

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

A LIFE OF MAKING MEMORIES

SMALL GROUP JOURNEY

Secrets of the North & Volcanic Lakes

“Kidepo Valley's absolute isolation, a balloon over the Narus Valley, emerald crater lakes, and chimpanzee tracking in Kibale”

10

DAYS

Private

GUIDE

Luxury

STAYS

FROM

\$10,850

PER PERSON

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Overview

A hidden gems itinerary crafted for luxury repeat travellers to East Africa who want to escape commercial tourism entirely. This circuit ventures into the extreme untouched northeast wilderness of Kidepo Valley National Park — famed for its spectacular jagged mountain backdrops and cheetahs — before transitioning to the emerald water-filled volcanic crater fields of Fort Portal and the chimpanzee-rich canopy of Kibale Forest. Combines elite private air charters to conquer the vast northern distances with private guided luxury 4x4 along the scenic western mountain loop. Guests stay at exclusive outposts including Apoka Safari Lodge and Ndali Lodge.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Kidepo Valley National Park: absolute isolation with cheetahs, leopards, ostriches, and vast buffalo herds with no other vehicles in sight
- Hot-air balloon over the Narus Valley at dawn — wildlife crossing sandy riverbeds with the Morungole Mountains rising behind
- Emerald Western Crater Lakes loop: champagne brunch on a terrace directly overlooking turquoise Lake Nyinambuga
- Bigodi Wetland private boardwalk: the rare shoebill stork, Red Colobus monkeys, and sitatunga antelope
- Rocky ridge sundowner at Apoka Safari Lodge with lions surveying the golden Narus Valley plains below
- Farm-to-table breakfast served in the open Kidepo savannah immediately after the balloon lands
- Kibale Forest chimpanzee tracking with an elite primatologist — calls echoing through the mahogany canopy
- Exclusive Ik mountain community encounter: beehive construction, hunting techniques, and private folk ritual dance

Kidepo Valley's absolute isolation, a balloon over the Narus Valley, emerald crater lakes, and chimpanzee tracking in Kibale

The Itinerary

01

ENTEBBE

Day 1 | Arrival in Entebbe — The Urban Oasis

VIP tarmac handling at Entebbe International Airport. Private transfer to Hotel No.5 set in lush gardens overlooking Lake Victoria. Early arrivals explore the Entebbe Botanical Gardens established in 1898 and the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre for close encounters with chimpanzees and native species. Premium welcome dinner overlooking the gardens.

- Hotel No.5 »
- Dinner

02

KIDEPO VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

Day 2 | Flight to Africa's Hidden Frontier — Kidepo Valley NP

Private charter flight north to remote Kidepo Valley National Park bordering South Sudan — spectacular aerial views of the transition from Lake Victoria's lush greenery to the vast semi-arid northeast plains with jagged Morungole Mountains. Check-in at Apoka Safari Lodge: luxury chalets carved directly into massive granite kopjes with panoramic Narus Valley views. Late afternoon private game drive. Hand-crafted cocktails and premium single malts from a private canvas bar on a rocky ridge watching lions survey the golden plains at sunset.

- Apoka Safari Lodge »
- Breakfast, Dinner

03

KIDEPO VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

Day 3 | Predator Valleys & Absolute Isolation — Full Day Kidepo

Full-day tracking safari across the vast plains of Kidepo Valley — one of Africa's last true wildernesses. Tracking cheetahs, leopards, ostriches, and vast buffalo herds without crowds found in other East African parks. Spectacular jagged mountain backdrops and open savannah to the horizon. Your private guide positions the vehicle for the best viewing with deep knowledge of the park's unique ecosystem. Gourmet picnic lunch in the bush.

- Apoka Safari Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

04

WESTERN CRATER LAKES

Day 4 | Dawn Balloon Over Narus Valley — Flight West to Crater Lakes

Rising before dawn for a hot-air balloon flight drifting silently over the Narus Valley — breathtaking aerial views of vast savannah, wildlife crossing sandy riverbeds, the Morungole Mountains rising in the distance, and intricate river channel patterns below. After landing: farm-to-table breakfast in the open savannah. Afternoon private charter west to Fort Portal. Check-in at ultra-luxury Ndali Lodge perched dramatically on the rim of an extinct volcanic crater lake.

- Ndali Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

05

WESTERN CRATER LAKES

Day 5 | The Emerald Crater Lakes Loop — Champagne Lake Terrace Brunch

Private luxury 4x4 for a slow-paced gorgeous day driving along the rim roads of the Western Crater Lakes — emerald green lakes, lush vegetation, and the dramatic Rwenzori Mountains. Multiple lakes each with unique character and colour, hiking to panoramic viewpoints. A lavish champagne brunch set up on a manicured grass terrace directly overlooking the turquoise waters of Lake Nyinambuga, surrounded by the beauty of the crater fields.

- Ndali Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

06

KIBALE FOREST · KYANINGA

Day 6 | Chimpanzee Tracking in Kibale Canopy — Kyaninga Lodge

Short comfortable 45-minute road transfer to Kibale Forest National Park — home to one of the highest concentrations of primates in Africa. Elite primatologist leads tracking of wild chimpanzee communities: watching them swing through the high canopy, calls echoing through the forest, observing social dynamics and playful interactions. Gourmet picnic lunch in the forest. Check-in at Kyaninga Lodge: luxury log-and-thatch cabins built on stilts above a volcanic lake.

- Kyaninga Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

07

KIBALE FOREST • KYANINGA

Day 7 | Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary — Shoebill Stork & Red Colobus

Private crowd-free guided boardwalk through the Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary — a community-owned reserve adjacent to Kibale Forest. Papyrus swamps, calm water channels, and abundant birdlife including the rare shoebill stork. Red Colobus monkeys in the trees above. Colourful butterflies and the elusive sitatunga antelope along the water channels. Conservation efforts explained by your guide.

- Kyaninga Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

08

KIBALE FOREST • KYANINGA

Day 8 | Highland Serenity & Crater Lake Bonfire Dinner

Relaxed morning at Kyaninga Lodge soaking in stunning volcanic lake views. Afternoon luxury massage using traditional African oils and techniques. The day culminates in a traditional Ugandan-style multi-course bonfire dinner served around a roaring bonfire on a high stone terrace overlooking the volcanic crater lake, with twinkling lights of surrounding villages visible in the distance.

- Kyaninga Lodge »
- Breakfast, Dinner

09

KIBALE FOREST • KYANINGA

Day 9 | Exclusive Ik Mountain Community — Folk Storytelling & Ritual Dance

Travel to remote mountain ridges to interact privately with indigenous Ik community elders — one of the oldest indigenous groups in Uganda, known for their distinct language and unique cultural traditions. Learning about traditional beehive construction, hunting techniques, and spiritual connection to the mountains. Private performance of historic folk storytelling and ritual dance. Farewell multi-course dinner at Kyaninga Lodge paired with vintage wines.

- Kyaninga Lodge »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

10

ENTEBBE

Day 10 | Return to Entebbe & Complementary Spa Day

Relaxed luxury breakfast overlooking the volcanic lake. Smooth 4.5-hour chauffeur transfer along fully tarred highway through tea plantations and lush Ugandan countryside back to Entebbe.

Complementary spa session at your city hotel. Private Entebbe city tour if missed on Day 1.

International departure the following day.

- Hotel No.5 »
- Breakfast

INVESTMENT

Pricing & Inclusions

PER PERSON SHARING

\$11,800

SINGLE TRAVELLER SUPPLEMENT

On Request

Price per person based on two guests sharing. All charter flights, accommodation, meals, balloon, and activities included. International flights to Entebbe not included.

SEASONAL PRICING

Jan – May	BEST VALUE	\$10,850
Wetter trails, lower gorilla permit demand		
May – Sep	PEAK SEASON	\$13,200
Prime dry season for gorilla trekking		
Sep – Dec	SHOULDER SEASON	\$11,800
Short rains, good trekking conditions return		

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- » VIP meet and greet at Entebbe International Airport
- » All private charter flights within Uganda
- » Luxury lodge and boutique hotel accommodation
- » All meals as specified
- » All private guided game drives, treks, and activities
- » All park and concession fees
- » Gorilla trekking permit where applicable
- » Complementary spa session on final day
- » Private guide and expert tracker throughout
- » Hot-air balloon sunrise over the Narus Valley in Kidepo
- » Farm-to-table savannah breakfast after balloon landing
- » Crater Lakes loop with champagne brunch at Lake Nyinambuga
- » Kibale chimpanzee tracking with elite primatologist

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Uganda
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal shopping
- Premium alcohol beyond inclusions
- Optional activities not listed
- Tips and gratuities
- Uganda visa fees (USD 50 on arrival for most nationalities)

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

Tell us what you have in mind.

This itinerary is a starting point, not a fixed departure. The pace, the lodges, the length, the dates and the party travelling can all be reshaped around you.

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