

Uganda

Includes ➔

Kampala378
Entebbe395
Rwenzori Mountains National Park427
Queen Elizabeth National Park431
Bwindi Impenetrable National Park437
Mgahinga Gorilla National Park448
Ssesse Islands455
Murchison Falls National Park459

Best for Nature

- ➔ Mountain gorillas (p437, p448)
- ➔ Tree-climbing lions (p436)
- ➔ Chimpanzees (p423)
- ➔ The 'Big Five' (p456, p459)

Best Sleeping

- ➔ Apoka Safari Lodge (p413)
- ➔ Wildwaters Lodge (p406)
- ➔ Kyaninga Lodge (p418)
- ➔ Byoona Amagara (p445)
- ➔ Red Chilli Hideaway (p382)
- ➔ Buhoma Community Rest Camp (p440)

Why Go?

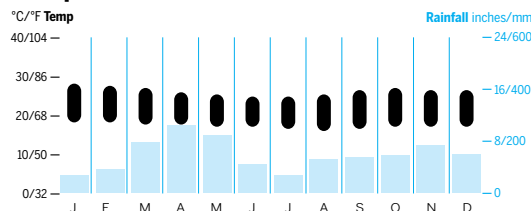
Emerging from the shadows of its dark history, a new dawn of tourism has risen in Uganda, polishing a glint back into the 'pearl of Africa'. Travellers are streaming in to explore what is basically the best of everything the continent has to offer.

For a relatively small country, there's a lot that's big about the place. It's home to the tallest mountain range in Africa, the source that feeds the world's longest river and the continent's largest lake. And with half the remaining mountain gorillas residing here, as well as the Big Five to be ticked off, wildlife watching is huge.

While antigay sentiments have cast a shadow over an otherwise positive tourism picture, Uganda remains one of the safest destinations in Africa. Other than watching out for the odd hippo at your campsite, there's no more to worry about here than in most other countries.

When to Go

Kampala



Jan & Feb Perfect climate to head for the hills to climb the Rwenzoris or Mt Elgon.

Jun–Sep The best bet weatherwise: not too hot with minimal rainfall.

Oct & Nov Can be rainy, but fewer travellers means gorilla permits are much easier to obtain.

Uganda Highlights

1 Jaunt through the jungle to marvel at mountain gorillas in **Bwindi Impenetrable National Park** (p437).

2 Take on the wild waters of the **Nile River** (p401), some of the best white-water rafting in the world.

3 Check out the world's most powerful waterfall on a wildlife-watching bonanza of a boat ride up the Victoria Nile at **Murchison Falls** (p459).

4 Chill out at **Lake Bunyonyi** (p443), the most beautiful lake in Uganda.

5 Explore unvarnished Africa at its wild and colourful best in **Kidepo Valley National Park** (p412).

6 Tackle the ice-capped **Rwenzori Mountains** (p427), evocatively known as the 'Mountains of the Moon'.

7 Laze in a hammock on a powdery white-sand beach on the **Ssese Islands** (p455), in Lake Victoria.

