







Embark on a breathtaking adventure with Ahnasa, an extraordinary travel company founded by the dynamic mother-daughter duo, Pana and Phera. We are a passionate team of women guiding you through the heart of Africa, weaving together an enchanting tapestry of experiences that will linger in your soul forever.

At Ahnasa, we are not just curators of travel; we are architects of unforgettable moments. Our mission, fueled by the spirit of empowerment, is to craft transformative journeys that resonate with the heartbeat of Africa. We invite you to dance with the rhythm of the continent, savor the vibrant colors of Africa's landscapes, and immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of amazing cultures.

As a women's run company, Ahnasa is not just a travel experience; it's a celebration of strength, passion and connection. Let us guide you through the hidden gems and untold stories of Africa, ensuring that every step you take, every sight you behold, and every breath you inhale becomes a part of the intricate mosaic of memories etched in your hearts and minds.

At Ahnasa, we promise more than a journey; it's an exhilarating odyssey that transcends the ordinary. Let the magic of Africa unfold before you as we create moments that will last a lifetime.

Ahnasa - where passion meets adventure, and every heartbeat echoes the romance of the African soul.

The Ahnasa Team

KALPANA

"I am a passionate traveler, love animals, the wild, and the beach, crazy mum to two grown-up children and 8 dogs, and lover of all things red!"

It was a dream come true when Phera and I established Ahnasa Destinations. I now get to show others the beauty that Africa has to offer.

PHERA

"I belong in the wild with my camera, a book, and a nice cold G&T! It's my comfort zone"

Every safari out in the bush is always a new experience. There is always something new, no two safaris are ever the same. The excitement, thrill, peace tranquillity, and every other emotion I feel when I'm out on safari is the feeling I

wish for everyone to experience.

SARA

“I’m an animal lover with a desire to save them all. It’s my dream to become a wildlife conservation photographer.” Nature has always been a huge part of my life and living in a country rich in opportunities to be in nature, I was in heaven. Every chance I got, I would head out of Nairobi and go on a safari in the Mara, go hiking through Hell’s Gate, or boating on Lake Naivasha. The possibilities are endless.

Why Visit Rwanda?

Rwanda, affectionately known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills," is a wonderfully special destination that radiates joy and beauty. One of the most enchanting experiences awaits in Volcanoes National Park, where visitors can embark on the incredible journey of gorilla trekking. Rwanda is home to a significant population of mountain gorillas, and witnessing these majestic creatures in their natural habitat is both awe-inspiring and heartwarming. The country's landscape, with its lush green hills and shimmering lakes, creates a picturesque backdrop for outdoor adventures like hiking and bird-watching. Beyond its natural beauty, Rwanda is alive with a rich cultural tapestry expressed through music, dance, and art, offering visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the vibrant traditions of the Rwandan people.

Rwanda is not just a feast for the eyes and the soul; it's also a beacon of environmental consciousness. The ban on single-use plastics contributes to its reputation as one of the cleanest and safest countries in Africa, offering visitors a safe, peaceful and eco-friendly environment to explore.

Rwanda's unique blend of natural beauty, cultural richness, and forward-thinking policies make it a special destination. Whether you're seeking a thrilling wildlife encounter, cultural immersion, or a peaceful retreat amidst stunning landscapes, Rwanda offers a truly unforgettable experience for visitors.

Animals of Rwanda

Weather and When to Go

Dry Season (June to September and December to February):

June to September: This period is considered the long dry season. During these months, Rwanda experiences lower rainfall and cooler temperatures. It's an excellent time for gorilla trekking and other outdoor activities as the trails are drier and more accessible.

December to February: This is the short dry season, characterized by relatively lower rainfall. Similar to the June to September period, this is a great time to visit Rwanda for trekking and outdoor adventures.

Rainy Season (March to May and October to November):

March to May: This is the long rainy season, and Rwanda experiences heavy rainfall during these months. The lush landscapes become even more vibrant, but the trails may be muddy and challenging. It's advisable to come prepared

for rain if visiting during this period.
October to November: This is the short rainy season, with increased rainfall. While rain can be expected, it usually doesn't last all day, and there are still opportunities to explore. However, the trails might be muddier.

Some of Rwanda's Parks and Reserves

With approximately 10% of Rwanda's total land area dedicated to these protected areas, visitors can explore the diverse landscapes, from the lush rainforests of Nyungwe to the savannas of Akagera and the volcanic terrain of Volcanoes National Park, making Rwanda a remarkable destination for nature enthusiasts and wildlife lovers.

Volcanoes National Park

This is a captivating destination renowned for its unique blend of wildlife and volcanic landscapes. Nestled in the Virunga Mountains, the park is a haven for the endangered mountain gorillas, offering visitors an unparalleled opportunity for gorilla trekking experiences. Beyond gorillas, the park's lush terrain and mist-covered slopes provide a stunning backdrop for various activities, making Volcanoes National Park an essential stop for those seeking both adventure and a deep connection with nature in Rwanda.

Nyungwe Forest National Park

Encompassing ancient montane rainforests, Nyungwe is a haven for primates, including chimpanzees and colobus monkeys, making it a premier destination for primate tracking. With a network of hiking trails winding through the dense foliage, visitors to Nyungwe Forest National Park can immerse themselves in the enchanting beauty of the rainforest while encountering diverse wildlife, making it an ideal destination.

Akagera National Park

A captivating blend of savannas, lakes, and wetlands, offering a distinct safari experience in the heart of East Africa. As Rwanda's only savanna park, Akagera is home to a variety of wildlife, including elephants, giraffes, zebras, and numerous bird species. With expansive grasslands and shimmering lakes, Akagera National Park provides a scenic backdrop for game drives and boat safaris, making it a must-visit destination for those seeking a different facet of Rwanda's natural beauty.

Mukura Forest Reserve

A hidden gem, nestled in the lush landscape of the country's southwestern region. As a part of the Albertine Rift, the reserve is celebrated for its unique biodiversity, sheltering endangered species like the golden monkey. Visitors to Mukura can explore pristine montane rainforests through well-maintained trails, offering an off-the-beaten-path experience and an opportunity to connect with Rwanda's rich natural heritage.

Gishwati Forest Reserve

A conservation success story, showcasing the country's commitment to reforestation and biodiversity restoration. Once severely degraded, the reserve has undergone extensive restoration efforts, transforming it into a thriving

habitat for chimpanzees, golden monkeys, and diverse bird species. Gishwati offers visitors a unique chance to witness the positive impact of conservation initiatives while exploring the lush greenery and diverse ecosystems of this rejuvenated forest reserve.

Some of our Favorite Experiences

Gorilla Trekking

This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that promises a profound encounter with these magnificent creatures. In Volcanoes National Park, visitors are led by expert guides through dense forests, where the thrill of catching a glimpse of a mountain gorilla family in their natural habitat is both exhilarating and humbling. The immersive and carefully regulated gorilla trekking experience not only provides an up-close view of these endangered giants but also contributes to the vital conservation efforts aimed at protecting and preserving Rwanda's iconic mountain gorillas.

Chimpanzee Trekking

Chimpanzee trekking in Rwanda offers a distinctly different adventure compared to gorilla trekking, providing an opportunity to witness the energetic and social behaviors of these dynamic primates. While gorilla trekking is marked by the tranquil and family-oriented nature of mountain gorillas, chimpanzee trekking takes you into the lively world of these agile creatures known for their playful antics and intricate social structures. The lush landscapes of Nyungwe National Park provide a contrasting backdrop to the mist-covered mountains of Volcanoes National Park.

Boat Safari

A boat safari in Rwanda presents a unique aquatic adventure, allowing you to explore the scenic landscapes from a different perspective. Whether cruising along the tranquil shores of Lake Kivu or navigating the waterways within Akagera National Park, a boat safari unveils a diverse array of wildlife, from majestic elephants cooling off at the water's edge to an abundance of bird species gracing the skies above.

Hot air balloon ride

A hot air balloon ride over Akagera National Park transforms the safari experience into a majestic aerial journey. Floating gracefully above the savannas and lakes, this adventure unveils a panoramic view of Akagera's diverse wildlife, from elegant giraffes and zebras roaming the plains to hippos bathing in the tranquil waters below.

Coffee Farm Tour

A coffee farm tour is a sensory exploration, allowing visitors to trace the journey of one of the country's most prized exports from plant to cup. Roaming through lush plantations, guests witness the meticulous cultivation and harvesting processes, gaining insights into the artistry of coffee production. Concluding with a flavorful tasting experience, the tour not only provides a deeper appreciation for the coffee culture but also supports local communities engaged in sustainable cultivation.

Bird Watching
Bird watching in Rwanda is a captivating experience, as the country boasts a remarkable diversity of avian species amid its scenic landscapes. From the mist-covered forests of Nyungwe to the shores of Lake Kivu, bird enthusiasts can spot an array of species, including vibrant sunbirds, elusive shoebills, and numerous migratory birds. Guided by knowledgeable experts, a bird-watching adventure in Rwanda offers both seasoned and novice birders a unique opportunity to witness the rich tapestry of the country's winged inhabitants in their natural habitats.

Off the Beaten Path Experiences

Musanze Cave Exploration
A tour of the Musanze Caves in the Virunga Mountains is a fascinating journey into the heart of the Earth, where intricate formations and subterranean wonders reveal the geological secrets of the region. Led by knowledgeable guides, visitors navigate through these ancient caves, marveling at the stalactites and stalagmites that have formed over centuries. The tour not only provides a unique underground adventure but also offers a glimpse into Rwanda's geological history, making it an intriguing and educational experience for explorers of all ages.

Follow the Congo Nile Trail
The trail offers more than just scenic beauty; it leads to hidden gems and historical sites. Explore the remnants of ancient volcanoes, uncovering the geological wonders that shape the landscape. Visit towns like Gisenyi and Kibuye, where you can savor local delicacies, enjoy lakeside activities, and witness the harmonious coexistence of nature and human life. As you follow the Congo Trail, you'll encounter opportunities for outdoor activities, from hiking through lush forests to relaxing boat rides on the tranquil waters of Lake Kivu. The trail's diversity caters to various interests, ensuring that each traveler finds something captivating along the way.

Explore the Rugezi Marsh
As you venture into the Rugezi Marsh, you find yourself surrounded by the symphony of nature – the melodic calls of various bird species, the rustle of the reeds, and the gentle flow of water weaving through the marsh. The marsh is a haven for birdwatchers, providing a habitat for numerous avian species, including herons, ibises, and kingfishers. Armed with binoculars, you can witness the graceful dance of these birds against the backdrop of the marsh's serene waters. Guided nature walks and canoe safaris provide a unique perspective. The marsh plays a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance, acting as a natural filtration system for water and providing a breeding ground for various aquatic life forms like otters and amphibians.

Isumo Waterfall Trek
The Isumo Waterfall trek in Rwanda is a spellbinding adventure through the lush landscapes of the country's northern region. As you navigate the trail, the rhythmic sounds of cascading water guide your way to the magnificent Isumo Waterfall, hidden like a jewel amid the emerald-green surroundings. The trek offers not only a

breathtaking encounter with nature but also an opportunity to witness the pristine beauty of Rwanda's lesser-explored landscapes, creating an unforgettable experience for hikers
and nature enthusiasts alike.

Special Occasions

Proposals
If you've decided to 'put a ring on it' then Zambia has some of the most romantic settings to propose to your 'Someone Special'. Think about somewhere wild, surrounded by exotic animals, in some of the most stunning scenery imaginable. Imagine popping the question on the serene banks of the Zambezi River as elephants quietly move through the water. Guaranteed you'll hear the reply "YES"!

Weddings
t's the biggest and one of the most important days of your life, so why not say those two important words in the most awe-inspiring of settings: the African Plains, the banks of serene lakes, or surrounded by lush forests and beautiful volcanic backdrops? Nothing beats the romance of celebrating your special day in the most memorable way possible, with the sights and sounds of the African Bush or the gentle breeze through the vibrant trees.

Honeymoons
A romantic honeymoon in Africa... stunning landscapes, spectacular wildlife, golden sunsets, the beautiful landscapes, and the African sky filled with millions of stars. Wildlife whispers in the vast wilderness, candlelight dinners, romantic bubble baths - nothing touches the soul quite like Africa. Intimate, luxury accommodation with all the modern creature comforts, it's enough romance to spark a wildfire! Rwanda is one of the best, yet understated honeymoon destinations, offering the perfect romantic breaks for couples. The beginning of your life together deserves the most memorable honeymoon experience.

Family Adventures
Happy kids = Happy families! Why not give the children the adventure of a lifetime and create wonderful family memories together? Rwanda is one of the ultimate family adventure destinations where the abundant wildlife and stunning landscapes provide an exciting and educational backdrop for children and adults alike. Families can embark on thrilling safaris, where kids can witness majestic animals up close, sparking a sense of wonder and fostering a connection with nature. Rwanda's national parks and reserves offer a variety of activities, from game drives to guided walks, from primate trekking through forests to fun activities on Lake Kivu, allowing families to explore and learn together.

Rwandan Culture

Traditional Rwandan culture is vividly expressed through dance, music, and oral traditions. The graceful Intore dance, with its rhythmic movements and colorful attire, is a cultural highlight, showcasing the vibrancy and

dynamism of the Rwandan spirit. The country is home to three major ethnic groups: the Hutu, Tutsi, and Twa. Inyambo cattle, with their impressive long horns, are revered symbols of wealth and play a central role in traditional ceremonies, reflecting the cultural importance of cattle.
Cultural beliefs are deeply rooted in the philosophy of "Ubuntu," emphasizing community values, solidarity, and mutual support. Additionally, Rwandans place great importance on ancestral spirits, with ceremonies and rituals conducted to honor and seek guidance from past generations.
Community service, known as "Umuganda," is a cornerstone of Rwandan culture. On the last Saturday of each month, citizens across the country come together to engage in collective community work. This practice fosters a sense of civic responsibility, promoting both social cohesion and the development of local infrastructure. Umuganda has become a symbol of the Rwandan commitment to rebuilding and strengthening the nation.
Rwanda's culture reflects not only its resilience but also its commitment to unity, reconciliation, and the preservation of its unique traditions. The integration of diverse ethnic groups and the emphasis on community service underscore the collective spirit that defines Rwanda's cultural identity.

Booking with Ahnasa

At Ahnasa we will exceed your expectations in every way in crafting the perfect travel experience; an experience that will uplift your soul and bring a sense of happiness and peace every time you think about your safari. Our team of incredible ladies work hand in hand to create the perfect extraordinary safari experience, making sure you leave with unforgettable memories of your trip etched in your mind and Africa in your heart.
At the core of Ahnasa's ethos is conservation – to help conserve Africa's extraordinary wildlife, preservation and restoration of the fragile environment, and empowerment and enrichment of local communities. This we do through responsible tourism. As well as raising funds through our guests' travels, we work and collaborate with companies sharing the same ethos of conservation. We support various conservation initiatives personally vetting various projects and organisations to ensure that our donations, or our guest's direct donations to them are used in an impactful way. We also have a number of projects which guests can donate to.
The Ahnasa team is available for constant support, from your initial inquiry to your safe return home. With team members in Kenya and the USA, we are available most any time of the day or night.
We love what we do, and it's the reason we do it! Our passion for travel and unique experiences has led us to explore the many extraordinary destinations across Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zanzibar. With more than a decade of knowledge and with our extensive experience in travel, we will create the perfect dream-filled safari with intimate moments in some of Africa's most breathtaking destinations. When you plan a trip with Ahnasa, we carefully and lovingly design a personalised safari, especially for you, ensuring a unique dream adventure that will touch your soul.