



Officially known as the Republic of Rwanda, the landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley of Central Africa bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo is often referred to as the “land of a thousand hills.” Dominated by mountains in the central and western part of the country, the highest peaks are found in the Virunga chain. With most of the country at a high elevation, the lowest being over 3,000 feet above sea level, the climate tends to be temperate to subtropical with two rainy and two dry seasons each year.

The area has been inhabited since hunter-gatherers settled there in the Stone Age, followed later by Bantu peoples. By the 15th century, clans had transformed into kingdoms and the Kingdom of Rwanda was established. As European colonization expanded in Africa, Rwanda became part of German East Africa in 1897 until it was taken over by Belgium in 1916. The country underwent several periods of civil unrest and atrocities in subsequent years until 1994 when the current system of government, a unitary presidential system with a bicameral parliament was put in place. Rwanda’s economy is largely based on subsistence agriculture to feed their own people. Coffee and Tea are the major cash crops for export, along with the mining industry which is an important contributor. Tourism has been the fastest-growing economic resource in the past two decades.

Rwanda is only one of three countries where one can safely enjoy the amazing mountain gorilla experience. Volcanoes National Park is home to an estimated one-third of the world’s population of mountain gorillas, which have been on the endangered list since 2018. The park is in the northwestern part of the country, and it includes five of the eight volcanoes of the Virunga Mountains. Lakani arranges for you to be met at the airport in the capital city of Kigali. After an overnight, take in the scenic beauty of the landscape on a three-hour drive to Parc National des Volcans where you are accommodated in an outstanding lodge perfectly situated in the foothills of the mountains.

You have two opportunities to encounter a gorilla family, expertly led by a guide who is completely familiar with the habituated families and their usual habits. It may take a couple of hours or perhaps more to reach the adorable creatures. Then you have an hour to spend with them to gaze, take pictures, and just become at one with nature before returning to the lodge. There are other primates to visit while in this rainforest. Your guide will take you to see the golden monkeys. And you may also visit a local community and learn about their socioeconomic and conservation projects. Your experience in Rwanda promises to be life-changing and unforgettable.

Best Time to Visit:

MAY – OCT



TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payments: Deposits and payments for our Select Tours for Independent Travelers, and Custom Made Tours vary according to the individual itinerary. We may require a non-refundable planning fee that will automatically be credited to your final payment. Final payment is due no later than 90 days for journeys without trains and cruises. For journeys that include a train or cruise, the final payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure. Payments may be made by check, American Express, VISA or MasterCard. Payments for internal air requirements are subject to the policies of the airlines involved and will be advised at the time of confirmation.

Custom Made, Small Group Tours and Private Jet Tours have their own terms and conditions. Please ask for details. Holiday supplements may apply to the Select Tours for Independent Travelers.

Refunds & Cancellation Policy: All requests to cancel confirmed reservations must be received in writing. Cancellation fees are applicable to land, cruise, rail, intra-tour air, single supplements and extension of any extra services.

Journeys that do not include a train or cruise:

Cancellations received:	Cancellation fee:
90 or more before departure	\$250.00 per person
89 - 60 days before departure	20% of program cost
59 - 30 days before departure	50% of program cost
29 - or less and en route	100% of program cost

Journeys with train or cruise in itinerary:

Cancellations received:	Cancellation fee:
120 or more before departure	10% of program cost
119 - 90 days before departure	20% of program cost
89 - 60 days before departure	50% of program cost
59 - or less and en route	100% of program cost

Lakani Tour price includes:

Hotels: Based on two people sharing a room in deluxe or best available hotels. Single supplements apply for each journey for those requiring single accommodations and will be quoted at time of booking. Lakani reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in the brochure when necessary.

Meals: Meals are included as indicated for each journey.

Sightseeing: All sightseeing shown in the itinerary with English speaking guide via deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach where available or practical. Four-wheel drive vehicles may be used for sightseeing or safaris in certain areas such as Africa, as indicated in the itinerary. Entrance fees are included throughout.

Transfers: Individual arrival and departure transfers between airport and hotel to join and leave the journey.

Luggage: Transportation and transfer of two medium suitcases, except where mandated by air carriers. Overweight charges imposed by an airline will be borne by the traveler.

Lakani Tour price does not include: Air transportation and related fees (except as indicated in the itinerary); airport taxes; passport and visa expenses; personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone calls, and alcoholic beverages and any other items not specifically noted as included.

Travel Insurance: Lakani World Tours recommends all travelers purchase travel insurance.

Travelers' Responsibility: Lakani considers the Selected Tours for Independent Travelers and Custom Made tours to be active. Travelers are responsible for assuring that they do not have any physical or other condition that could endanger themselves. Some excursions may include long walks and climbing stairs, and is sometimes an essential part of your journey. All travelers are expected to be in good health. Riding in 4WD vehicles on rough terrain or unpaved paths can aggravate back conditions. Flying aboard small aircraft is required in some areas. Please advise us in writing of any health issues or limitations at the time of making your reservations. Lakani World Tours reserves the right to decline to accept anyone on a journey.

Passports / Visas: You are responsible for obtaining any travel documents/visas and verifying entry requirements necessary for each country of travel and/or transit on your selected journey. Requirements vary with respect to each traveler's citizenship. Lakani will not assume responsibilities for notice of countries' current requirements. You are responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of the delays or itinerary changes related to your lack of appropriate travel documents. Lakani will provide visa information applicable to your selected journey, however it is your responsibility to obtain the necessary visas for the countries visited.

Unused Services: Refunds will not be made for any missed/unused services or meals

Smoking Policy: Smoking is prohibited at group meals, on buses and during all group activities.

Airfares: International air is not included and therefore Lakani is not responsible for any air ticket cancellation fees due to itinerary or departure changes or cancellation.

Airline Baggage Regulations: Each airline has its own rules regarding baggage allowance. Number, size and weight limitations of suitcases can vary by airline, class of service and frequent flier status. It is recommended that all travelers check with the individual airlines and/or their websites for up to date information. Luggage exceeding the maximum restrictions is subject to expensive overage fees or is at risk of being left behind. Luggage allowance may be restricted within a country by regional airlines or air charter companies. Please refer to your final credentials for those restrictions. Lakani World Tours cannot be held liable for fees or inconveniences imposed by the airlines.

Prices: Lakani Group prices include planning, handling and operational charges, and are based on current exchange rates, tariffs and taxes as of July 2023. Lakani World Tours reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs after prices are published, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Lakani is under no obligation to provide a breakdown of costs involved in any group tours.

Travel Insurance: recommends all travelers purchase travel insurance.

Health & Inoculations: Inoculation requirements and recommendations often change, therefore we strongly recommend that you contact your personal physician, local Health Department, or the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, and advise them of the international destinations you will be visiting. (404) 322-4559 or www.cdc.gov/travel)

Responsibility: Lakani World Tours cannot be held responsible or liable for loss, damage, or theft of luggage or personal belongings, nor for personal injury, accident, or illness. Lakani will only reimburse according to this cancellation policy. Lakani World Tours and its employees, independent contractors and representatives act only as agents in arranging hotels or lodging, transportation, ground handling, restaurants, or other travel services and in no way shall be held liable in the event of failure by any person or company to render services to travelers, nor shall they be held liable for any negligent or willful act by any such person or company. Furthermore, neither Lakani World Travel Inc (DBA Lakani World Tours) nor its employees, independent contractors or agents shall be held liable or responsible for any injury, loss, death, or damage to personal property in connection with any goods or services provided, resulting from force majeure, acts of God, civil unrest, acts of war, terrorist activities, labor strikes, or mechanical failure of transport while traveling. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, Lakani World Tours reserves the right, without notice, to withdraw any or all parts of a tour and or to make such changes as may be necessary. The extra cost, if any, for such changes will be the responsibility of the traveler. In regard to credit card payments for travel services to Lakani World Tours, the traveler (and or cardholder or cardholder's authorized representative) will hold Lakani World Tours and its employees, independent contractors or representatives harmless for any or all charge-backs exercised by them or their credit card companies, originating from any complaints regarding travel services or involving refund requests of monies paid when insurance was not purchased, or for any reason whereby the traveler did not utilize any portion of the prepaid travel services, or any other reasons whatsoever.

Arbitration Resolution: Any controversy or claim arising out of, or relating to, any services arranged by Lakani World Tours shall be resolved solely by binding arbitration in Orange County, California, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. Acceptance of initial travel services and payment of monies to Lakani World Tours will constitute agreement by the traveler(s) of these Terms & Conditions.

California law requires sellers of travel to be bonded. Lakani World Tours is bonded through Great American Insurance and is a participant in the California Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, TCRC fund.

Agreement: Your payment to Lakani World Tours constitutes your acceptance of the aforementioned terms and conditions and the information stated in the pre-departure tour documentation.

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