



12 DAYS WALKING/HIKING SAFARI TO UGANDA

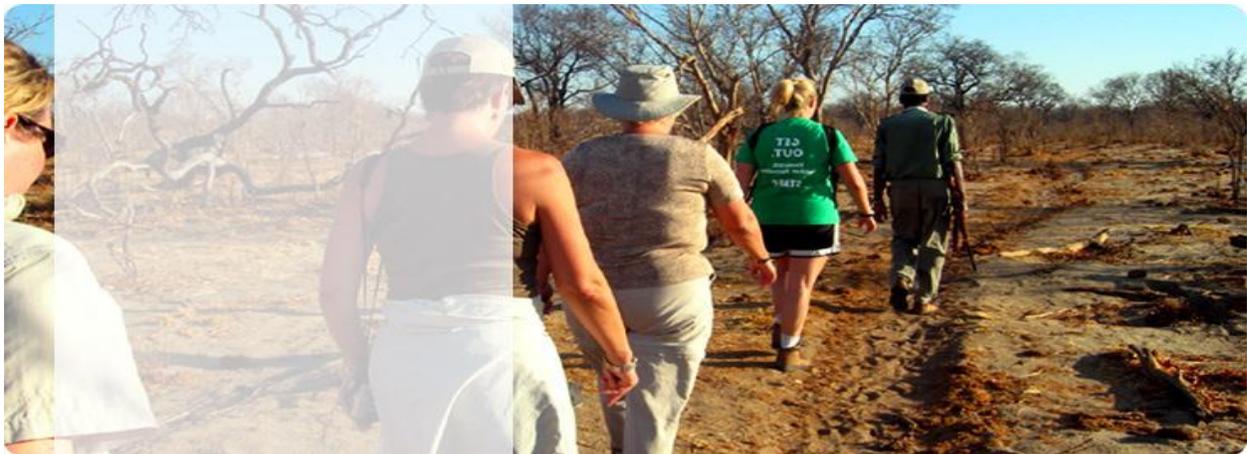
Length: 12 Days

Best time of year: Any time

Key Destinations: Kampala, Kasese and Mt Rwenzori

Highlights: Mountain Climbing in Rwenzori, Ruboni hill walk, the Mubuku trail, John Matte trail, Bujuku trail, Scott Elliot pass & Mount Stanley, Baker to Guy Yeoman trail, cultural trek- or village walk

Overview



Upon arrival at Entebbe International Airport for your 10 day Uganda Walking Safari, you will be met by our Tours representative and be transfer to your overnight accommodation. The 10 day walking experience is an exciting safari where you will have the opportunity to walk and hiking Uganda's great mountains and hills of Rwenzori, in Kasese District. Rwenzori is slightly a difficult mountain to climb. Aspirant hikers need to be reasonably fit, but with specialized equipment or skills needed to reach the peaks, and the mountain is higher than Mt. Elgon that there's a serious risk of the altitude-related illnesses that regularly afflict hikers on the upper slopes of the mountains. Rwenzori can be climbed at any time of the year, though the dry season (June-August and December-March). The most favorable months are November and December given the fact that it is when the highland flowers are in bloom. Traditionally, the most popular destination on Mt Rwenzori is the Mubuku River, where it flows on the lower. Warm clothings are highly recommended. Walking is generally permitted in designated sites and places and prior booking is recommended. Interested anglers are urged to bring their own equipment and secure a permit from UWA.

Itinerary

DAY 1: AIRPORT PICK UP

Depending on the time of arrival, you will be picked and then transfer to Kampala. If your flight arrives in the morning, change money this day as you get familiar with the city. Tour briefly the city markets and a few sites like the Uganda Museum and National Theatre or stay at leisure and swim. if time allows. You may also visit night clubs later (optional). **Dinner and overnight stay in Luxury Serena International Hotel or Mid range Hotel Africana or Budget Namirembe Guesthouse (FB)**

DAY 2: TRANSFER TO KASESE



05:30hrs: After early morning breakfast, be transferred to Kasese arriving on time. You may stay at own leisure time, memorizing your flight trip and relax, enjoying the cold breeze of Rwenzori spiced by the roar of the boulder filled River Mubuku. **Dinner and Overnight at Midrange at the Luxury GeoLodges Equator Snow /Budget- Ruboni Community Camp (HB)**

DAY 3: KIT CHECK/ COMMUNITY WALK

6:30 hrs: After early morning Breakfast, meet up with your guide for kit check, thereafter, proceed to visit the locals. Later, return to the place of rest to be at own leisure. **Dinner and Overnight at Midrange- GeoLodges Equator Snow /Budget- Ruboni Community Camp (FB)**

DAY 4: BEGIN TREK- RUBONI HILL WALK

6:30 hrs: Depart early in the morning to hike up Ruboni Hill. Enjoy scenic views of the River Mubuku as well as Baker and Portal Peaks as you ascend. Reaching the top of the 2300 meter hill, you will be rewarded with a panoramic view of the Mountains of the Moon and the glorious snow-capped Margherita Peak. Return to your accommodation for dinner and relaxation. **Dinner and Overnight at Midrange- GeoLodges Equator Snow/ Ruboni Community Camp (FB)**

DAY 5: CULTURAL TREK- VILLAGE WALK

6:30 hrs: After an early breakfast set off on the Bulemba-Ihandiro Cultural Trail for impressive views and an exploration of the local Bakonzo culture. This 6-7 hours hike to a hilltop cultural museum passes through the “Bat Valley” – a holy place for the Bakonzo, and crosses the River Kamusonge. There is also a visit to the traditional healer who explains how he uses his “Muhima” or powers, to cure the sick. Or you may decide to visit the neighboring villages of Ruboni (with Ruboni Community Camp) or Mihunga (with Rwenzori Turaco View) for a cultural tour including dance performances and the chance to buy local handcrafts. **Dinner and Overnight at Midrange-GeoLodges Equator Snow/Budget-Ruboni Community Camp (FB)**

DAY 6: THE MUBUKU TRAIL- NYABITABA HUT

6:30 hrs: Early Morning after Breakfast, Follow the Mubuku River before ascending a steep ridge of glacial moraine to Nyabitaba Hut (2651m). **Dinner and Overnight at Nyabitaba Hut Camp (FB)**

DAY 7: NYABITABA-JOHN MATTE TRAIL

6:30 hrs: Start with a steep descent to cross the Mubuku River, followed by a long hike along the boulder-strewn sides of the Bujuku valley through forest, bamboo and heather zones to John Matte Hut (3505m). **Dinner and Overnight at Matte Hut Camp (FB)**

DAY 8: JOHN MATTE –BUJUKUTRAIL

6:30 hrs: Cross the famous Bigo Bog and the Upper Bujuku Valley beneath the massive cliffs of Mount Baker. The route skirts Lake Bujuku to reach Bujuku Hut (3962m) at the head of the valley between Mounts Stanley and Speke. **Dinner and Overnight at Bujuku Hut Camp (FB)**

DAY 9: BUJUKU TRAIL- SCOTT ELLIOT & MOUNT STANLEY

6:30 hrs:The route climbs the rocky Groundsel Gully and steep scree slopes to Scott Elliot Pass (4372m) for an unforgettable view back down towards Mount Speke and Lake Bujuku down the U-shaped Bujuku Valley. The climb finishes at Elena Hut (4541m) below the snowline of Mount Stanley. **Dinner and Overnight at Elena Hut Camp (FB)**



Margarita Peak

DAY 10: MOUNTS STANLEY-BAKER TO GUY YEOMAN TRAIL

6:30 hrs:Begin with a steep climb to Fresh field Pass (4282m), a spectacular spot carpeted by bright yellow mosses and offering tremendous view of Mounts Stanley and Baker. The trail descends the Upper Mubuku valley to Guy Yeoman Hut (3505m). **Dinner and Overnight at Guy Yeoman Hut Camp (FB)**

DAY 11: GUY YEOMAN-RUBONI TRAIL

6:30 hrs:After taking your breakfast, embark the trek. Below Guy Yeoman, the trail follows the Mubuku down the cliffs of Karirupea to complete the Central Circuit at Nyabitaba Hut. Hikers may overnight here to continue to the trailhead at Ruboni for greater comforts. **Dinner and Overnight at Midrange- GeoLodgesEquator Snow/Budget-Ruboni Community Camp (FB)**

DAY 12: TRANSFER TO KAMPALA/ONWARD TRAVEL

07:00hrs:After early morning breakfast, pack bags and drive back to Kampala, arriving early afternoon. Depending on your time of departure Visit the National Theatre and many other craft villages to buy arts and crafts. Thereafter, drive to Entebbe International Airport for your outbound flight back home.

END OF TOUR

Cost of tour: US Dollar per two persons sharing in Banda

Read Codes Below:

Pp:*Per person*

\$:*US Dollar*

Pax: *Persons*

FB: *Full Board Meal Plan with B=Breakfast, L=Lunch & D=Dinner*

Accommodation Quote

Luxury: *Serena International Hotel/ GeoLodgesEquator Snow*

Midrange:*The Piswa camp/Hunters cave Camp/ Mude Camp / Hotel Africana/ Nyabitaba Hut Camp/ Matte Hut Camp/ Bujuku Hut Camp/Elena Hut Camp /Guy Yeoman Hut Camp*

Budget:*Namirembe Guesthouse/Safari Inn/Ruboni Community Camp*

Price includes:

- 17 Nights accommodation with meal plan as stated
- Ground transportation (4WD) & fuel
- Guide/Driver's Fee & his associated expenses
- Entry fees
- Forest Walk
- Hiking/ Mountaineering fees
- City tour in the central business districts Jinja and Kampala

But Excludes;

- Personal Expenses like phone calls, bar bills, laundry bills etc
- Tipping of driver or staff at the Camp
- Air tickets
- Fees for extra and optional activities **NOT** included in the itinerary.

Short Notes

Climate

The mean minimum and maximum annual temperature ranges from 8C - 35C respectively. Much of the country receives between 1,000 and 1,500 mm of rainfall per annum. The south of the country has two rainfall peaks in April - May and October - November. This pattern however becomes less marked towards the North. Of recent there have been changes in rainfall patterns raining in July, making November dry.

Clothing

Depending on the weather, heat and your resistance to the sun, you could bring a mix of T-shirts and long-sleeved as well as lightweight shirts. Similarly, it is OK to wear shorts in most situations, but light-weight, washable trousers (especially those that convert into shorts by unzipping legs) are recommended. We will be at high altitudes for much of the tour, so evenings and early mornings could be chilly especially in Mountains. A light sweater/sweatshirt for cooler evenings and a light, easily packable rain shell are advised. Neutral colours (grays, tans, and khakis) are most appropriate for forest birding. Easily washable, quick-drying clothes are useful. There will be walking in the fish villages so some ankle-supporting walking shoes with a good grip are advised. Bring hats and sunglasses. Casual clothes are adequate throughout.

Visas

Visa is required for USA citizens. It is supposedly possible to obtain them on arrival, but you can choose to get it before you go. Bills with years reading 2006 and above are widely acceptable.

Equipment

You can carry your Hiking/Mountaineering equipments for reliable climbing. A small daypack for carrying your essentials in the vehicles on walks is essential. You should bring all the camera equipment and spare batteries and film you need (especially if still using slide film), as these can at times be difficult and costly to purchase. There should be good photographic opportunities. Bring a small flashlight as some lodges don't use electricity or may run on generators that may be switched off in the middle of the night.

Health

Bottled and purified water is available throughout. It is supplied during the day's activities and is available for purchase with evening meals. You will need sunscreen and a small amount of insect repellent. For hygiene and quality, you may want to bring whatever remedy you prefer or are prescribed for upset stomach. Moist towelettes can be a pleasant way of keeping refreshed and clean en route. Lodges do have emergency medical kits and some lodge shops stock basic, well-known drugstore remedies for headaches, painkillers etc. However, bring your own supply of any medical/pharmaceutical items they need or have prescribed, as these may not be available.

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