

NEWSLETTER

FESTIVE EDITION



**Welcome to The Sunset
Adventures First Newsletter!**



At Sunset Adventures, we believe that travel is more than just a journey—it's an opportunity to connect with nature, discover new cultures, and create lasting memories. As we wrap up an exciting year of safaris across East Africa's most breathtaking landscapes, we're excited to introduce our very first newsletter.

Why are we starting this newsletter? It's simple. We want to keep you connected with the magic of East Africa, inspire your next adventure, and share the latest updates, tips, and stories from our journeys. Whether you've joined us on a safari or are planning your first trip, this newsletter is our way of bringing the beauty and wonder of the wild directly to you.

We hope this newsletter inspires you, keeps you connected with our community, and helps you plan unforgettable adventures in the coming year.

Wishing you a joyful and adventurous holiday season,

The Sunset Adventures Team



What's Inside This Issue?

Safari Spots to
Escape to This
Festive Season

Into the Wild:
The Day You Will
Meet a Gorilla

A Year in
Pictures:
Highlights From
Our Safaris

Volcanoes
National Park;
Top 5 activities

2025 Travel
Ideas – Exciting
destinations to
plan for in the
new year.



Safari Spots to Escape to This Festive Season

Starting from \$700 PP (2 Nights)

Nestled in the foothills of Mount Elgon, Sipi Falls is a hidden gem where nature whispers its serenity. With its three majestic waterfalls, lush greenery, and panoramic views, Sipi is the perfect spot for a peaceful holiday escape.

Fun Fact: *Sipi Falls is located at an altitude of 1,700 meters above sea level, making it a great destination for trekking and enjoying cool, fresh mountain air.*



Starting from \$700 PP (2 Nights)

Murchison Falls is Uganda's largest national park and one of the most spectacular safari destinations. The park is home to the powerful Murchison Falls, where the Nile River forces its way through a narrow gorge, creating a thunderous display of nature's power.

Fun Fact: *Murchison Falls is the largest waterfall in Uganda and one of the most powerful in the world, with the Nile water plunging over 40 meters into a gorge below.*

Starting from \$600 PP (2 Nights)

Lake Bunyonyi, meaning "Place of Many Little Birds," has 29 islands scattered across its serene waters. The lake is located in a picturesque valley surrounded by terraced hills, making it one of the most beautiful places to visit in Uganda.

Fun Fact: *Lake Bunyonyi is one of the deepest lakes in Africa, reaching depths of over 900 meters, and is free of bilharzia, making it safe for swimming and water activities.*



Starting from \$1,400 PP (4 Nights)

Queen Elizabeth National Park is one of Uganda's most popular safari destinations, covering over 1,978 square kilometers of diverse ecosystems. It also features the Kazinga Channel, which is home to one of the highest concentrations of hippos in Africa.

Fun Fact: *Queen Elizabeth National Park is home to over 600 species of birds, making it a birdwatcher's paradise, and it also features one of the only places in the world where you can spot tree-climbing lions.*



Into the Wild: The Day You Will Meet a Gorilla

By Emmanuel Njuki

The day you will meet a gorilla, you will not remain the same.

You will keep wondering what just happened. You will realise that there are just so many things you just didn't know until that moment. Do gorillas all have that heart-shaped nose? Why are they just so huge? And those arms!

The day you will meet a gorilla, you will most likely hear it before you see it. Some people smell it before it graces their sight. And you will not be ready even then.

The day I met a gorilla I heard it before I saw it. There was this tree shaking that interrupted the hitherto constant water stream flow sound. But this sound was strange! The warden shooed up all back, as if in a protective barrier and as she ensured she was the last person forward. No one comes beyond this line, she seemed to say. I asked her, in a whisper,

“Are those them?”

“Yes,” she answered, still placing a protective arm barrier.

Even with the anticipation that I had built up over months to this point, I didn't feel ready for this meeting!



You didn't have to ask to know who was in charge of the family, at this moment. And this moment lasted a full hour. An hour that flew past.

You can track gorillas in only four places in the world and two of those are in Uganda; Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park both in Kisoro on the border with Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). And that is where the other two gorilla tracking places are; Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda and Virunga National Park in the DRC. But when you think about it, it is really only one place where the world's remaining population of 1,063 mountain gorillas live-the Virunga massif. The gorillas are no respecters of human created political borders and they criss-cross through these different parts at will. To them, it is just one big homestead; the rainforest. Although their status has progressed from 'critically endangered' to 'endangered', they still are, well, endangered.

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is home to the largest population of the world's gorillas, at 459 with 17 habituated families one of which you will most likely meet. You can also track gorillas in Mgahinga National Park with a single habituated family, curiously with more than one silver back.





Into the Wild: The Day You Will Meet a Gorilla

You may also choose to spend four hours instead of one if you book the mountain gorilla habituation experience. You will travel with researchers and conservationists who make first contact with these gentle giants before they are safe to visit by tourists.

The day you will meet a gorilla, you will be struck by its sheer size. Oh my! The male silverbacks really grow huge and they know it so they constantly show off their size and even more if they feel their family is being threatened.

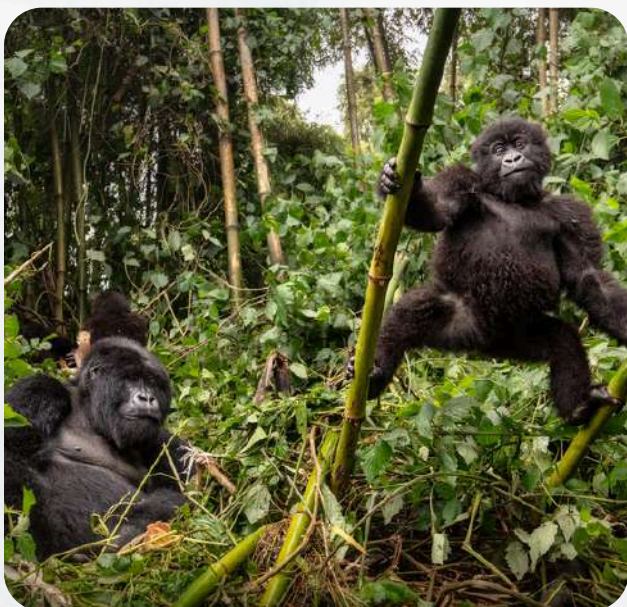
You will note the human characteristics that will amaze you -we are cousins after all. They can catch human disease especially the flue so you will not only be encouraged, nay, mandated to wear a face mask. You will also stay at least seven metres away as you watch them. Their immunity is not as good as a human's and as you may have guessed from their living quarters, they don't have that much in medical facilities.



The day you will meet a gorilla you will be reminded of parenting from the flurry of activities between the infant gorillas and their mothers, whether it is feeding, nurturing, back riding or disciplining when the little ones get too naughty.

The gorillas are the gardeners of the rain forest, balancing up the ecosystem, eating fruit and dispensing the seed, with a dose of manure to ensure continuous growth of trees that ensure we have oxygen and rain. Their conservation is conservation of the forests that are their home. The forest conservation is really self-conservation because what is good for the gorillas is good for us too.

So, when you meet a gorilla, you may have paid to meet it, but you will really be funding its conservation and this conservation is selfish-you will live better life when the gorillas do too. I hope you catch all that in one hour. But then again, who said you can't visit again?





A Year in Pictures: Highlights From Our Safaris





Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda

Top 5 Activities

Volcanoes National Park, also known as Parc National des Volcans (PNV), is a must-visit destination located in Rwanda's Northern Province, near the village of Musanze. Established in 1925, it's one of Africa's oldest national parks, created primarily to conserve the endangered mountain gorillas. Beyond gorillas, the park boasts a diverse range of wildlife, including buffaloes, forest elephants, primates like golden monkeys, and numerous bird species. But the park's true highlight is its breathtaking scenery, dominated by the majestic Virunga volcanoes.

Things to Do

1 Gorilla Trekking

Venture into the lush rainforest to encounter mountain gorillas up close. Spend an hour observing these

incredible creatures in their natural habitat.

Tip: Gorilla trekking permits cost \$1,500 per person and must be booked through the Rwanda Development Board or trusted tour operators.



2 Volcano Climbing

Scale one of the park's stunning Virunga mountains for breathtaking views and unique experiences:

- Mount Karisimbi (4,507m): A 2-day trek for seasoned hikers, featuring an overnight stay at high altitude.
- Mount Bisoke (3,711m): A 6-hour hike to a crater lake summit.
- Mount Muhavura (4,127m): Panoramic views of the twin lakes on this 6-8 hour trek.
- Mount Gahinga (3,474m): A shorter climb ideal for beginners, ending at a swampy caldera.
- Mount Sabyinyo (3,645m): Hike to the summit where you can stand in Rwanda, Uganda, and the DRC simultaneously.



3 Dian Fossey Hike

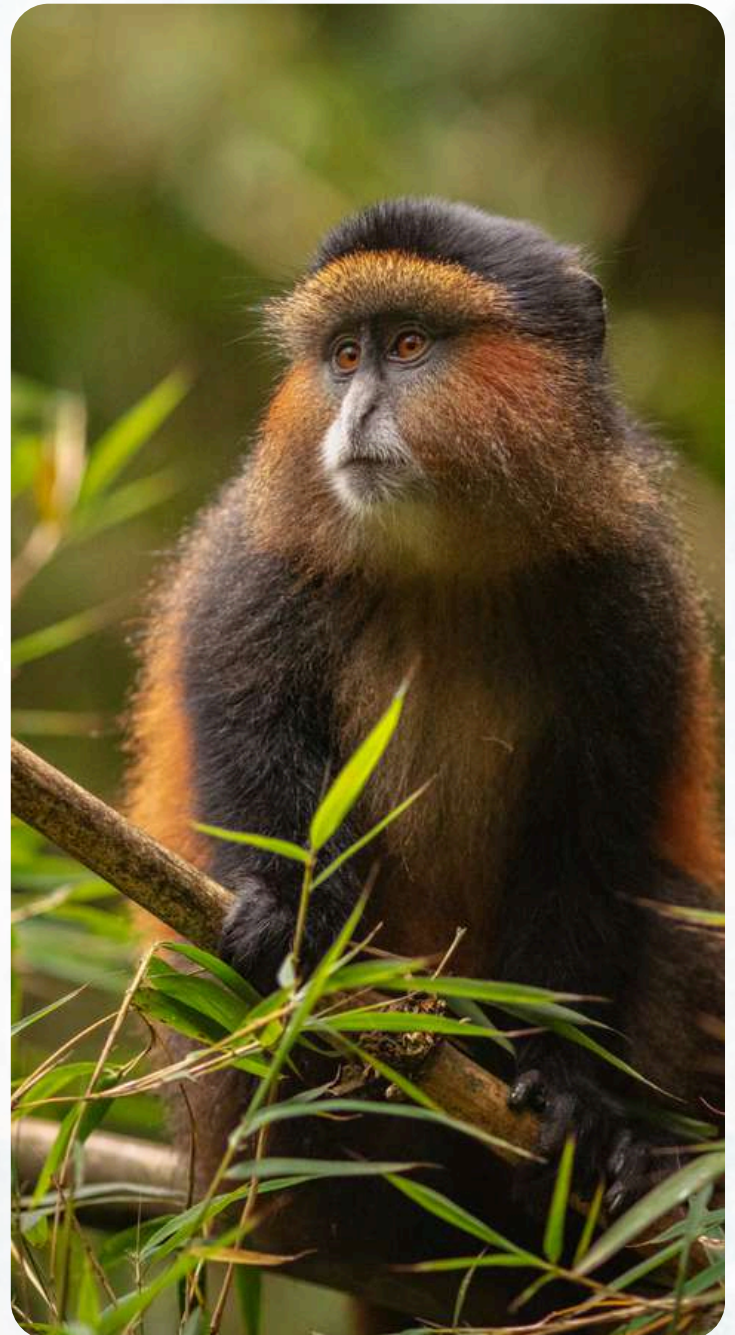
Follow in the footsteps of the renowned primatologist on this 3-hour trek to her research site, grave, and the final resting places of gorillas she protected. A perfect mix of history, education, and stunning views.

4 Community Tours

Discover Rwandan culture at the Iby'iwacu Cultural Village. Experience traditional dances, visit the king's house, and learn to craft local items like baskets. Enjoy local cuisine and beverages for an authentic taste of Rwanda.

5 Wildlife Viewing

Join guided nature walks or game drives to spot golden monkeys, elephants, buffaloes, and vibrant birdlife in the park's diverse ecosystems. Plan your adventure to Volcanoes National Park and explore its natural and cultural treasures!





»»» What Next? 2025 Travel Ideas

MARTYR'S TRAIL

May- June

The Uganda Martyrs Trail is a significant historical and religious route that traces the journey of the Ugandan martyrs, who were 22 Catholic and Anglican converts executed for their faith in 1886. The trail spans various locations across Kampala, marking the sites of their martyrdom, and serves as a pilgrimage route for visitors and pilgrims, particularly from the Christian faith.

More to explore with us...



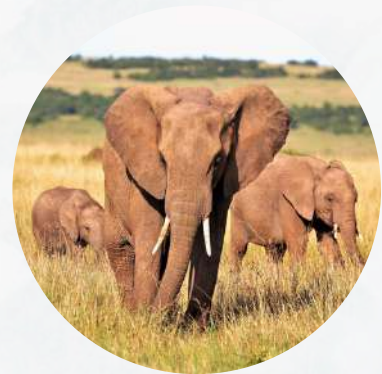
GORILLA HABITUATION AT BWINDI NP, UGANDA

Unlike traditional trekking, a gorilla habituation experience at Bwindi Impenetrable NP lets you observe their natural behavior and social interactions, providing an unforgettable wildlife adventure.



AMBROSELI, LAKE NAKURU & MASAASI MARA

Experience the best of Kenya on a thrilling 5-day safari in 2025. This unforgettable journey combines stunning landscapes, diverse wildlife, and cultural insights for an authentic African adventure.



2 IN 1 SAFARI KENYA AND TANZANIA

9 days of a perfect blend of adventure and relaxation in Africa's breathtaking landscapes. Visit iconic destinations like the Serengeti, Amboseli, Maasai Mara, Lake Nakuru, and Ngorongoro Crater.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*It's been a busy year, but we
wouldn't have it any other way.
Keep exploring!*

TRAVEL WITH US!

[Click to see all our safaris here](#)



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