

# "Gorillas" & More



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This 11-day primate-focused safari (**July to September**) adventure in Rwanda highlights close encounters with mountain gorillas, chimpanzees, colobus monkeys, and golden monkeys, complemented by eco-tours, cultural experiences, and scenic relaxation. The itinerary incorporates flights for international arrivals/departures and drives for internal transfers, exploring diverse landscapes from urban Kigali to lush forests and Lake Kivu. Stays feature comfortable lodges with full-board meals unless noted, emphasizing sustainable tourism. The trip begins in Kigali and ends with an onward flight home or to another destination, aligning with international connections on Day 1 arrival and Day 11 departure.



Gorilla trekking in Volcanoes National Park - [Photo](#)

## Day 1: Arrival in Kigali (Sunday)

Arrive via flight at Kigali International Airport in Rwanda. Kalama Safaris' representative will greet and transfer you to your hotel for check-in and relaxation.

- **Location:** Kigali, Rwanda
- **Accommodation:** Kigali Serena Hotel (1 night) – luxurious urban retreat with city views
- **Meals:** Dinner
- **Highlights:** Airport transfer, orientation to Rwanda's "Land of a Thousand Hills"

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## Day 2: Nyandungu Eco Park and City Tour (Monday)

Embark on a guided city tour of Kigali, including the Nyandungu Eco Park—a restored wetland ecosystem teeming with birds, butterflies, and walking trails for nature immersion. Visit local markets or artisan centers for cultural shopping. In the afternoon, explore the vibrant capital with a visit to the Kigali Genocide Memorial for historical insights, or relax at the hotel.

- **Location:** Kigali
- **Accommodation:** Kigali Serena Hotel (1 night, continued stay)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Eco Park trails and birdwatching, Kigali city exploration, cultural interactions



Nyandungu Eco-Park in Kigali [Photo](#) Ministry of Environment



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## Day 3: Transfer to Nyungwe National Park (Tuesday)

Drive southwest to Nyungwe National Park (about 5-6 hours), a UNESCO biosphere reserve with ancient montane rainforest. Arrive and settle in, perhaps with an introductory nature walk. Nyungwe National Park is home to 13 primate species, including a significant population of chimpanzees, which represent 25% of Africa's total, along with over 260 bird species and diverse flora. Nyungwe offers activities like chimpanzee trekking and a thrilling canopy walkway, providing visitors with immersive experiences in its mountainous terrain.

- **Location:** Nyungwe National Park
- **Accommodation:** Munazi Lodge (1 night) – eco-friendly A-frame chalets nestled in the forest
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Scenic drive through rolling hills, forest arrival and optional short hike



Ndambarare Waterfall in Nyungwe National Park – Rwanda Management Photo



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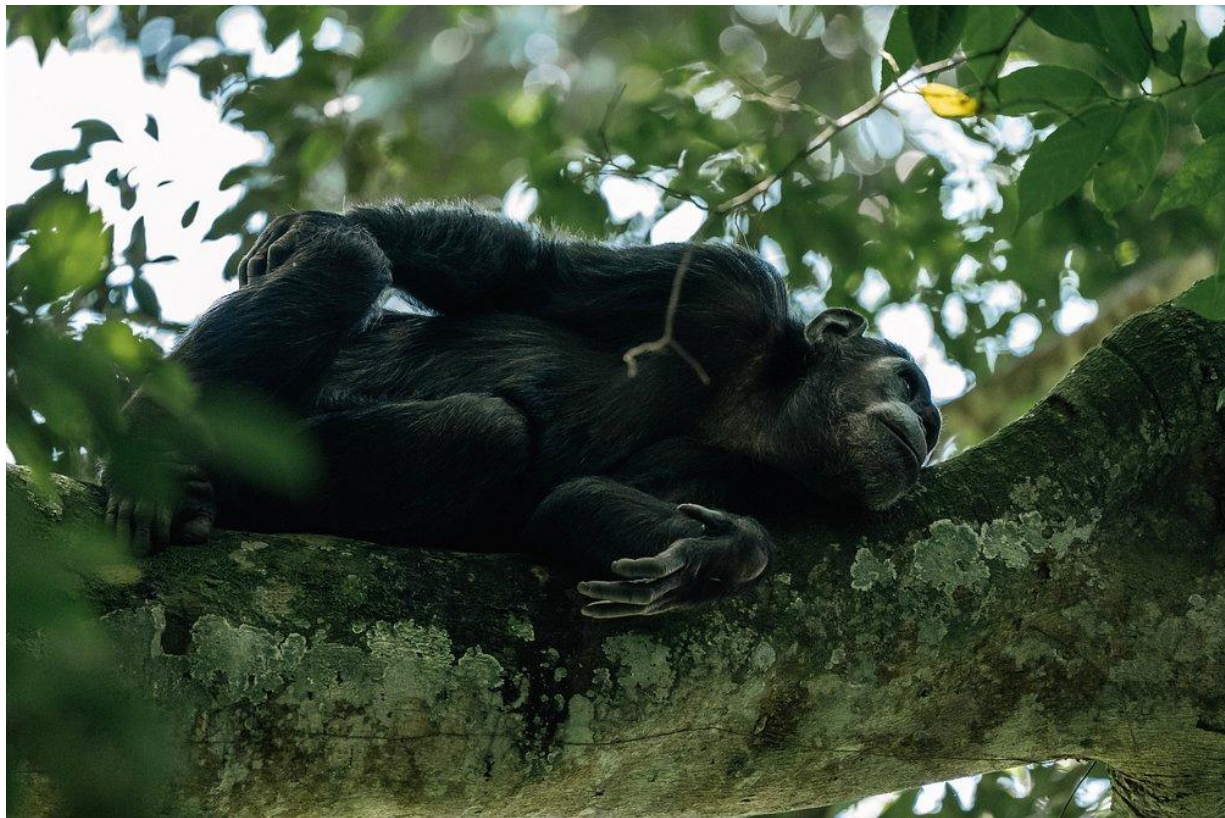


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## Day 4: Chimpanzee Trekking (Wednesday)

Rise early for chimpanzee trekking in Nyungwe's Cyamudongo sector, tracking habituated troops through the canopy-rich forest (trek duration: 2-5 hours). Afternoon relaxation or optional canopy walkway for aerial views.

- **Location:** Nyungwe National Park
- **Accommodation:** Munazi Lodge (1 night, continued stay)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Face-to-face chimp encounters, forest biodiversity, optional canopy adventure



Chimp Trekking in Nyungwe National Park – Rwanda Management Photo

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Day 5: Colobus Monkey Trekking and Lake Kivu (Thursday)

Morning trek to observe troops of Angolan colobus monkeys, known for their black-and-white fur and large groups. Then drive to Lake Kivu (about 2 hours) for lakeside relaxation.

- **Location:** Nyungwe to Lake Kivu
- **Accommodation:** Lake Kivu lodge (1 night, e.g., Emeraude Kivu Resort or similar waterfront property)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Colobus monkey sightings, transfer to serene lake shores, sunset views



Colobus Monkeys in Nyungwe National Park – Rwanda Management Photo



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Days 6-7: Napoleon Island, Congo Nile Trail, and Lake Kivu (Friday-Saturday)

Boat trip to Napoleon Island for a short hike to see fruit bats and panoramic views. Explore the Congo Nile Trail by bike or foot along the lake's contours, visiting tea plantations and villages. Relax at the lodge with water activities like kayaking.

- **Location:** Lake Kivu (Kibuye area)
- **Accommodation:** Inn on the Lake (2 nights) – boutique hotel with stunning lake vistas and private balconies
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Island bat colony and hikes, trail adventures, lakeside leisure and boating



View of Lake Kivu from Inn on the Lake Boutique Hotel - Management Photo

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Days 8-10: Musanze and Volcanoes National Park (Sunday-Tuesday)

Day 8: Drive north to Musanze (about 3-4 hours), gateway to Volcanoes National Park. Visit Dian Fossey's tomb and Karisoke Research Center for conservation history. Day 9: Gorilla trekking—hike to meet a habituated family for a 1-hour observation (~\$1500 permit required). Enjoy the Gorilla Guardians Cultural Village and a shopping excursion.

- **Location:** Musanze/Volcanoes National Park to Kigali
- **Accommodation:** Foothill Farm House (3 nights for Days 8-10)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Intimate gorilla encounters, Fossey legacy tour, Gorilla Guardians Cultural Village



Gorilla Trekking Photo © Barbara Foster – Kalama Safaris



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Day 10: Golden monkey trekking in the bamboo forests, then drive back to Kigali (2-3 hours). Check-in, relax, and enjoy a farewell dinner.

- **Location:** Musanze/Volcanoes National Park and Kigali
- **Accommodation:** Foothill Farm House – resort-style with spa
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Golden monkey tracking, conservation insights



Golden Monkey in Volcanoes National Park Rwanda - Management Photo



Luxurious Farmhouse Rwanda with Views of Volcanoes National Park - [Photo](#)



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Day 11: Departure from Kigali (Wednesday)

Morning transfer to Kigali Airport for your Departure flight. Safe travel!

- **Location:** Kigali to Nairobi
- **Accommodation:** None (day use if needed)
- **Meals:** Breakfast
- **Highlights:** Airport transfer, reflections on primate adventures



Kigali Serena Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda – Management Photo

## Additional Notes

- **Transportation:** International flights on Days 1 and 11; drives otherwise (private 4x4 vehicles). Gorilla/chimp permits (~\$1500 gorilla, \$100 chimp) must be booked in advance.
- **Inclusions:** Accommodations, meals as noted, guided activities, park fees, transfers. Extras like canopy walks (~\$60) or biking optional.
- **Tips:** Pack sturdy hiking boots, rain gear, binoculars, and insect repellent. Best time: **June-September** for drier trails; physical fitness required for treks.
- **Customizations:** Consult [Kalama Safaris](#) for permits and bookings.
- Any 7-day (1 week) tour may be added to the end of the Gorilla & More tour.