penda photo tours

UGANDA PHOTO SAFARI: GORILLAS AND CHIMPS



penda photo tours



"This itinerary is designed for photographers seeking access to Uganda's most striking landscapes and wildlife-rich regions. From sweeping savannahs to dense forest habitats, each location offers distinct opportunities to capture compelling, high-impact imagery.'

From the thunderous drama of Murchison Falls to the misty intimacy of Bwindi's mountain gorillas, this itinerary is designed to deliver unforgettable frames and rare encounters.

Capture golden light sweeping across savannahs teeming with elephants, lions, and leopards. Glide past hippos and crocodiles on private boat safaris, and hike to panoramic viewpoints that beg for wide-angle shots.

Track chimpanzees in lush rainforest, photograph crater lakes against the backdrop of the Rwenzori Mountains, and document the vibrant life of local communities.

With two gorilla treks and one chimp trek, exclusive game drives, and guided walks, every day offers new compositions - from close-up wildlife portraits to sweeping landscapes and cultural vignettes.

Whether you're building a portfolio or simply chasing the thrill of the perfect shot, this safari is for you.

penda photo tours



HIGHLIGHTS:

This 12-day journey takes you across Uganda’s most photogenic landscapes, from mist-shrouded rainforests to wildlife-rich savannah.

You'll track gorillas and chimpanzees in lush rainforests, cruise wildlife-rich rivers, and explore savannahs teeming with lions, elephants, and giraffes.

Along the way, you'll capture crater lakes, volcanic backdrops, vibrant communities, and rare birdlife - including the iconic shoebill stork.

Each destination offers a new visual story, with golden light, dramatic scenery, and unforgettable wildlife encounters.

penda photo tours

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE:

This safari is built for photographers. Offering expert guidance, optimal shooting conditions, and exclusive access to Uganda's most captivating wildlife and landscapes.

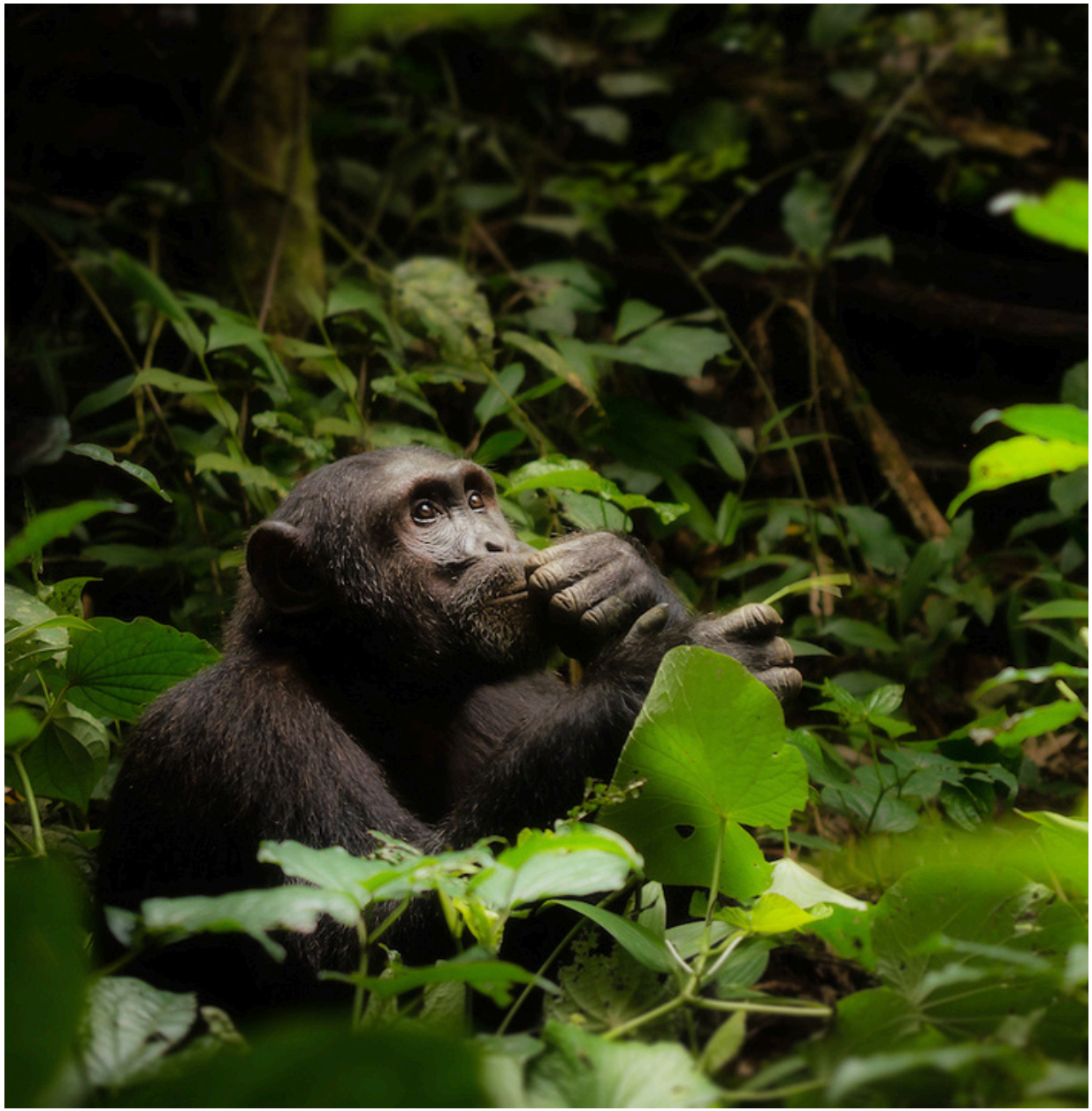
Uganda's landscapes offer photographers a rare blend of close-up wildlife encounters and expansive scenery. From the focused gaze of a mountain gorilla to the soft light catching giraffes at sunrise, each day presents fresh opportunities to document the region's natural beauty and diversity.

The itinerary is paced to give you time and space to compose, observe, and shoot with intention.

You'll move through diverse ecosystems - from rainforest to savannah, crater lakes to volcanic slopes - each offering its own palette, mood, and wildlife behavior.

Private boat safaris, guided treks, and golden-hour game drives are designed to maximize photographic opportunities, while optional activities like lion tracking and swamp canoeing add rare perspectives.

With two gorilla treks, chimpanzee tracking, and countless chances to document Uganda's vibrant culture and biodiversity, this journey is more than a tour - it's a portfolio in the making.



penda photo tours



YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE:

At Penda, we collaborate with only the best professional photographic guides, chosen for their expertise, teaching ability, and commitment to your experience. They prioritise creating exceptional photographic opportunities and adapt their guidance to suit your individual skills and goals, whether you're a beginner or a seasoned photographer.

For full details about the specific guide leading this tour, please visit the tour page on our website.

ACCOMMODATION & FACILITIES:

Throughout the trip, you'll stay in a selection of comfortable lodges and guesthouses chosen for their charm, location, and proximity to key wildlife areas.

The journey begins and ends at ViaVia Guest House in Entebbe, a relaxed and welcoming spot ideal for unwinding before and after your safari. In Murchison Falls, Hornbill Bush Lodge offers a tranquil riverside setting with views of the Nile and easy access to game drives and boat safaris. Chimpanzee Forest Lodge in Kibale provides a peaceful forest-edge retreat, perfect for early morning chimp tracking.

In Queen Elizabeth National Park, you'll stay in the self-contained tents at Bush Lodge for a rustic, immersive experience and as a bonus, it is well-positioned for wildlife photography. Gorilla Valley Lodge, located near Bwindi and Mgahinga, offers dramatic mountain views and a cozy base for gorilla trekking. At Lake Mburo, Rwakobo Rock Lodge sits atop a scenic hill with sweeping views of the savannah and frequent wildlife sightings right from your veranda.

Each property includes en-suite facilities, hearty meals, and warm hospitality, ensuring a restful and inspiring stay throughout your photographic adventure.







Meals:

Expect fresh, flavorful dining throughout your stay. Most lodges serve continental-style cuisine crafted to please international palates, with occasional opportunities to sample local flavors upon request. While traditional Ugandan dishes aren't typically offered, the menus are thoughtfully curated to ensure variety and comfort.
Dinner is a relaxed three-course affair, perfect for unwinding after a day of adventure, while lunch is served as a satisfying two-course meal. Many of the lodges we work with pride themselves on sourcing ingredients from nearby farms (or growing their own) so every bite reflects the region's natural abundance.

penda photo tours

HEALTH & FITNESS LEVEL REQUIRED:

This safari is suitable for travelers with a moderate level of fitness. Most activities (including game drives, boat safaris, and guided walks) are relaxed and accessible. However, gorilla and chimpanzee tracking can be physically demanding, involving hikes through uneven terrain, dense forest, and varying altitudes.

Participants should be comfortable walking for several hours and navigating natural trails. While no technical climbing is required, a reasonable level of stamina, balance, and mobility will enhance your experience. If you have any health concerns or mobility limitations, we recommend discussing them with us in advance so we can advise on suitable adjustments.



penda photo tours

PRICE

For up-to-date information on dates, rates, and availability, please visit our website

Included:

- Transport in 4WD Land Cruiser with pop-up roof
- Professional English-speaking Ugandan driver/guide
- All photography tuition from professional photography guide
- Accommodation as listed
- All meals while on safari (evening meal on day 1 and breakfast on day 12)
- Boat safaris (Murchison Falls & Kazinga Channel)
- Park entrance fees and listed activities
- 1 chimpanzee tracking permit per person
- 2 gorilla trekking permits per person
- Packed lunch during gorilla trekking

Excluded:

- International flights and entry visa
- Meals not part of accommodation plan
- Porter fees during gorilla trekking (if required)
- Personal travel/medical insurance
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional activities and personal expenses



penda photo tours



RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

We recommend the following equipment. If you'd like to discuss your specific gear, just reach out, and we'll be happy to advise.

Recommended Camera Gear:

- DSLR or mirrorless camera
- Range of lenses; ideally ranging from wide angle for landscape to telephoto for wildlife
- Tripod/Monopod
- Sturdy camera bag
- Enough spare batteries and memory cards (you'll be able to charge your batteries at our accommodation)
- Power banks for charging equipment when out and about
- Hard drive and a laptop / external drive
- Laptop with editing software

Essential Travel Gear:

- Lightweight, breathable, and quiet fabrics (cotton recommended)
- Neutral tones like beige, olive, and khaki for blending in
- Avoid red, white and darker colours
- No camouflage clothing
- Casual evening outfit for relaxing at the lodg
- Warm jacket, fleece, or sweater for cool mornings and evenings
- Rain jacket for spontaneous showers
- Trainers or sandals for vehicle-based safaris
- Sturdy, broken-in hiking boots for walking safaris or trekking
- Comfortable lodge footwear
- Sunscreen (at least 50 fps), Sun hat, Lip balm & Sunglasses
- Binoculars
- Ziplock bags for litter
- Books for long rides
- Small backpack for carrying belongings during excursions

penda photo tours

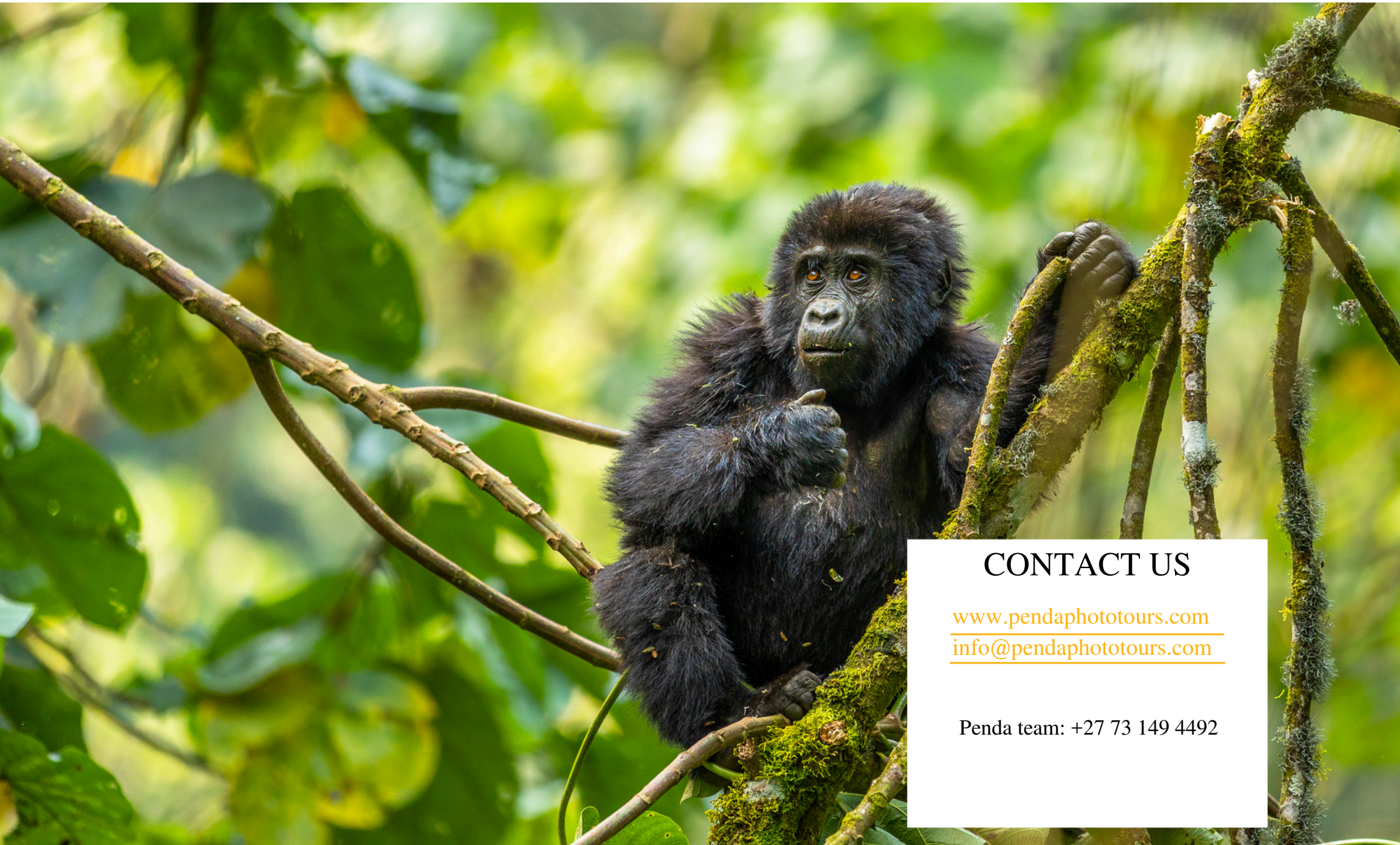
WHY PENDA

Everything is built around photography.

- Our photography tours are created by photographers, for photographers. Our itineraries are designed around creating the best possible photographic opportunities. We'll make sure to bring you to the right place, at the right moment.
- We're travel experts. We love travel, and have many years of experience in creating and running tours, workshops, volunteer programs, and safaris. We know what makes a great holiday, and will match every person with their perfect experience.
- Our photography tours are led by top photographers. Each photo tour or safari is guided by an experienced professional photographer, who is dedicated to creating the best possible experience for you by taking you to the right spots, and tutoring you at the same time.
- We respect what we photograph. We're committed to exploring and adhering to the most ethical ways of photographing new places.
- When you join one of our photography adventures, we'll plant a tree on your behalf through our partnership with Greenpop - a nonprofit restoring ancient forests and creating green spaces across Sub-Saharan Africa. You'll even receive a certificate with the GPS coordinates of your tree



penda photo tours



CONTACT US

www.pendaphototours.com

info@pendaphototours.com

Penda team: +27 73 149 4492