



# FACT SHEET





## INTRODUCTION

The well-appointed Crater Safari Lodge is situated in a prime location on a hill overlooking the second largest crater lake in Uganda. The views from the lodge are breathtaking, and rooms either have a full or partial view of the crater lake below.

Close to the lodge is the famous Kibale National Park, home of the chimp trekking safari. The national park protects the lush and dense evergreen rain forest, which is the natural habitat to chimpanzee. Chimp trekking is a major drawcard of the area and walking permits can be organised by the lodge. There are a number of other outdoor and cultural activities on offer in the immediate area which can all be booked while staying the lodge.

Crater Safari Lodge has been designed in such a way that it doesn't intrude on its pristine surrounds. Thatched chalets with expansive wooden balconies provide the perfect luxurious jungle escape. Hammocks and garden swings on the grounds of the lodge add an extra element of tranquility to your remote safari experience. In total, there are 14 thatched stand-alone wooden cabins and 10 standard pool facing cabanas, each catering for a different style of guest.

The main lodge houses the restaurant, intimate bar area and lounge. The boma area is the perfect place to relax around a roaring and crackling fire; and share stories about the day's activities. The sparkling swimming pool adorning the manicured lawns is the perfect place to soak up the African sun and enjoy panoramic views of the sublime crater lake.

Crater Safari Lodge is the perfect place to base yourself for a true jungle and wilderness experience in Uganda. The lodge is an award winning eco-lodge, and offers an unsurpassed remote wilderness experience.

## AT A GLANCE

- Located on a hill overlooking the second largest crater lake in Uganda, Lake Nyinabulitwa
- Wake-up to the sound of giant kingfishers on your balcony
- Warm and friendly atmosphere
- Located close to the Kibale National Park, home of the chimp trekking safari
- Swimming pool with views of the crater lake
- 11 thatched stand-alone wooden cabins and 10 standard pool facing cabanas
- Romantic bush dinner options on the shores of the lake
- Lodge is ideal for both honeymoons and weddings
- From swamp walks, to fishing, canoeing and hiking; there are a host of activities on offer

## FACILITIES

- WiFi in main area (slow)
- Tea and coffee station in the main area
- Intimate bar area
- Dining area/restaurant where meals are served
- Comfortable open lounge area with expansive views of the gardens and crater lake
- Guest bathroom in main area
- Hairdryer facility in main area
- Solar powered, eco-friendly lodge
- Laundry service on site
- Babysitting services available (extra cost)
- Activities can be arranged at the lodge
- Swinging chairs for relaxation dotted around the gardens
- Swimming pool on lawns with deck chairs
- Pool service for drinks
- Boma area with campfire
- 23 rooms in total comprising 9 standard pool facing cabanas (double level) and 14 deluxe thatched chalets



- 8 Deluxe chalets are crater facing (2 twins, 6 doubles/singles) – one of which is the honeymoon suite)
- 6 Deluxe chalets are in the gardens with a partial crater view (2 of these are family cottages which are joined, the other 2 are standalone cottages with double beds/twin beds)
- 6 chalets have baths, while the rest have expansive showers
- If needed, Deluxe chalets have space for an extra bed
- Family chalet has inter-leading rooms with 2 double beds or 4 single beds in total Chalet's timber balconies either have chairs or couches, and 6 of them have hammocks
- Standard pool facing cabanas are split level and are either double, twin or single rooms
- Small lounge area inside rooms
- Rooms have : mosquito nets, wardrobe, clothes rack, shower, bathrobe, free toiletries, toilet, bathroom, bath or shower, outdoor furniture, outdoor dining area, towels, linen, and bedside tables with lamps
- Plug points in rooms (Type G, 3 prong square plugs)
- Wake-up service

### ACTIVITIES

Crater Safari Lodge is the perfect base to explore a range of activities in the area. The main activity is tracking chimpanzee, which takes place in the neighbouring Kibale National Park.

- Chimpanzee tracking or habituation experience (booking essential and a permit is required)
- Hike to the "Top of the World" viewpoint to view the 9 crater lakes in the area
- Guided birding walks to Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary
- Canoe hire
- Romantic bush dinner set-up on the shores of the lake
- Fishing rod hire
- General nature walks around the lake
- Visit the 9 crater lakes in the immediate area
- Cultural activities (basket weaving) and community

visits (schools and markets)

- Trips to surrounding tea and coffee plantations can also be arranged
- Guided cycling trips to Kibale forest, the crater lakes and tea plantations. Gear and mountain bikes provided.

### TYPICAL DAY

The schedule of your day goes according to your chosen activity, and the times will vary. This is only a rough schedule of events.

- 06:00 - 09:00 : Breakfast
- 09:00 : Activity of your choice. Chimp tracking takes place at various time slots during the day
- 13:00 : Return for lunch
- 15:00 : Afternoon activity
- 18:00 : Return for sundowners
- 19: 30/ 20: 00 : Dinner and relax around the campfire in the boma area (weather permitting)

### GETTING THERE

Crater Safari Lodge is in a remote area and the journey to paradise is long, but eye-opening and scenic. The quickest route is by air. Crater Safari Lodge is located 5 km from the tropical rainforest of Kibale Forest National Park and is located on the banks of the Nyinabulitwa Crater Lake. Fort Portal is the closest town and is 22 km away.

Guests can fly into the main Entebbe International Airport (EBB) and catch a connecting flight to Kasese. From here, a road transfer to the lodge can be arranged and will take approximately two to three hours, depending on the road conditions.

Alternatively, guests can get a road transfer with a private driver from Entebbe to Crater Safari Lodge. This can take anything from 5 - 7 hours.



## CHILD POLICY

Children of all ages are welcome at Crater Safari Lodge, but only children aged 12 and above will be able to track the chimps.

## GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

### MEDICAL

Uganda is a malaria area, and has one of the world's highest incidences of malaria. You will need to take prescription medicine before, during, and after your trip. Please consult your local GP about the prescription. There are many anti-malaria prescriptions available that have minimal side-effects.

You will also need a yellow fever injection, which we recommend getting 10 days prior to travelling. You will need to travel with this yellow fever certificate/card and will be expected to produce it upon arrival at the airport.

### WHAT TO PACK

Try to keep your wardrobe colours as neutral as possible.

Here is a list of items you might want to consider :

- Rain jacket - there is no formal "dry" season
- Long trousers, long shirt/top and waterproof hiking shoes for trekking
- Hiking socks (fire ants are not pleasant)
- Gaitors
- Garden gloves
- Small day backpack
- Compact or easy-to-carry camera with zoom
- Hat
- Buff
- Sunblock
- Water bottle
- Electrolyte supplements
- Jacket

- Warm clothes for around the lodge
- Waterproof bags for your gear

### WEATHER

Crater Safari Lodge enjoys a temperature that varies from cool to cold. The climate is mild and temperatures are fairly consistent. On average, day temperatures reach 25°C and at night it drops to 10°C. The climate is generally quite wet, but June and July seem to have the least recorded amount of rain.

## WILDLIFE

The Kibale National Park is home to a total of 70 mammal species, and 13 species of primate including the chimpanzee. There are also over 375 species of birds, and abundant birdlife around the lodge. In the lake there is a lone hippo that is often spotted foraging on the shores.





## IMPORTANT NOTES

- The lodge is remote. This needs to be taken into account during your stay.
- WiFi can be intermittent. You are in the jungle, which means the connection varies from unreliable to stable.
- Chimpanzee permits are required for tracking and come at an extra cost.
- You are tracking wild chimps. There are no guarantees when it comes to sightings.
- Tipping is important in Uganda. Try to carry cash with you at all times. Ugandan shillings or US Dollars are widely accepted. There are ATMs in various areas that accept Mastercard and Visa.
- The roads in Uganda are muddy, mountainous and laden with potholes. The city regions can be chaotic. It's advisable to hire a driver for the duration of your stay. Short distances might take hours to drive.
- Children are welcome at the lodge, but will not be allowed to trek with the chimps.

## CONTACT US

For enquiries and bookings, please contact our Central Reservations Office in Kampala:

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# UGANDA TRAVEL GUIDE

Uganda certainly lives up to its reputation as being the “Pearl of Africa” and has earned its place on the list of must-see destinations in the world. Uganda is a developing country straddling the equator in east-central Africa. Bordering South Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo in west, Kenya in east, and by Rwanda and Tanzania; landlocked Uganda possesses all the natural and wild beauty of its surrounding countries. Game viewing, scenery and pristine surrounds means that Uganda offers its visitors an inimitable beauty unsurpassed by many other countries. It’s so rare to find a country that remains completely wild, unspoilt and unmarred by mass tourism.

Uganda is home to the world’s longest river (Nile), the third highest snow-capped peak in Africa (Mount Stanley), the source of the Nile (Jinja), wild gorillas, the fascinating jungle Batwa (Pygmy) community, tree climbing lions, the equator, jungles, national parks, forests, over 1066 species of bird, 56 crater lakes, and the deepest lake in Africa (Lake Victoria - the central point of capital city Kampala). And that’s not even the full list. Uganda truly is a world-in-one.

The southern region of Uganda provides ample opportunity to enjoy hiking, gorilla and chimpanzee trekking - the major drawcard for these areas. In addition to chimps and gorillas, there are over 20 species of monkey to spot. The lush forest jungle regions of the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park (gorillas) and the Kibale Forest National Park (chimps) have the highest number of primates than any other region in the world.

The landscape of the national parks greatly contrasts that of the dense jungle terrain. The Queen Elizabeth Park - the most popular game reserve in Uganda - is fantastic for a safari, and you might just spot the tree climbing lions in the southern region of Southern Ishasha sector. Another national park to visit is the Murchison Falls National Park, Uganda’s largest national park. This is where the rare Rothschild’s giraffe can be spotted.

Driving through the rural and farming areas of Uganda you’ll notice a plethora of wobbly shacks - evidence that

Uganda’s economy is one of great struggle. Despite the circumstances, Ugandans remain friendly, welcoming and humble. A great and proud nation. The hilly and mountainous landscapes are carpeted with tea and coffee plantations, and home to abundant crops. The soil is volcanic and therefore no fertiliser is needed - there’s not much that doesn’t grow in Uganda. We encourage visitors to sample a few local delicacies such as matoke (steamed bananas), Irish potatoes, chapati, goat stew and groundnut sauce.

The hues of green are stark and give away the fact that the country enjoys a tropical climate and plenty of rains. From forest, to jungle, snow-capped mountains and distant volcanoes; Uganda is where the savannah of East Africa eagerly greets the jungle of West Africa.

## UGANDA OBSERVATIONS

- Uganda is remote, untouched, pristine and awe-inspiringly beautiful.
- The country is safe, despite its often corrupt political climate.
- People are friendly and welcoming of tourists.
- The two official languages of Uganda are English and Swahili.
- Entebbe airport is very tight with security. You may have to remove shoes and belts when going through security scans.
- It is customary to hire a driver for the duration of your stay. The roads are mud-soaked, tricky to navigate and there are plenty of hair raising bends up mountain sides.
- Do carry cash with you - there are always local crafts to purchase and tips needed.
- Malaria and yellow fever prevention is a must.
- Uganda is a developing country. Roll with the changes and nuances.
- Apply for your Visa online. It should take 3 - 5 working days. It is still possible to purchase a visa at the airport for 50 dollars, but this is subject to change.
- There are extremes in temperatures because of the varying degrees of altitude throughout the country.

