



UGANDA

GREAT APES & WILD SAVANNAS

FEBRUARY 3-12, 2022



This exclusive safari explores the best of Uganda's diverse landscapes. Begin in Kidepo Valley, ringed by mountains in the far northeast of Uganda. This paradise is known for its large herds of buffalo, zebra, and the occasional tree-climbing lion. Venture onwards to the Semliki Wildlife Reserve, where en route you trek chimpanzees in the forests of Kibale and then in Semliki enjoy a private boat cruise on Lake Albert in search of the critically endangered shoebill. You will then travel to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest for exceptional encounters with critically endangered mountain gorillas.

This safari remains one of our most popular for many reasons. It is led by AWF's Senior Vice President Craig Sholley who is a gorilla conservation expert and shares his four decades of experience. As an L.S.B. Leakey grant researcher, Craig studied mountain gorillas with Dian Fossey and later became director of Rwanda's Mountain Gorilla Project, of which AWF was a sponsor. This trip is also exceptional because it includes two gorilla treks and a chimpanzee trek.

© AWF (top), Larry Traxler (bottom)



Sudi Bamulesewa is passionate about biological diversity management, agribusiness, and conservation-based socioeconomic ventures. With over 25 years' experience in program design, implementation, and management, he has worked with the European Union-funded Tea Development program and the World Bank-funded Environmental Management Project. For 13 years, he worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development, first as a program management specialist in the Economic Growth Office, and later as team leader for the Environment and Natural Resources Management Unit. He holds an M.S. in forestry for rural development from Twente University, Netherlands, and a postgraduate diploma in institutional management from the Uganda Management Institute. As AWF's Uganda country director, he provides leadership for all program activities in Uganda, engaging with partner institutions and managing donor relationships.



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© AWF (bottom left), © Andrew Aitchison (bottom right)

GREAT APES & WILD SAVANNAS

DATES

February 3 - 12, 2022

GROUP SIZE

Between 6 and 10

PRICE

AWF exclusive price:

\$18,499/ £13,320 per person sharing



Winston Churchill dubbed Uganda the “Pearl of Africa” for good reason. This is a diverse country, green and tropical, with savannas, forests, lakes, branches of the Nile, and even snow-covered peaks. Enjoy the convenience and comfort of scenic bush flights to the remote wildlife savannas of Kidepo Valley, Semliki Wildlife Reserve, and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Track chimpanzees and gorillas on foot, take game drives among herds of buffalo and zebra, and enjoy a boat cruise on Lake Albert, home to the rare shoebill. Discover the important work that AWF is doing in Uganda when you visit a Classroom Africa school in Kidepo Valley. Take a scenic drive that winds through slopes of ancient volcanoes that offer panoramic views of rural Uganda.

DAY 1

ARRIVAL

Land in Entebbe and transfer to the elegant Hotel Protea Entebbe, overlooking the shores of Lake Victoria. Meet your AWF safari leaders and fellow travelers for a briefing on your journey ahead. **Meals included: dinner**

DAYS 2-3

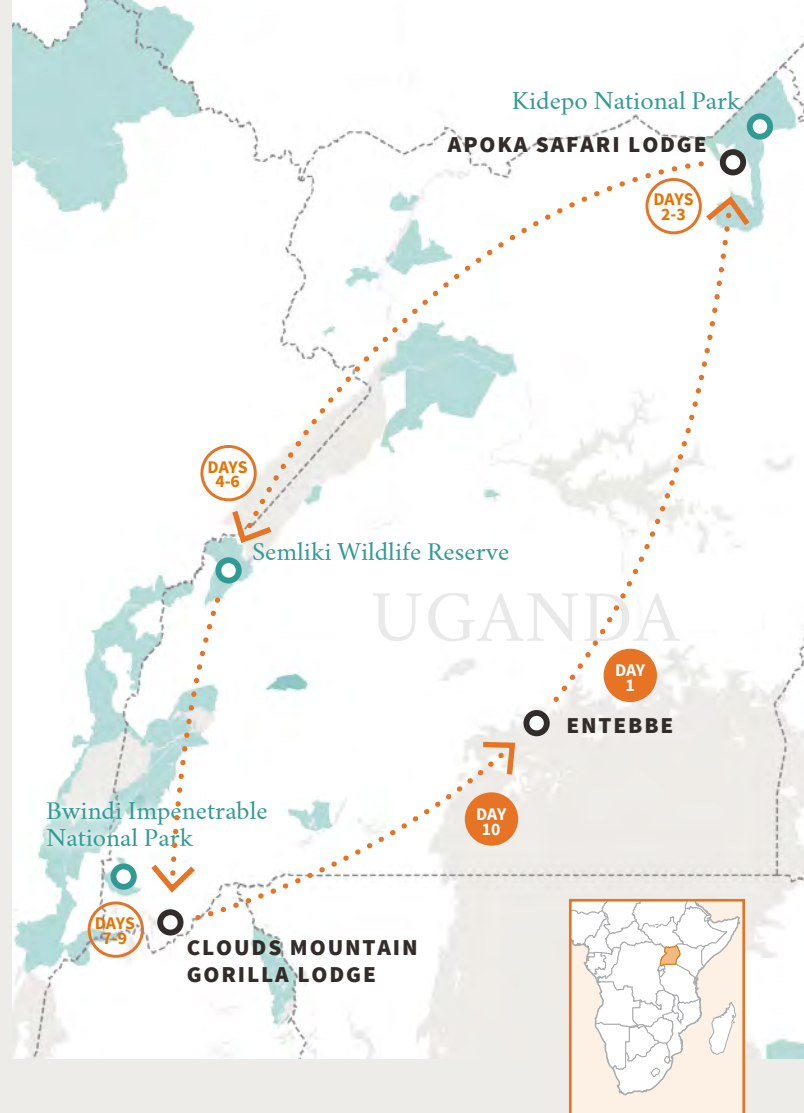
KIDEPO VALLEY

Board a bush flight to the serene Kidepo Valley in the northeastern tip of Uganda. Spend your days here enjoying extended game drives through the wildlife-rich habitat. Buffalos, zebras, waterbucks, and warthogs are abundant, and so are the lions. The Apoka Safari Lodge is the only one in the park, complete with a water hole frequented by wildlife. While in the landscape, you will visit the Karamojong tribe and a recently opened AWF Classroom Africa school. **Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAYS 4-6

SEMLIKI WILDLIFE RESERVE

Fly to Kasese and then travel by road to Kibale National Park, where you can see chimpanzees in their natural habitat, before transferring to Semliki Wildlife Reserve. Here, you'll spend two days. Enjoy a morning boat cruise on Lake Albert in search of the elusive, prehistoric-looking shoebill, and then take an evening game drive in search of wildlife. You will also have the chance to take an exploratory walk along one of Semliki's many forest trails. Look for the elusive forest elephant or explore the swamp — this is one of the only places you can walk extensively. **Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**



DAYS 7-9

BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST

A private charter flight takes us to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest — home to the rare mountain gorilla. A drive winding through the slopes of ancient volcanoes offers panoramic vistas and a glimpse into rural community life. Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge, developed by AWF and owned and operated by the Nkuringo community, addresses human-gorilla conflict by building income from gorilla tourism. A World Heritage Site, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest is the site of your two mountain-gorilla treks. Tracking gorillas is a life-changing experience. You will never forget your glimpses of these magnificent animals while hiking the steep slopes of this iconic forest. **Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAY 10

ENTEBBE TO AIRPORT

Fly back to Entebbe and return to the Hotel Protea for lunch. Relax in your dayroom before transferring to the airport for your independent homeward flight. **Meals included: breakfast, lunch**



Classroom Africa

Building a bright future for Africa's wildlife and children

BY CARTER SMITH, AWF SAFARI PROGRAM MANAGER

AWF's Classroom Africa program, launched in 2014, focuses on providing quality education and conservation awareness to children living near protected areas. It seeks to strengthen young people's natural affinity for wildlife, heighten ecological awareness, and create a corps of future conservationists and conservation leaders.

In 2020, we opened two schools in Uganda; Kidepo and Sarachom Primary schools, making six bright, airy, modern schools built under this flagship program. The Kidepo Valley landscape is a biodiversity gem in northeastern Uganda, comprising the Kidepo Valley National Park, Karenga Community Wildlife Management Area, and numerous wildlife reserves. This essential savannah ecosystem is situated at the border with South Sudan, and the national park is considered one of the most isolated in the country. For the people living in the landscape, social amenities like schools are few and far between.

With the support of an AWF council member, the Classroom Africa program built the new schools to help children here attain a quality education and nurture their appreciation for the wildlife around their community. At the

official opening of the school in February 2020, AWF organized field trips to Kidepo Valley National Park for students at both schools. Judging by smiles and excitement, it was an unforgettable experience for all involved.

The Classroom Africa program has worked with local governments, wildlife management authorities, and community members to improve rural school facilities not only in Uganda, but also in Zambia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Classroom Africa today

Investing in children and youth is one of the core strategies in AWF's new ten-year strategic vision. We're now promoting conservation learning more broadly and hope to reach 12,000 children annually in schools throughout our focal landscapes. By inspiring a conservation ethic early, we seek to strengthen community support for conservancies and other protected areas and reduce community engagement in the illegal wildlife trade.



Meet Your Guide




Craig Sholley

AWF's Senior Vice-President Craig R. Sholley's experience with wildlife and conservation began in 1973 as a Peace Corps volunteer in Zaire. As an L.S.B. Leakey grant researcher in the late 1970s, Craig studied mountain gorillas with Dian Fossey and, in 1987, became director of Rwanda's Mountain Gorilla Project, of which African Wildlife Foundation was a sponsor. Craig has acted as Scientific Advisor for the award-winning IMAX film, *Mountain Gorilla*, with National Geographic. He surveyed the conservation status of mountain gorillas in the aftermath of Rwanda's civil war. Craig's direct involvement with AWF began as a Senior Associate and member of AWF's Board of Trustees. He became a full-time employee of AWF in 2001.

**Note: While Craig is scheduled to lead this trip, AWF is equipped with a range of highly dedicated staff members that may lead your trip. A second leader will accompany Craig if trip attendance permits.*

To learn more or to reserve your spot, contact:

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