



4450 Arapahoe Avenue, Suite 100
Boulder, Colorado 80303
888.658.7102 303.415.2574 720.565.0512 fx
www.deeperafrica.com

Gorillas of Parc National des Volcans Day by Day Itinerary Gorilla Primate Viewing Safari

DATE	ACCOMMODATIONS	ACTIVITIES
Day 1	Gorillas Nest Lodge Parc National des Volcans	<p>Arrive in Kigali International Airport. Pickup by Deeper Africa guide after clearing customs. Your Deeper Africa guide will have a sign that has your name on it.</p> <p>Set out for Kinigi as you move into Rwanda's Virunga Mountain Range. Parc National des Volcans takes its name from a string of free-standing volcanoes that stretch across the Rwanda section of the Virunga Mountains. This area was part of the first national park in Africa, created in 1925. You'll arrive in the late afternoon with time to get unpacked and prepared for your next two days of gorilla viewing.</p> <p>The park boundaries and this "Land of a Thousand Hills" include six of the Virunga Volcanoes. Parc National is the area where Diane Fossey did her ground breaking gorilla research. She is buried at Karisoke, in the saddle between Bisoke and Karisimbi Volcanoes. The film "Gorillas in the Mist" was filmed in Parc National des Volcans.</p>
Day 2	Gorillas Nest Lodge Parc National des Volcans	<p>Dinner and overnight at the Gorillas Nest Lodge.</p> <p>Breakfast at the Gorillas Nest Lodge. After breakfast you'll meet up with your Rwandan Park rangers from the Office Rwandaise du Tourisme et des Parcs Nationaux (ORTPN). You'll attend an introductory session at the park headquarters to learn about forest and gorilla trekking etiquette. ORTPN guides will be taking you into the rain forest and there will be guides in your party who work daily with the gorillas in Parc National. You'll hike to the point where the gorillas were seen the day before and track from that point. Trekking can range from 1 to 5 hours as you move into the gorilla's home range. The park service employs about 80 people as guides, trackers, and anti-poaching officers and they speak both English and French. Trek and climb through the shady bamboo forests on the lush forested slopes that are home to five habituated gorilla groups. Picnic lunch while you are in the park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No more than eight guests are allowed to view each of the three habituated gorilla families at any one time.• You should maintain a distance of at least 7 meters from the gorillas. Do not touch the gorillas or try to make contact. The gorillas will break the rules occasionally. In such cases, don't increase the distance between you and them, but drop back as soon as you can without disturbing them.• Do not use flash cameras.• Do not eat or smoke.• Do not do anything that may cause the gorillas stress or exhibit any behavior that they may see as a challenge. Respect their space, speak very quietly, and avoid unnecessary movement.

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- Keep in a small group and never surround the gorillas.
 - Leave nothing behind but footprints.

You'll return in the afternoon to Gorilla Mountain View Lodge for some relaxing. Afternoon activities at Gorilla Mountain View Lodge can include:

Relaxing at the lodge;
Driving trip into the local market town of Ruhingiri; and
Walks into the surrounding community areas.

Dinner and overnight at Gorillas Nest Lodge.

Day 3 Umubano Laico Hotel
Parc National des Volcans

Breakfast at Gorilla Mountain View Lodge. Meet up with your Rwandan guide and trackers in the morning for your next day of gorilla viewing. Today you will track a different gorilla family, hoping to find them munching bamboo in the forest. Recent DNA research has shown that there are sufficient genetic differences between the Virunga and Bwindi Forest gorillas in Uganda to suggest that the populations breed in isolation, even though mid-altitude forests linked the two mountain ranges until 500 years ago. Picnic lunch while trekking.

Late afternoon departure from Parc National for return to Kigali.

Dinner and overnight at Umubano Laico Hotel.

Day 4 Transit through Kigali

Breakfast at Umubano Laico Hotel. If your international connections permit, you can stop at the Gisozi Genocide Museum built with funds from the Belgium, Swedish, and US based Clinton Foundation.

Transport to the Kigali International Airport.

INCLUDED IN YOUR SAFARI

- Full board accommodations in all lodges and tented camps
- All meals
- Unlimited game drives in private 4x4 safari Land Cruisers
- All park and entrance fees
- Experienced and professional safari naturalist guides
- Natural Learning program
- Enrollment with Flying Doctors Evacuation Service
- One year renewable membership to East African Wildlife Society, East Africa's premier wildlife conservation organization, with quarterly magazines delivered to your home
- All in-country transportation
- Laundry available at some lodges and camps
- Beverages in your 4x4 safari vehicle
- Bottled water available at all times
- Extensive pre-departure briefing and materials including health information, reading list and map

EXCLUDED FROM YOUR SAFARI

- Alcohol and some beverages in some camps and lodges
- Gratuities

We plan your wildlife adventures in areas where wildlife habitats are known to exist for the season and time you are traveling. Still, animals in the areas you are viewing are not in a zoo. They roam freely and we cannot always anticipate their movements.

As well, Deeper Africa uses best efforts to provide the lodging set out in this itinerary, but occasionally there are circumstances that occur in East Africa that require lodging substitutions. We reserve the right to make comparable lodging substitutions whenever necessary.

2010 CUSTOM DEPARTURE DATES

Schedule as you wish January through April and June through December.

2010 CUSTOM DEPARTURE PRICING Permits Included

- 4 or more persons \$3,349 USD each
- 2 persons \$3,999 USD each
- Single Supplement: \$455 USD

**Gorilla permit prices can change. Pricing is subject to Rwanda park fees.

Arrivals into Kigali, Rwanda. Departures out of Kigali, Rwanda. Prices do not include international airfare.

2009 CUSTOM DEPARTURE PRICING WITH UPGRADE Permits Included

Dates flexible. Upscale itinerary available using Sabinyo Silverback Lodge and Kigali Serena with the following pricing:

- 4 or more persons \$5,099 USD each
- 2 persons \$5,399 USD each
- Single supplement \$870 USD

**Gorilla permit prices can change. Pricing is subject to Rwanda park fees.

Arrivals into Kigali, Rwanda. Departures out of Kigali, Rwanda. Prices do not include international airfare.