



# **RWANDA**

The Republic of Rwanda is a landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley. Highly elevated, with a geography dominated by mountains, this is an environment that supports chimpanzee, mountain gorilla and a variety of other primate species.

Nyungwe National Park is in southwestern Rwanda and spreads as far south as Burundi. The park has a diverse array of species including the endangered eastern chimpanzee and is currently the most important chimpanzee conservation site in Rwanda. JGIA is working with the rangers of Nyungwe to better understand and identify the chimpanzees of this unique forest.

The Jane Goodall Institute Australia (JGIA) in partnership with RAW Africa Eco-tours would like you to join us in the "land of a thousand hills". Journey through this unique country, experiencing local culture and communities, while learning about the skills required to monitor the Nyungwe chimpanzee population, contributing to the outstanding work of JGIA in Rwanda.

#### Jane Goodall Institute

Founded in 1977 by renowne primatologist Jane Goodall, JGI is a global non-profit organisation that empowers people to make a difference for all living things. In Rwanda the primary focus for JGIA is to support the management of this unique forest ecosystem. This management system requires the rangers to be able to gather data on the health status and behaviour of the chimpanzees as well as habitat quality. The proceeds from this tour will assist JGIA to support the Nyungwe rangers in forest monitoring and to ensure that this crucial conservation site is managed as effectively as possible.

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#### Key

**B:** Breakfast

L: Lunch

D: Dinner

# Day 1: Arrival Day & transfer to Muzane, Rwanda

#### D

On arrival, you will be met at Kigali International Airport and transferred to Muzanze.

Alternatively, if you are joining the tour from Kisoro, Uganda then it is a mere 40 mins drive across the border to Muzanze. There will be some time to refresh before we get together and meet our fellow travellers.

This evening at dinner there will be plenty of time to chat and get excited for your conservation safari ahead.

## Day 2: Volcanoes National Park

#### BLD

Our Rwanda adventure really starts today. Volcanoes National Park is the home of the largest population of mountain gorillas in the world- and today you have the option to trek\* and experience these incredible great apes. If trekking is not for you, then we will take you to visit a local village to experience traditional Rwandan culture. After lunch the group will reunite and transfer to Gisenyi. This is where we will spend our evening- on the shores of stunning Lake Kivu.

families and their behaviour. Key to obtaining this information is the training of rangers to assess the chimpanzee groups. By supporting research training you will be contributing directly to chimpanzee conservation in Rwanda.

One of the challenges of protecting the chimps of Nyungwe Forest is the lack of knowledge of chimpanzee

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#### Day 3: Boat journey on Lake Kivu to Kibuye

#### BLD

After breakfast we will board a traditional boat from our guest house. We will follow the eastern shore of Lake Kivu for 1.5hrs before arriving at the Kinunu coffee plantation. Here we enjoy a coffee tour before continuing to Kibuye. The boat will weave between the picturesque islands of Lake Kivu while you sit back and take in the stunning surrounding scenery.





#### TRIP EXTENSION

Combines seamlessly with the JGIA Uganda and Tanzania safaris.

### TRIP DETAILS

Price: AU\$2695 pp Twin share. Single supplement AU \$155

#### **Inclusions**

Chimpanzee Trekking Permit

All transfers, transport, activities, accommodation, water with activities, meals (as per itinerary), all tips except your RAW Africa tour leader.

#### **Accommodation**

4 nights hotel and 2 nights guest house.

**Group Size** Maximum 8

#### **Optional Activities**

\* Gorilla Trek in Volcanoes National Park: US\$1,500 per person (Day 2)









#### **Day 4: Nyungwe Forest**

BLD

After breakfast we will travel 2.5hrs to one of the oldest rainforests in Africa. The mountainous region of Nyungwe is rich in biodiversity, spectacularly beautiful and teaming with wildlife. As well as chimpanzee there are 12 species of primate, including the endemic L'Hoest's monkey. After lunch we step on to the 160m long and 70m high canopy walkway. Suspended above a ravine in the lush montane rainforest, the canopy walkway provides an exhilarating perspective from high above the ancient treetops. We will spend the evening with JGI coordinator as we learn about the chimpanzee conservation project in Nyungwe Forest.

#### Day 5: Chimpanzee Trek

BLD

As the sun rises this morning we will set off with local rangers and JGI staff.
JGI works in partnership with Nyungwe Forest to identify the chimpanzee families and assist in planning to ensure long term viability of this unique habitat.

We will head to the Cyamudongo sector of the Nyungwe Forest, where we will trek to see the chimpanzee families and participate in chimpanzee identification and habitat assessment.

The Rwandan government strongly encourages participation in local dance groups to preserve their culture. Tonight, we will stay in a local guest house and have

the pleasure of enjoying the resident children's dance group (Imbuto Y'umuco) perform for us. The dancing is a perfect way to finish off our Nyungwe experience by understanding more about the culture and community that live around the forest.

#### Day 6: Travel to Kigali

BLD

Today we will travel from our base in Nyungwe Forest to Kigali. The drive is approximately 3.5 hours. It is very scenic as we pass by rolling hills and local villages.

Enroute we will also stop in the village of Butare to visit the Ethnographic Museum.

This evening in Kigali we will dine at a local restaurant and enjoy a relaxing night.

#### **Day 7: Kigali Departure**

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After breakfast you are free to explore the pristine city of Kigali. Perhaps you will visit the genocide memorial or one of the many art galleries. The tour finishes today when we transport you to the airport in in time for your departure.

No doubt you will leave with fond memories of the extraordinary work that JGIA is undertaking in Rwanda to protect the chimpanzees and their unique habitat.

Perhaps you will wish to continue with your travels and support the JGIA Uganda or Tanzania program.

