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Location

Nyungwe Forest Lodge is situated in the Gisakura tea plantation on the edge of the Nyungwe National Park. Nyungwe Forest National Park in south-western Rwanda is south of Lake Kivu on the border of Burundi. Established in 2004, the park covers an area of approximately 970 km² of rainforest, bamboo, grassland, swamps and bogs. Nyungwe is one of the oldest forests in Africa and is one of the last few mountain rainforest habitats

Lodge Facilities, Amenities and Services

- Swim in the heated rim-flow swimming pool with views of the rainforest
- Socialise at the poolside boma (ideal for sundowners, surrounded by the sights and sounds of the forest)
- Pamper yourself in the relaxation retreat with 2 treatment rooms and a Jacuzzi pool
- Select mementos and gifts for friends and loved ones in the boutique store
- Keep trim in the fitness centre with treadmill, cycle & free weights
- Get down to business in the conference facilities with AV equipment accommodating up to 16 delegates
- Enjoy refined style and service in the tea lounge
- Tantalise your taste buds in the all-day dining restaurant or enjoy exclusivity on the private dining terrace
- Daily laundry service
- Stay connected with complimentary wireless internet access at the main lodge building
- The main lodge building is wheelchair friendly with relevant facilities

Accommodation

Nyungwe Forest Lodge consists of 22 luxury rooms which are situated in 6 wooden villas of 4 rooms each. There are 2 presidential suites in separate villas. Each room is equipped with private decks which offer views overlooking the vast forest terrain

Room / Suite Configuration

- All rooms and suites are forest facing
- 15 x King bedded luxury rooms sleeping a max of 2 adults each
- 5 x Twin bedded luxury rooms sleeping a max of 2 adults each
- 2 x King bedded suites (both connect with a second twin bedded luxury room)

Room / Suite Features

- Fireplace
- Air conditioning
- Private mini bar

- Tea and coffee making facilities
- Hairdryer
- Electronic safe (laptop size)
- International electric adaptors
- Private deck
- En-suite bathroom with indoor shower
- International dial telephones
- Flat LCD screen and digital satellite channels
- Complimentary wireless internet access

Child Policy

Persons from 12 years and older are considered as adults and will therefore require their own room at the applicable adult rates. Persons under the age of 15 years are not permitted on Chimpanzee Trekking. Children rates are applicable whether children share a room with adults or not, and are inclusive of breakfast, lunch, dinner, soft drinks, water and 18% Vat. 0 - 3 Year old are accommodated at no additional cost and may share with adults, depending on the availability of cots (1 child per cot). 4 - 11 Year old are accommodated at 50% (half) of the adult sharing rate and in their own bed. Child minding is done by lodge staff and can be arranged at an additional cost, by prior arrangement only

Dining

The dining areas are made up of a boma (a wood-fenced area containing tables and chairs around an open fire) which provides a great location for outdoor dining and sundowners, as well as a restaurant with a private terrace, a tea lounge and a bar. Meals are served in a variety of these locations

Usual board basis: Full Board

Dining style: Group Meals

Dining locations: Indoor and Outdoor Dining

Drinks: Soft drinks are included at meal times. Drinks are an additional cost at all other times

Further dining info: Room service is available

Activities

Take a walk through paradise and discover yourself and a sense of peace in this ancient forest. Nature lovers can follow one of many well-maintained walking trails through the forest to various picturesque waterfalls and viewing points or take a leisurely stroll through the tea plantations. Be captivated by the 140 species of

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orchids and 2 dozen endemic bird species, including the majestic Great Blue Turaco

Guided walks through Nyungwe National Park allow visitors to become part of forest life. Experience the thrill of observing a variety of primate species in their natural environment, including the Chimpanzee, Black and White Colobus monkeys and Grey-Cheeked Mangabey

Activities are tailored to the individual and guided walks can last from 1 to 7 hours. The most popular walking excursions available at Nyungwe Forest Lodge include chimpanzee trekking, Black and White Colobus monkey trekking, Grey-cheeked Mangabey trekking and the Kamiranzovu Swamps and Waterfall walks. Bird watching and cultural area walks are also offered

Permits are necessary for all park activities and must be pre-booked through Nyungwe National Park
 nyungwe.reservations@gmail.com
 reservation@rwandatourism.com

Contact the lodge for assistance with the booking on:
 nyungweforestlodge@gmail.com

The park offices are open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm every day
 Chimpanzee and other primates tracking, permits and payment should be arranged / booked prior to arrival

The following activities can be arranged at an additional cost at the time of booking accommodation or upon arrival at the lodge:

- *Chimpanzee trekking*
- *Black and White Colobus monkey trekking*
- *Grey-cheeked Mangabey trekking*
- *Blue Monkey and Golden Monkey trekking*
- *Kamiranzovu Swamp walk*
- *Kamiranzovu Waterfall walk*
- *Various guided walking trails from 1 to 7 hours*
- *Bird watching walk*
- *Cultural area walk with lodge guide*
- *Mountain biking*
- *Canopy Walkway tours*
- Visit the nearby tea factory offering guests insight into the full process of withering, cutting, tearing and curling, fermentation, drying and finally sorting, storing and packing

Children under the age of 15 are not permitted to trek Chimpanzees, but are able to see the other primates and wonders of the forest

Chimpanzee Trekking

The majority of the chimpanzee population in Rwanda is confined to Nyungwe Forest National Park. Trekking to see our closest relatives is an amazing experience, although these groups of chimps are wide-ranging and there is a 30-40% chance of sighting these primates

Black and White Colobus Trekking

There are large troops of Black and White Colobus monkeys residing in Nyungwe Forest. These primates often travel in groups of over 400 individuals. It is possible to purchase a permit to trek these animals. Walking through a rainforest and being surrounded on all levels by these active and cheeky monkeys is not to be missed

Canopy Walkway

A suspended walkway has recently been built in the lush canopy of Nyungwe Forest. This activity lasts 1-2 hours depending on how often you stop en-route. You walk to one end of the walkway and return the same way. It is important to note that the walkway does sway and if you have a fear of heights, you might not find this activity enjoyable

Bird Watching

There are over 275 different species of birds as well as 75 different species of mammals that reside in these lush surroundings. The birds are particularly spectacular with Giant Hornbills, Great Blue Turacos and Red-breasted Sparrow-hawks being amongst the bird-watchers' favourites. 24 Of these species are endemic to this section of the Rift Valley alone

Orchid Ogling

Nyungwe is home to 154 species of orchids, 8 of which are endemic to Rwanda. The park hosts one of the world's greatest concentrations of orchid flora, which accounts for 68% of orchids in Rwanda alone

Cultural Tours

Nyungwe has cultural villages that provide tourist experiences beyond wildlife viewing where people, culture and nature come together with the aim of protecting nature in and around the forest.



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This enhances the community's ecotourism activities and in doing so helps to improve the lives of the people

Forest Walks

With an extensive network of forest trails, there are a variety exciting forest walks

Coloured Trails – consists of 7 trails through the forest each marked by a particular colour. The trails range in length from the 1km Grey trail to the 10km Red trail. All the trails are well-maintained and offer the chance to see a diversity of primate and bird species

Waterfall Trail – this trail takes between 3-6 hours depending on how often you stop en-route. Enjoy walking through the tree-fern covered ravines across several bubbling streams until you reach a pretty waterfall. Throughout your adventure, monkeys are often seen along the way and the steep slopes allow for good views into the canopy. This particular trail has become a firm favourite amongst birders as it provides a rewarding experience to see true forest interior birds, with a good chance of spotting Albertine Rift endemics, such as the Rwenzori Turaco

Kamiranzoru Trail – a 4km, 3 hour trail, which is different from the other forest walks because it takes you through the low-laying marshy areas which are rich in orchids and localised swamp associated bird species

Bigugu Trail – this is the toughest trail and you need to be relatively fit as it leads you up the Bigugu peak. The Bigugu peak is 2,950m high and is the highest point in Nyungwe Forest, offering fantastic views of the landscape

The Nyungwe Rain Forest

The ancient Nyungwe Forest emerged when a geological rift ripped through Central and East Africa. This magnificent event resulted in the current Albertine Rift, the Central African Highlands and Nyungwe Forest. Dating back to before the last Ice Age, the forest boasts a variety of natural wonders and is easily accessible to visitors

In 2005, the Government of Rwanda declared Nyungwe a national park, affording it the highest level of protection in Rwanda. This forest, the largest mountain rainforest in all of Africa, hosts 13 species of primates including the Angola Colobus found in groups of 300-400 animals that is an attribute unique to Nyungwe. It also hosts a large population of chimpanzees and 2 other threatened species of

monkeys; the owl-faced monkey and reported but unverified sightings of the Golden Monkey. Nyungwe is stated as "the most important site for biodiversity conservation in Rwanda" by Birdlife International for its 275 recorded bird species, 25 of which are endemic. Nyungwe's forests extend to altitudes occupied by few other forests in Africa; 1 600 - 2 950 meters above sea level. It is also home to myriad orchids, butterflies, moths & other fascinating insects

Conference

Conference facilities with AV equipment accommodating up to 16 delegates

Access

Several flights are available weekly from African and European cities. All international flights land at Kanombe Airport which is 10km away from central Kigali. The lodge can be accessed from Kigali by car. This 5 - 6 hour trip leads the traveller on a tarmac road, through the forest from the eastern side to the western boundary, where Nyungwe Forest Lodge is positioned. For those who prefer a shorter trip, 30 minute daily scheduled flights to Kamembe are available through Rwandair from Kigali Airport. The lodge is an hour's drive from Kamembe. Transfers can be arranged with Kigali tour operators

Directions

From Kigali International Airport turn left and drive straight for 2km. At the first traffic lights, continue straight for about 1km until the first roundabout is reached. Continue straight toward the Boulevard de l'Umuganda until the 2nd traffic lights is reached. Continue straight until you reach the 2nd roundabout. Drive straight from the roundabout heading to the Kigali city centre for 4km until you reach the big roundabout of the city. Turn right at the big roundabout heading to Nyabugogo and continue until the Nyabugogo traffic light is reached. Continue straight heading toward Butare. You will reach a bridge over the Nyabarongo River

Head toward the southern part of the country and Butare. Drive for about 140km, passing through two towns, until you reach the entrance of Butare Town, now called Huye District. At the 1st junction you will see a small panel indicating the road to Nyungwe Forest Lodge on the right-hand side. Take this turnoff and continue straight for about 1 hour until the entrance to Nyungwe National Park is reached. Continue through the park for about 1 hour. Once through the park you will see the sign for Nyungwe Forest Lodge on



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the right-hand side. Take this turnoff (gravel road) until you reach Nyungwe Forest Lodge on your right-hand side

GPS Co-ordinates: S 02° 26' 48" E 29° 06' 05"

General Information

Rwanda is one of the friendliest and most scenic countries in Africa

Currency: Rwandan Franc (RWF), but US Dollars (USD) are widely accepted

Official Language(s): Kinyarwanda, French and English

Capital: Kigali

Rainfall: Rainy seasons: March - May and October - November (Average of 110-200 mm per month)

Average Temperature: 24.6°C - 27.6°C.

Hottest months: June - September

What to Bring

Binoculars greatly enhance game drives, forest walks and bird watching. Bring a camera and an adequate stock of film. Print film is available but transparency film is not. Toiletries and other essentials can be bought in the cities

What to Wear

Daytime temperatures are generally warm, so bring lots of light clothing, light sweaters for the cool evenings and warmer clothing for the Volcanoes National Park and Nyungwe National Park. A hat & sunglasses provide protection against the sun and a waterproof jacket may come in handy in the moist mountains

Communications

Rwanda has an excellent cell phone network covering almost the entire country. International phone calls can be made easily. Appropriate SIM cards for the network are readily available everywhere, even in remote towns. Cell phones can be purchased

or rented from major shops in Kigali. Most towns have several internet cafés and computer centres

Environment

Rwanda has strict environmental laws. The use of plastic bags (polythene papers) have been banned. Avoid carrying these as they will not be allowed into the country at the border checkpoints. Kigali is a clean and green city. You are expected to throw your litter in rubbish cans. Walk along the provided foot paths. Do not step on the grass

Safety and Health

A certificate of yellow-fever vaccination is required. Much of Rwanda lies at too high an elevation for malaria to be a major concern, but the disease is present and prophylactic drugs are recommended. It is advisable not to drink tap water. Bottled mineral water can be bought in all towns. Hospitals are located in all major towns

Passports and Visas

Please check online www.migration.gov.rw or with your local Embassy/Mission for any updates in terms of visa requirements. Nationals from the East African Community, Democratic Republic of Congo, United States of America, Germany, Mauritius, Great Britain, Sweden, and Hong Kong may visit Rwanda without a visa for a period of up to 90 days. If there is no Rwandan Embassy or Mission in your vicinity, a visa can be requested online on www.migration.gov.rw

Credit Cards

Both Visa and MasterCard Payments are accepted at the lodge

Check In / Check Out times

Check in: 13h00

Check out: 11h00

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