



Uganda

June 9 - 22, 2018



Country Overview

Emerging from the shadows of its dark history, a new dawn of tourism has risen in Uganda, the “Pearl of Africa.” Travelers 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 anti-gay sentiments have cast a shadow over an otherwise positive tourism picture, Uganda remains one of the safest destinations in Africa.

Geographic Positioning

Uganda is a landlocked country in East Africa. It is bordered to the east by Kenya, to the north by South Sudan, to the west by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to the southwest by Rwanda, and to the south by Tanzania. Uganda is the world's second most populous landlocked country after Ethiopia. The southern part of the country includes a substantial portion of Lake Victoria, shared with Kenya and Tanzania, situating the country in the African Great Lakes region. Uganda also lies within the Nile basin, and has a varied but generally a modified equatorial climate.

The official languages are Swahili and English. Though, the central language, Luganda, is widely spoken in and around Kampala.



Testimonials from Previous Participants

“My experience in Uganda gave me a true taste of the real world. It’s easy to become consumed by our own lives that we tend to forget that there is a world needing our attention. This mission work showed me that it is crucial to get out into the world to truly understand it. The people of Uganda forever impacted my life and elevated my ability to be appreciative, patient, loving, and genuinely satisfied with my life.”

-- Sarah Nininger, Aspen High School & Chapman University

“The Uganda trip was unlike any I'd ever had. In truth, it was less of an experience than an impression: a substantial change in my being. The people I met and the work I did gave me a sense of importance, and I could feel how much the people appreciated our presence. In the few short weeks I spent in Uganda, I developed a love for the country, the teachers, and the students that will color my heart forever.”

-- Cale Bonderman, Colorado Rocky Mountain School

Trip Overview

This intentional travel experience will truly be life changing and will allow you to authentically experience Uganda. Most of our time will be spent in Nakuwadde, Uganda, near the capital of Kampala. During our stay, we will be immersed in Ugandan culture, serving orphans, needy children, and the local community. Additionally, this trip includes two layovers in Dubai, known as the “Desert Miracle.”

Travel

Our flight itinerary is as follows:

Monday, July 9

DA 1941 Depart: Denver 10:45 AM
Arrive: Los Angeles (LAX) 12:16 PM

EK 216 Depart: Los Angeles (LAX) 4:40 PM
Arrive: Dubai 7:30 PM

Wednesday, July 11

EK 729 Depart: Dubai 9:20 AM
Arrive: Entebbe 1:50 PM

Friday, July 20

EK 730 Depart: Entebbe 4:20 PM
Arrive: Dubai 10:50 PM

Sunday, July 22

EK 211 Depart: Dubai 8:55 AM
Arrive: Los Angeles (LAX) 1:55 PM

UA 750 Depart: Los Angeles (LAX) 6:20 PM
Arrive: Denver 9:37 PM

Service

Our primary service partner is the nonprofit organization, Action in Africa – www.actioninafrica.com. Service will involve 2-3 work projects, volunteering at the community library (which is on the premises of the nonprofit’s center), tutoring and playing with students at the local St. Johnson Primary School, and gathering water for needy community members. The group will also be offering our help at a local orphanage, Baby Watoto.

Adventure

Mid-way through the trip, we embark on a 2-day safari in the Murchison Falls National Park, along the Nile River in northwestern Uganda. Plus, our time in Dubai will include time on the shores of the Persian Gulf, exploring the renowned spice and gold souks, and a desert safari that features dune bashing, sand boarding, camel riding, henna tattoos, and traditional BBQ.



Cultural Immersion

Simply Venture has arranged for cultural immersion lessons with local Ugandans, like African dance, drumming lessons, language and cooking. These opportunities work to not only let you learn some Ugandan customs, but also to build connectivity with the local community.

Immigration

To enter Uganda, you need a valid passport (should not expire within 6 months of your travel) and a visa. You should simply have to fill out straightforward immigration and customs forms.

Visas

Non-African passport holders visiting Uganda require visas, valid for up to 90 days. A yellow fever certificate is required if arriving from an affected area, but is rarely requested. Simply Venture will handle visa applications; the cost is included in the trip price.

Health & Safety

Staying healthy in Uganda involves some common-sense precautions and a few destination-specific ones.

Vaccines

The CDC recommends that all travelers be up-to-date on routine vaccinations. Additionally, it recommends the following vaccinations for Uganda: Hepatitis A & B, Typhoid, Yellow Fever, and Meningitis. Additionally, travelers will need to obtain a prescription for Malaria medication, to be taken before, during and after the travel period. We also recommend obtaining prescription medication for traveller's diarrhea, as a precaution in the instance you may be ill during your time in Uganda. Please, consult your physician regarding vaccinations and the right malaria medication for you.

Crime

Despite the safe tourist environment in Uganda, Simply Venture does obtain 24-hour local security to ensure the safety of our group. The crime you're most likely to become a victim of involves pickpocketing in crowded areas. In short, use your street smarts and you should stay out of trouble.

Contact Information

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