

## Birding in Uganda with Gorilla Tracking

### 14 days, Relax-Active Nature

#### Day 1: Kampala - Mabamba - Kampala



- After pickup from the airport, **set off to Mabamba Wetland**
- Picnic lunch
- Bird species: **shoebill, lesser jacana, blue swallow, black-shouldered nightjar, afep pigeon, blue breasted bee-eater, papyrus gonolek, white winged warbler**
- Night in Kampala

#### Day 2: Lake Mburo National Park



- Drive to Lake Mburo from Kampala having a stopover to look at the royal drum makers and stand on the Equator arriving in the Park in the afternoon
- Bird species: **variety of water and acacia related birds while fringing swamps hide secretive papyrus specialists like the Sitatunga antelope and red, black and yellow papyrus gonalek**
- Other species: gigantic eland antelope, zebra, topi, impala, hippos, crocodiles
- Night at the Park

#### Day 3: Lake Mburo National Park



- Early morning wake up for bird watching while on a game drive
- **Have an afternoon boat trip** and later another evening game drive.
- Bird species: **brown chested plover, red faced barbet, southern ground hornbill, papyrus yellow warbler, yellow billed oxpecker, African finfoot, black collared barbet**
- Night at the Park

#### Day 4: Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (Ruhija Sector)



- Have a game drive while leaving the park and continue through the lush hills birding enroute to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (Ruhija sector) **best known for Gorillas**
- Arrive in the evening
- Bird species: There are 23 Albertine Rift Endemics that can be seen here. **African green broadbill, Grauer's rush warbler, short tailed warbler, Rwenzori turacco, purple breasted sunbird, regal sunbird, Kivu ground thrush, montane masked apalis, red faced woodland warbler, olive green camaroptera, handsome francolin, blue headed sunbird, Rwenzori nightjar, Lagden's bush shrike, Waller's starling, oriole finch, streaky seed eater, Chubb's cisticola, barred long tailed cuckoo and the brown capped weaver**
- Night at the Park

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### Day 5: Bwindi Impenetrable National Park



- Whole day bird watching in Bwindi Forest
- **Go to Mubwindi Swamp** with packed lunch
- **Transfer to Buhoma birding** enroute in the afternoon
- Night at the Park

### Day 6: Gorilla Trekking



- **Trekking the Mountain Gorillas**
- In the afternoon relax at the camp or optionally take a forest nature walk that will lead you to the Munyaga Waterfall and a chance to see primates such as the grey cheeked Mangabey blue monkeys and others species
- Dinner and night at the Park

### Day 7: Queen Elizabeth National Park



- **Transfer to Queen Elizabeth National Park, home of a total of 604 different bird species** within lowland forest, moist thickets, open woodland and grassland, savannah, permanent and seasonal swamps, lakes and rivers
- Bird species: **African skimmer, black rumped button quail, Verreaux's eagle owl, red footed falcon, lesser flamingoes, grey capped warbler, White's and Abdim's storks (in season), amur falcon, ovampo sparrowhawk, wooly-necked and saddle-billed storks and numerous classes of raptors, vultures and plovers**
- Night at the Park

### Day 8: Queen Elizabeth National Park



- Whole day bird watching on a game drive both in the morning and in the afternoon
- Queen Elizabeth boasts **one of the highest bio diversity ratings of any game park or reserve in the world** with almost 100 mammal species including lions, hippos, buffaloes, leopard, spotted hyena, elephants and giant forest hog. Primates include chimps, black and white colobus monkeys, blue, black faced red colobus, and red tailed monkeys and olive baboons. Reptiles are the huge rock python, puffadders, spitting cobras, gabon rippers, green mambas, turtles etc
- Night at the Park

### Day 9: Queen Elizabeth National Park



- **A boat trip along the channel** on this day giving you wildlife up close
- **Visit the Bird Observatory** set up to study both migratory and resident birds. Since its inception in 1997 more new species have been identified, including Uganda's first record of the **Bar-tailed Godwit**.
- Bird species: **the great white and pink-backed pelicans, great and long-tailed cormorants, open-billed stork, African jacana, malachite and pied kingfishers**
- Night at the Park

### Day 10: Kibale National Park



- Transfer to Kibale Forest National Park bird watching enroute arriving in the evening
- The Park hosts **335 species of birds with the greatest variety & concentration of primates in East Africa**
- Bird species: **white collared oliveback, leaf love, African broadbill, Willcock's honeyguide, green breasted pitta, African pitta, grey winged robin, red winged francolin, joyful greenbul, white bellied crested flycatcher, Uganda woodland warbler, Abyssinian ground thrush, red chested fluftail, grey winged robin, white napped pigeon, chestnut winged starling**
- Night at the Park

### Day 11: Kibale National Park



- **Follow a forest trail radiating out from the visitor center of the Park**
- **Visit Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary**, a superb community development fringing the Park to see the fruiting trees, which attract **Narina Trogon, Pied Hornbill, Yellow Spotted, Hairy Breasted and Yellow-billed Barbets**
- Bird species: **grey-throated flycatcher, white bellied crested flycatcher, masked & black-capped apalis, Uganda woodland warbler, chestnut-winged starling, orange-tufted and tiny sunbirds**
- Night at Fort Portal

### Day 12: Semliki Valley



- Leave Kibale heading north to Semliki Valley Wildlife Reserve.
- Picnic lunch along the way
- **Have an afternoon boat trip on Lake Albert in search for the Shoebill Stork**
- The reserve is home **to 35% of Uganda's bird species**, some of which cannot be found else where in East Africa like horn bills and lyre tailed honey guide. New species are still being discovered.
- Bird species: **African pygmy goose, red-necked falcon, Abyssinian ground hornbill, blue-breasted bee-eater, black-billed barbet, piapiac, leaflove and black-chinned quail-finch.**
- Night at the Reserve

### Day 13: Semliki Valley



- **Early morning chimpanzee trekking** in the gallery forest of the Mugiri River and **in the late afternoon a game drive** to see herds of Uganda kob, waterbuck, reed buck, several monkey species as well as lots of bird opportunities
- Optional: **Take a night drive if possible to see pennant and standard wing nightjars within 2 meters**
- Bird species: White-spotted Flufftail, Red-tailed Bristlebill, Red-tailed Ant-Thrush and Blue-breasted Kingfisher White-crested Turaco, Eastern Grey Plantain Eater, Mouse birds, Kingfishers and Bee-Eaters
- Night at the Reserve

### Day 14: Semliki Valley - Entebbe



- Early morning game drive and then leave for Kampala
- Lunch en route
- Arrive in Entebbe in the evening according to the time of the flight