



## UGANDA BIRD ENTHUSIAST SAFARI – 10 DAYS

**Birding at the Royal Mile in Budongo Forest • Forest Walk in the Ituri Rainforest • Crater Lakes exploration • Game viewing and birding in Queen Elizabeth NP • Canoeing in Mabamba Swamp**

### **Day 1 Arrival**

Arrival at Entebbe Airport where you will be welcomed by a Great Lakes Safaris representative and transferred to your accommodation in Entebbe. (B&B)

### **Day 2 Entebbe – Murchison Falls National Park (6 hours)**

Today we will depart for one of the most beautiful protected area in Uganda: Murchison Falls National Park. We will make a stop at Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary for lunch. In the afternoon arrival in Budongo Forest, in the southern part of the national park. Here you will make a guided forest walk for a first introduction with the rich birdlife in Uganda. Dinner and overnight at Budongo Eco Lodge. (B-L-D)

### **Day 3 Budongo Forest**

Full day dedicated to birding in Budongo Forest Reserve. With 360 different species, Budongo is famous for its biodiversity in birds and is home to the rare Puvel's Illadopses which is an endemic species to this area. Other species include the Chocolate-backed Kingfishers, Chestnut Crowned Eremomera, Dusky long-tailed Cuckoo, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Black-headed Paradise Flycatcher, Slender-billed Greenbul, Green Crombec and Forest Robin. Dinner and overnight at Budongo Eco Lodge. (B-L-D)

**Day 4 Murchison Falls National Park - Fort Portal (7 hours)**

We depart Murchison Falls and head towards Fort Portal with lunch en route. The lovely town of Fort Portal rests in the shadow of the fabled Mountains of the Moon and is famous for the many tea plantations in the area. Dinner and overnight at Mountains of the Moon Hotel. (B-L-D)

**Day 5 Semliki National Park**

After breakfast we drive to Semliki National Park for birding. The scenic, winding road will lead us through green mountains and offers you a magnificent view at the River Semliki and Congo. There are more than 400 species of birds recorded in this protected area, including many West Africa forest species such as four different hornbill species that are nowhere else seen in Uganda. Also the Red Rumped Tinker Bird and Palm Greenbul are endemics. In the afternoon return to Fort Portal and continue to the dense forest of Kibale National Park. Dinner and overnight at Primate Lodge Kibale. (B-L-D)

**Day 6 Crater Lakes & Bigodi Swamp**

After breakfast we head off for an exploration of the crater lakes. Enjoy the beauty of the numerous small lakes, surrounded by gentle hills, and the stunning views. At Lake Nkuruba you will take a hike to encounter different species of birds. Return to the lodge for lunch and transfer to Bigodi Swamp. This wetland is a great attraction for birders with over 200 bird species, including the popular Great Blue Turaco. Dinner and overnight at Primate Lodge Kibale. (B-L-D)

**Day 7 Kibale Forest - Queen Elizabeth National Park (3 hours)**

After a delicious breakfast we drive to Queen Elizabeth National Park. Queen Elizabeth National Park is savannah and forest in a rift valley setting. After checking into the lodge enjoy a leisurely lunch and relax at the pool before going on a game drive in search of the key wildlife of the area: Uganda Kob, lion, elephant, buffalo, hippo, topi, waterbuck, jackal, warthog, crocodile and a huge variety of birds. Dinner and overnight at Jacana Safari Lodge. (B-L-D)

**Day 8 Queen Elizabeth National Park**

The day begins early as we start with a morning game drive and head to the mating ground of the Uganda Kobs. This is not only an area for excellent game viewing but also offers much to birders. We move through open grassy plains which support large flocks of White and Abdim's Stork as well as the spectacular Saddle Billed Stork during the migratory season. In the afternoon we take on a boat cruise along the Kazinga Channel, a natural channel between Lake Edward and Lake George. Watch hundreds of hippos, elephants and many migratory bird species, such as the Grey headed Gulls, African Skimmers, Water Dikkops and the Great White and Pink-Backed Pelicans. Dinner and overnight at Jacana Safari Lodge. (B-L-D)

**Day 9 Queen Elizabeth National Park - Kampala (7 hours)**

After breakfast we drive back to Kampala. En route we will pass the equator where we can stop for photos and some souvenir shopping. Late in the afternoon arrival in Kampala for overnight. (B-L-D)

**Day 10 Mabamba Swamps & Departure**

Early transfer to Mabamba Swamp, 50 km west of Kampala. Mabamba Swamp is one of the best places to spot the rare Shoebill Stork. But also many other species can be found here, like the Allen's



Gallinule, Grey herons, African Water Rail, Goliath, Purple and a variety of egrets and ducks. The best way to enjoy the rich birdlife is by canoe. After this activity continue to Entebbe Airport for your international flight. (B-L)

Transport is by 4WD safari vehicle with your own private English speaking driver/safari guide. Bottled mineral water is provided in the safari vehicle. Currently, entrance visa for UK citizens costs \$50 and is available upon arrival at Entebbe Airport.



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