



# RWANDA

## Remarkable Rwanda

with Drs. Dieter and Netzin Steklis

JULY 13, 2024 - JULY 23, 2024



Agriculture, Life &  
Veterinary Sciences &  
Cooperative Extension

You are cordially invited to embark on a unique travel experience to explore the incredible landscape, culture, and wildlife of Rwanda. Discover the unusual biodiversity of this “Land of a Thousand Hills”, along with the history of Rwanda’s people and culture. Meet groups of wild mountain gorillas and golden monkeys up close and learn why this is an internationally renowned conservation success story. Benefit from the tour leaders’ extensive experience working and living among the gorillas and gain a new understanding of the mind of one of our closest living relatives.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Track through the dense foliage of Volcanoes National Park to encounter the awe-inspiring wild mountain gorilla, the largest primate in the world.
- Embark on wildlife-viewing safaris in Akagera National Park to look for lions, zebras, elephants, giraffes, hippos, and more.
- Experience the legacy of Dian Fossey with a visit to the Ellen DeGeneres campus of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, and a hike to her grave site and research camp, where Dieter and Netzin lived.
- Get in-depth knowledge about the lives of the gorillas and their conservation struggles from the expert leaders who lived among them.



DRS. DIETER AND NETZIN STEKLIS GORILLA TRACKING IN RWANDA



WILD MOUNTAIN GORILLA



GOLDEN MONKEY



SILVERBACK GORILLA

## ITINERARY

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### DAY 1 | SAT | JUL 13 | IN FLIGHT

Depart U.S.

### DAY 2 | SUN | JUL 14 | KIGALI

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and taken to the VIP lounge to coordinate luggage. Afterward, meet your guides and travel to the hotel for overnight.

KIGALI SERENA HOTEL OR SIMILAR

### DAY 3 | MON | JUL 15 | AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

This morning after breakfast, explore Kigali during a city orientation and then pay a visit to the Kigali Memorial Centre, a permanent memorial and museum dedicated to the victims of Rwanda's 1994 genocide. Here you will gain a deeper understanding of Rwanda's history and amazing resilience, turning tragedy into powerful messages of peace, reconciliation, and hope. Have lunch at a local restaurant and then transfer to Akagera National Park to check into Ruzizi Tented Lodge, a luxury eco-lodge on the shores of Lake Ihema.

RUZIZI TENTED LODGE

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

### DAY 4 | TUE | JUL 16 | AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

Spend the first day in Akagera discovering its fascinating wildlife on multiple safari drives. Akagera National Park provides savannah habitat for many iconic mammal species, and contains

Central Africa's largest protected wetland. The park has grown into an area that boasts wildlife numbers of around 12,000, which include species like elephants, lions, rhinos, buffalos, hyenas, zebras, giraffes, bushbucks, topis, oribis, impalas, olive baboons, and many more.

RUZIZI TENTED LODGE

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

### DAY 5 | WED | JUL 17 | AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy another day of wildlife viewing drives in Akagera. This evening, enjoy a sunset boat excursion on Lake Ihema, inhabited by hippos, crocodiles, and a large diversity of water birds.

RUZIZI TENTED LODGE

BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER



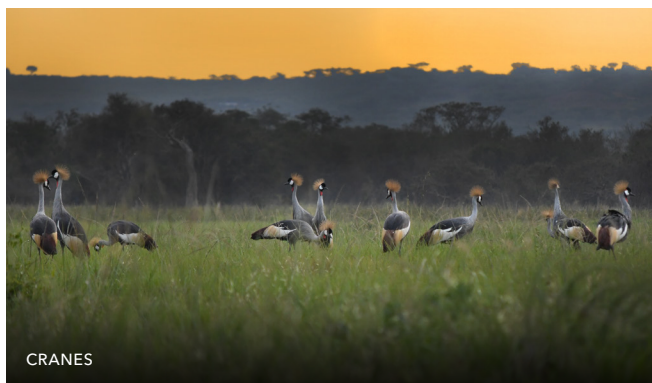
IMPALAS AND ZEBRAS IN AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

## DAY 6 | THU | JUL 18 | VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

This morning, go on another safari drive before traveling to Volcanoes National Park. The park was established in 1925 with the purpose of helping save the resident gorillas and their mountain forest habitat from the growing threats posed by poachers and farming. The remote national park gained international fame when Dian Fossey published "Gorillas in the Mist," a compilation of her many years in the field working among wild mountain gorillas. Fossey's research and lifelong commitment to protecting mountain gorillas and their shrinking habitat helped prevent local gorillas from possible extinction.

**VIRUNGA INN RESORT & SPA**

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**



## DAY 7 | FRI | JUL 19 | VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

Today, enjoy a full-day visit to the Ellen Degeneres Campus of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. The campus opened to the public in 2022, and is dedicated to research and education. An immersive conservation gallery tells the story of mountain gorilla research and conservation from the time of Dian Fossey into the present day. The property itself is a marvel of eco-engineering, designed to reduce negative impacts on the environment through the use of locally sourced resources, rainwater harvesting, green roofs, and the construction of a wetland. The campus gardens highlight native plant species to the area. Have lunch at the onsite Gorilla Café.

**VIRUNGA INN RESORT & SPA**

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

## DAY 8 | SAT | JUL 20 | VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

After an early breakfast, drive to the Volcanoes National Park headquarters, where you will be assigned to a gorilla tracking group. Attend a briefing by your trackers, followed by a drive to the trail, and head for the start of your amazing gorilla tracking adventure. This afternoon, enjoy a visit to the Iby'inwacya Cultural Village, which is a non-profit organization that aims to improve the lives of reformed poachers.

**VIRUNGA INN RESORT & SPA**

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

## DAY 9 | SUN | JUL 21 | VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

Spend the first part of the day tracking the rare Golden Monkey. These small monkeys are found in troops of up to 30 individuals, and you will be able to spend time observing their behavior and complex family dynamics in a bamboo forest. If you wish to spend a second day tracking gorillas, that option is also available at an additional cost. Later in the afternoon, visit the regional headquarters of Gorilla Doctors for a tour and presentation about the important work they do to provide life-saving medical care to mountain gorillas.

**VIRUNGA INN RESORT & SPA**

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

## DAY 10 | MON | JUL 22 | KIGALI

Dian Fossey is the pioneer of mountain gorilla conservation, and today we will get to pay a special visit to her tomb. This hike will take you up to the site of her original research center, Karisoke, where Dieter and Netzin Steklis both lived and studied. On the way up, discover the vibrant birds and plants that make up this unique mountain forest. The gorilla graveyard is nearby, which is the final resting place for Dian Fossey and many of the gorillas that were killed by poachers during her time on the mountain. After the hike, return to Kigali for a farewell dinner at the hotel.

**KIGALI SERENA HOTEL**

**BREAKFAST-DINNER**

## DAY 11 | TUE | JUL 23 | DEPARTURE

Begin journey back to the U.S.

**BREAKFAST**





VIEW OF THE CITY FROM KIGALI GENOCIDE MEMORIAL

## ENTRY & EXIT REQUIREMENTS

U.S. and Canadian citizens must have a valid passport to enter Rwanda. Passports must be valid for at least six months after the date of entry and have at least one blank page available for the entry stamp.

A tourist visa is also required for entry into Rwanda. Visas can be obtained at the airport upon arrival. The fee for a 30-day tourist visa (single entry) is USD \$50, and the fee for a 90-day tourist visa (multiple entry) is \$70. Credit cards are generally accepted at the Kigali International Airport but are not accepted at some land borders. It is recommended that individuals travel with enough cash in U.S. dollars to cover the visa costs in case credit card transactions are not available at the time of arrival.

If you are not traveling with a U.S. passport, please check with the Rwandan Embassy for the requirements based on your nationality.



WILD MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

## PRICING DETAILS

**From \$12,895**

Price includes:

- 24 meals (9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners)
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees and permits
- Private vehicle transportation and driver
- Full time guides for duration of the program
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- All tips and gratuities
- Departure tax
- Carbon offset

Price does not include: international airfare, travel or trip cancellation insurance, drinks purchased on own, items of a personal nature.

## THE FINE PRINT

For an exclusive and personalized experience, this program is designed for a limited group of 8-12 participants.

Enrollment operates on a first-come, first-served basis, secured by a non-refundable deposit of \$2,400 per person. This deposit will be reimbursed in full if Holbrook cancels the departure due to factors like under-enrollment.

Given the unique aspects of gorilla tracking permits and accommodations in Rwanda, availability is constrained. It's essential to enroll promptly to ensure your spot. The trip becomes confirmed once a minimum enrollment of 8 participants is achieved with deposits received by November 1, 2023.

The trip cost is calculated based on a minimum of 8 participants sharing double occupancy accommodations.

Please note: Your participation as a traveler indicates acceptance of Holbrook Travel's Covid-19 protocols in place at time of travel. Holbrook Travel strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance for medical emergencies while traveling and to protect your investment. Please note the purchase of Cancel for Any Reason Coverage or to exclude pre-existing conditions with Trip Cancellation coverage may require policy purchase within 10-14 days of your initial deposit, depending upon the provider.

Single room supplement: \$1,995

Final payment due date: April 9, 2023



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe](https://holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ENROLL:**

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