimp permit (USD 150 pp)
- Golden Monkey (USD 100 pp)
- Colobus (USD 40 pp)
- Dian Fossey Grave Hike (USD 80 pp)
- All international flights and airport taxes
- Personal expenses including visas, health requirements including compulsory Yellow Fever inoculation, porters, drinks and tips

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

**All travellers to Rwanda must be vaccinated against Yellow Fever at least 10 days before arrival in Rwanda.** (For a list of countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and countries requiring yellow fever vaccination click [here](#))

Rwanda does not present any major health hazards. All towns normally have a well-stocked pharmacy although the individual traveller should bring any known personal medication along.

Malaria is less prevalent in Rwanda than in many other African countries but as it does exist in most parts of Rwanda using prophylactic drugs and preventing mosquito bites will reduce the risk of getting malaria. Ideally try and avoid mosquito bites between dusk and dawn, as this is the period when the malaria-carrying mosquito is most active. Do this by wearing long sleeved shirts/pants and spraying with mosquito repellent.

As with all medical requirements, your doctor or travel clinic (<http://www.travelclinic.co.za>) to provide the most up to date information - the above is a guide only.

## VISA REQUIREMENTS:

The President of the Republic of Rwanda approved a waiver for entry visa to the citizen's members of African Union, Commonwealth and Francophonie in an effort to continue the implementation of the country's openness policy. All other nationalities qualify for a 30 day Rwandan visa on arrival. Cost is USD 50 for single entry and USD 70 for multi-entry.

Apply online via: <https://irembo.gov.rw/rolportal/web/dgie/single-entry-visa> for the latest Visa information and for online applications. Online payments can also be made via the same Government Portal.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Is compulsory for all guests travelling with Wild Frontiers.



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