



BURUNDI

THE HEART OF AFRICA

January 30 - February 04, 2025
Led by Local Guides

Embark on a captivating journey to witness the disputed "Source of the Nile," a significant landmark shrouded in centuries-old mysteries and legends. Experience the majestic power of this historical site that continues to intrigue everyone from around the globe. Be awed by the magnificence of the Karera Waterfalls, a natural wonder that exemplifies the untouched beauty of Burundi's landscape. Let the cascading waters mesmerize you as you appreciate the pristine environment and unspoiled serenity of this breathtaking location.

Conclude your extraordinary adventure with a sensational performance by the renowned Royal Drummers of Burundi. Delight in the rhythmic beats and intricate movements of this mesmerizing tradition, a cultural heritage passed down through generations. Experience the vibrant energy and captivating charm of these talented musicians, leaving you with memories to cherish forever.

Ihab Zaki
Managing Director

Thursday, January 30

Arrive Bujumbura (**BURUNDI**)



Upon arrival in **Bujumbura**, Burundi's largest city and main port, meet the local guide and transfer to *Club Du Lac Tanganyika Hotel or similar*, located on the shores of beautiful **Lake Tanganyika**, for check-in and overnight.

Friday, January 31

Bujumbura - Gitega



After breakfast, head south to see **Karera Waterfalls**, a spectacular series of falls, passing magnificent tea plantations and rolling hills. There will be a chance to walk across the famed **canopy walkway** for the best view of the falls. On the way to **Gitega**, stop to see **Source du Nil**, the *southernmost* disputed source of the Nile. A pyramid marks the location where those in Burundi believe the Nile begins. Transfer to *Tropitel Hotel or similar*, for check-in and overnight. **(B,L)**

Saturday, February 01

Gitega - Kirundo - Ngozi



Enjoy breakfast and then head out for an opportunity to watch the famous **Drummers of Gishora**, a highlight of any visit to Burundi. The Burundian drum originated in the Gitega Province and symbolized power and fertility; this unique drumming style is a spectacular and memorable experience. Before hitting the road, visit the **Burundi Gitega National Museum** to see its small collection of artifacts from Burundian folk culture. The drive north first takes you to the **Kirundo Province** to visit **Lake Rwihinda**, known as the "Lake of Birds." This bird sanctuary is an excellent place to spot a variety of rare birdlife. Enjoy a lively **Intore Dance performance**, known as the Burundian warriors' dance before continuing to **Ngozi** and upon arrival transfer to *Belan Group Hotel or similar*, for check-in and overnight. **(B,L)**

Sunday, February 02

Ngozi - Kibira NP - Bujumbura



After breakfast, begin the drive to **Kibira National Park**, located atop the mountains of the Congo-Nile Divide near the Rwanda border. It is home to a number of primate species including chimpanzees and black & white colobus monkeys as well as many important bird species, such as the great blue turaco, grey parrot, and the black & white casqued hornbill. **Spend time exploring the park** and in search of chimpanzees. Take a walk through **Teza Tea Plantation** and learn about some of Burundi's most flavorful tea. Drive back to Bujumbura stopping en route at the **pygmy village** of **Busekera**, located on the southern edge of Kibira National Park. You will be greeted with a song and dance while learning more about how they live and get a close-up look into their lives. Please be aware that this community is impoverished, and your visit helps contribute to their livelihood. Upon arrival in Bujumbura, transfer to *Club Du Lac Tanganyika Hotel or similar* for check-in and overnight. **(B,L)**

Monday, February 03

Bujumbura (City Tour)



Begin the day with a short visit through the **old colonial** section of the city, including the **market**, **mosque**, and **cathedral**. Make a short visit to **Rusizi National Park** and time permitting, embark on a **boat safari** to see wildlife such as crocodiles, hippos, and migratory birds, or simply enjoy the lake. Visit the **Livingstone** and **Stanely Monuments**. Dr. David Livingstone was a Scottish explorer that sought to find the Source-Du-Nil. American Journalist Henry Stanley conducted many missions of discovery in Central Africa. Visit a local **palm oil production facility** to see the production of one of Burundi's major exports. If there is time, head to a fishery site before heading back to the *hotel* for dinner and overnight. **(B,L)**

Tuesday, February 04

Bujumbura - USA



Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the US. **(B)**

“We reserve the right to change the order of activities/visits or sites due to unexpected events such as flight cancellations or changes of schedule, or any other reasons beyond our control. We will do our best to ensure that any necessary changes when/if needed to meet the needs of our clients”.

Special tour remarks:

- Tourist infrastructure and facilities outside the cities are very limited & often quite primitive.
- Hotels may change at the last minute without prior notice due to reasons beyond our control.
- Hotels may not offer TWIN bedded rooms.
- Air-conditioners in this part of the world do not cool a room to American standards of comfort.
- In the more remote areas, hotels may be basic with few amenities, poor service, and possible equipment failure such as no hot water, broken faucets, clogged drains, etc.
- Mosquito-borne illnesses such as malaria are prevalent in Burundi.
- Documentation of yellow fever immunization is required for travel to Burundi.
- Brownouts or blackouts may occur or there may be limited electricity available.
- *This trip involves long drives in hot weather over poorly maintained and very bumpy roads. Those with bad spines, knees or other medical conditions may find the drives uncomfortable.*
- There are a lack of modern medical facilities and chronic health problems should be discussed with your physician before joining this tour.
- A high level of flexibility, tolerance, respect, open-mindedness, sense of adventure, and willingness to go with the flow if things change is expected while visiting Burundi.



Tour Cost (Land Only): \$2,995.00

Per person sharing in double occupancy

Single Supplement: \$295.00

Price based on group size minimum of 4 participants and maximum of 10 participants

Trip Grade: II Lodging Level: ***



Tour Includes:

- Airport / Hotel / Airport transfers.
- Accommodation in standard first-class hotels and lodges (3-4*) mentioned or best available.
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch and D: Dinner).
- Bottled water while on tours and safaris.
- English-speaking guide/assistant during all tours.
- Transportation by 4WD Land cruiser.
- All entrance fees to mentioned sites.
- Escort of a local guide.
- Tips and gratuities to guide, driver, porters, hotel staff, etc. (provided we reach the min number of participants)

Trip Grade:

II Active: Some hikes, slightly more demanding walks at or to sites, few elevations, comfortable but busy schedule and some long rides.

Lodging Level:

***** Superior:** Hotels and safari lodges or permanent tents with additional amenities, refined service, and comfort level acceptable to western standards (3-4 stars).

Tour does not include:

- International airfare USA - Bujumbura -USA.
- **Burundi visa** (currently on arrival for \$90.00 - subject to change).
- Drinks with or without meals & meals not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature (camera fees, laundry, excess luggage, etc.).
- Dayroom/overnights necessitated by changes in airline schedules or misconnections.
- Any price increase imposed by local suppliers.
- Travel protection insurance (HIGHLY recommended).

