

DELTA GEOGRAPHIC

Explore Rwanda, A Culture Empowering Women

May 2 -11, 2019

Gorilla Trek in the Volcanoes National Park.

May 10-13, 2019

Day 1, May 2 Kigali (D)

Arrivals to Kigali, Rwanda. We will arrange transfers to the Step Town Hotel the for you all day. Try to arrive by 4 pm. At 7 pm we meet to enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the Repub Lounge with invited quest.

Day 2, May 3 Kigali (B,L,D)

After break fast you will have an **Orientation meeting** by Beb Reynol and our local guide to review Rwanda travel information and logistics, as well as review overview our program. Then enjoy a guided **historical tour of Kigali**. Our highlights of pre- colonial, colonial, independence, genocide and post-genocide times. Visit to the **Nyamirambo Women's Center** and guided walking tour of the colorful lower-class suburb of Nyamirambo, including home lunch. Later we will bring flowers and visit to the **Kigali Memorial Center** in Gisozi, the country's most important genocide memorial site and a museum on comparative genocides. This afternoon we return to enjoy the facilities and pool at the hotel.

We end our day with a Dinner and discussion with a member of the **Rwanda Women Parliamentarians Forum** at The Hut.

Day 3, May 4 Kigali-Kibuye (B, L)

This morning check out of the hotel and Ttansfer to Kibuye along the shores of the stunning **Lake Kivu.** Here we will hike around the hills of Kibuye and exchange with remote communities to learn about daily life. Check in at the Home Saint Jean Guest House.

Day 4, May 5 Kibuye (B, L)

Today we will enjoy a boat excursion on **Lake Kivu**, navigating around islands, enjoying the spectacular landscape and visiting local communities.

Day 5, May 6 Kibuye to Gisenyi (B,L)

Exchange with the Fair Trade **Coffee Cooperative of COOPAC** established in April of 2001 with 110 members aiming to regenerate the coffee sector in the Gisenyi region of Lake Kivu. Walk through a coffee plantation. Dinner and evening free

Day 6, May 7 Kitabi (B, L)

Transfer to Kitabi on the outskirts of Nyungwe National Park in southwest Rwanda. In the afternoon we will enjoy a nature photographic walk in **Nyungwe National Park** with a special park guide (we will break up and choose from several hiking trails). Check in to our hotel (the Kitabi College Guest House and then our evening and dinner are free.

Day 7, May 8 Kitabi (B,L)

Today we will exchange and enjoy day excursion at a tea plantation. We will jave a **walking tour** of a tea estate, visit the factory and the plantations that are spectacularly located on terraced hills. During the day we will have lunch and our evening will be free for a photo review

Day 8, May 9 Nyaruguru (B,L)

Day excursion to Nyaruguru to visit Sustainable Harvest Rwanda and its nonprofit entity, the Relationship Coffee Institute, as well as local women benefiting from their training

Day 9, May 10 Huye & Kigali (B,L,D)

Transfer to Kigali, En-route we will stop at I **Inzozi Nziza, a famous ice cream shop in Huye**, that is run by the women of Rwanda's first female drumming group, Ingoma Nshya, and supported by Blue Marble Ice Cream out of Brooklyn, New York

Visit to the Inema Arts center and exchange with local artists and dancers. Check into our hotel.

Farewell dinner at Heaven with special guest, **Christina Condo** to share her experience with women's cooperatives, coffee production and Fair Trade.

<u>Day 10, May 11</u> <u>Kigali</u> (B)

Depending on departure time for your flight back home, we may visit crafts markets.

Day 10, May 11 (Excursion begins) Volcanoes National Park (B,L)

Transfer to **Musanze**, the gateway town to **Volcanoes National Park**, and exploration of the town center with its colorful market. Yet on the way we will learn about the important gender story of coffee and as we meet the **a women's association** and visit a local **coffee cooperative**. This coffee cooperative was formed in 2004 and due to a strong women's movement became the first Café Femenino Program on the continent of Africa in 2008. Since this group includes both Hutu and Tutsi, the women made a decision to make poverty their mutual enemy rather than each other; and with this sentiment, they have been able to move forward and heal their community through their leadership. We will have lunch and then transfer to our lode and the remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Tonight we need a good nights sleep at the **Hotel Muhabura** for our early wake up call.

Day 11, May 12 Volcanoes NP (B, L)

Tonight_we start our day with a **Gorilla Trek** in **the Volcanoes National Park**. This is an amazing opportunity to track a family of highly endangered mountain gorillas. Seeing mountain gorillas usually involves a 2-4 hours of hiking to find them. We will be at moderate high altitude, about 5000 feet. Those wanting to engage in the hike should bring: gloves, regular weight/not-super light khakis and hiking shoes. The guides will provide the rest. Please see the Gorilla visiting guidelines here http://www.rdb.rw/tourism-and-conservation/gorilla-trekking.html. We will return to the hotel for a relaxing dinner.

This morning we will check out of our hotel. Depending upon flight times there will be drop offs or optional souvenir shopping at **Caplaki Crafts Market** and enjoy a lunch Reservation at **Chez Lando** before a transfer to the airport.