

New
Great Apes

AND RAINFORESTS

2019



Great apes, reforestation and conservation bursaries


WILDERNESS
SAFARIS

There is a purpose

“There is a purpose that drives everything we do – a shared passion and love for the natural world and wildlife, and an urgent need to conserve some of the most remote and pristine places on Earth.”

THE LUXURY OF PURPOSE

Introducing Great Apes and Rainforests, one of a portfolio of eight life-changing, 'purposeful' journeys crafted to offer guests access to unique and privileged, behind-the-scenes conservation and community projects run by ourselves and our partners.

This itinerary introduces guests to the primates of the Virunga Massif in May 2019. Guests will also spend time with the chimpanzees of nearby Gishwati Forest National Park.

None of the organisations involved with this itinerary will receive payment for this journey. Instead, all proceeds will be channelled to a bursary fund which will be overseen by the Wilderness Wildlife Trust and reserved exclusively for Rwandan students working with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International through the Karisoke Research Centre.





01 – 07 May 2019

Rwanda

Ages 17 years and older only.
Trip guaranteed to travel with minimum 4 guests.

GREAT APES AND RAINFORESTS

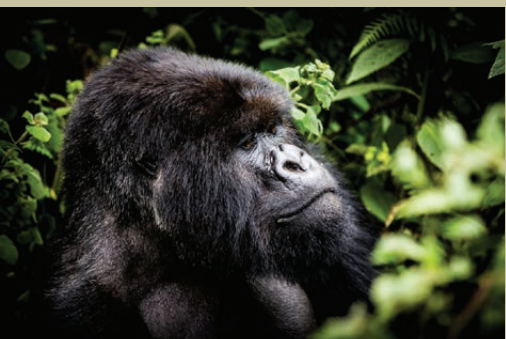


01-07 May 2019 – Rwanda

The Albertine Rift is perhaps the richest location in Africa for both mammal and bird diversity and endemism. It is also one of three locations in Africa that is most important for primate diversity and conservation.

On this journey...

- See two great ape species: the Endangered mountain gorilla, as well as chimpanzees
- Help habituate chimpanzees for sensitive future ecotourism
- Gain crucial insights into great ape conservation and Albertine Rift endemism from local conservators
- Help reforest Afro-alpine habitat



Species and Range: There are two species of gorilla found in Africa: the western gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*) and the eastern gorilla (*Gorilla beringei*) – the latter consisting of two subspecies, the well-known mountain gorilla (*G. b. beringei*) of Uganda and Rwanda, and the eastern lowland gorilla (*G. b. graueri*) of the eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Itinerary

- 01 May Road transfer Kigali to Bisate Lodge
- 02 May Gorilla trek, overnight Bisate Lodge (Kinigi), evening lecture on gorilla social dynamics, and the requirements for park expansion
- 03 May Drive along the shores of Lake Kivu, afternoon outing to bat roost on Nyamunini Island. Overnight Cormoran Lodge (Kibuye)
- 04 May Early morning drive to Gishwati for a hosted chimp trek and insight into Forest of Hope Association community-based conservation, tour of Karisoke Research Exhibit, overnight Bisate Lodge (Kinigi) – evening lecture on Dian Fossey and DFGFI
- 05 May Hosted trek to Dian Fossey grave, afternoon in Bisate community, overnight Bisate Lodge (Kinigi) – evening lecture on community outreach
- 06 May Second gorilla trek, overnight Bisate Lodge (Kinigi)
- 07 May Depart Bisate Lodge for Kigali by road and onward arrangements

Ts & Cs apply



Rates

4 Guests \$14,220.00 per person sharing

Single Supplement \$1,670.00

Exclusions:

- International long-haul flights to and from Kigali
- Meals not specified
- All drinks (exception Bisate - fully inclusive, excludes premium-branded drinks)
- Items of a personal nature i.e. telephone calls, laundry, mini-bar etc.
- Cancellation, baggage and medical insurance
- Staff gratuities
- Any new government taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases which are beyond our control
- Visa fees – where relevant
- Departure taxes, unless specified



PARC NATIONAL DES VIRUNGA

VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

RWANDA

AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

LAKE KIVU

GISHWATI

MUKURA

NYUNGWE

Butare

Bisate Lodge

Musanze

Kigali

Kayonza

Comoran Lodge

Karongi



Meet your Experts

Veronica Vecellio – Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Veronica has worked for the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International in Rwanda since 2005. She manages the gorilla programme for the Karisoke Research Centre and also takes responsibility for its public relations work. She has worked in Africa since 1999, based in several countries, including the Central African Republic, Gabon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda. Veronica has extensive experience working with great apes and other primate species, including western lowland gorillas, bonobos, mangabey and mountain gorillas. A native of Rome, Veronica earned a Master's degree from the University of Rome in conservation of nature and other resources, with a dissertation on western lowland gorillas in the Central African Republic.



Felix Ndagijimana – Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Felix became the first Rwandan director of the Dian Fossey Fund's Karisoke Research Centre in January 2012. He oversees all of Karisoke's research and protection programmes in the Volcanoes National Park and outreach programmes in communities surrounding the park, as well as managing the Fund's partnerships in Rwanda. He leads a staff of more than 100, including trackers, anti-poaching teams, research assistants, and administrative personnel. Felix joined Karisoke as a research assistant in 2004 and served as deputy director after earning a Master's degree in Primate Conservation from Oxford Brookes University (UK) in 2008.



Sarah Tolbert – Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

As community engagement manager, Sarah oversees the Fossey Fund's community projects in both Rwanda and DRC. She develops and manages projects that link education and livelihood initiatives to improved gorilla conservation in Rwanda, and works to increase the capacity of local communities to manage community-run conservation areas in DRC. In addition to extensive experience across Africa as a natural resource manager, she holds a dual Master's degree in Environmental Management and Global Affairs, from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the Jackson Institution for Global Affairs.



Partners

Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International protects the Endangered mountain gorilla in the Virunga Mountains of Rwanda and Uganda.

The Fossey Fund operates the longest-running gorilla research site in the world, the Karisoke Research Centre in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park. Most of what is known about gorillas is based on studies conducted here over the past 50 years. A team of 120 people protects half of Rwanda's mountain gorillas every day while their research also focuses on understanding many of the unique animals and plants that also call these forests home.



www.gorillafund.org



Partners

Forest of Hope Association

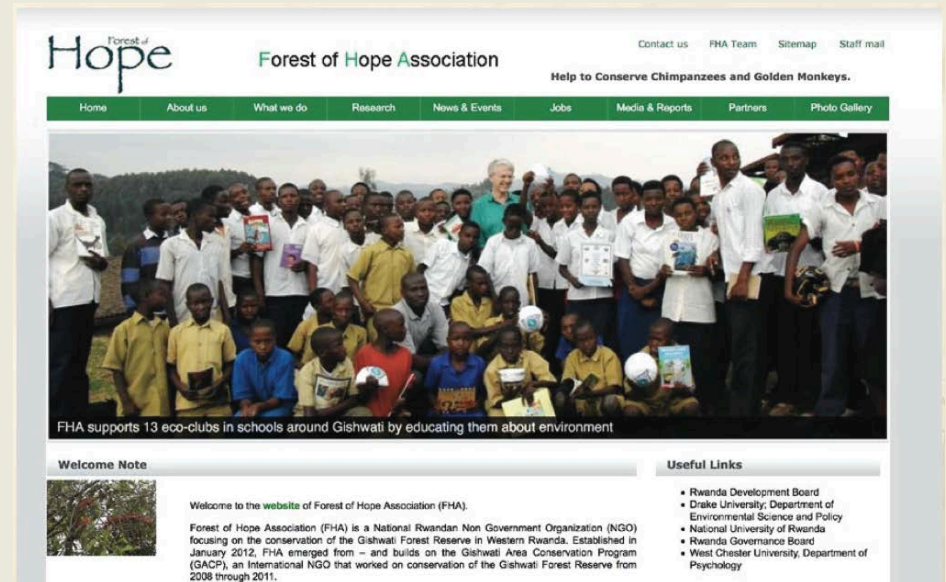
Forest of Hope Association (FHA) is a National Rwandan Non-Government Organisation focusing on the conservation of the Gishwati Forest Reserve in western Rwanda. Established in January 2012, FHA emerged from – and builds on – the Gishwati Area Conservation Programme (GACP), an International NGO that worked on conservation of the Gishwati Forest Reserve from 2008 through 2011.

FHA has been critical to the survival of Gishwati through activities such as conservation education, mitigating crop raiding, improving local livelihoods and facilitating research on its biodiversity.

Over the last 10 years illegal use of the forest has declined sharply; the size of the reserve has increased from 886 to 1 484 hectares, the number of chimpanzees has grown from 13 to 25, local jobs have been generated (FHA has 11 full-time staff), 13 school eco-clubs have been established, the capacity of 10 local cooperatives has been improved, and three local community groups have engaged in community tourism development.



www.fharwanda.org



Beneficiary

Rwanda student conservation bursaries

Aside from the obvious commercial and awareness benefits of visiting some of these largely unknown destinations (Kahuzi-Biega for example receives less than 100 tourists a year, Gishwati less than 20) and paying for access and services rendered, the beneficiary of proceeds generated by this trip is a bursary fund.

None of the organisations involved – Wilderness Safaris, Thousand Hills Africa and Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International – will receive payment or mark-up on this journey. Instead, any and all proceeds will be channelled to the above-mentioned bursary fund which will be overseen by the Wilderness Wildlife Trust and reserved exclusively for Rwanda students working with DFGFI through the Karisoke Research Centre. These bursaries (at the Master's or Doctoral level) are intended to yield a future cohort of Rwandan researchers, conservationists and programme managers.



GREAT APES AND RAINFORESTS 2019

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*Travel
with Purpose*

