

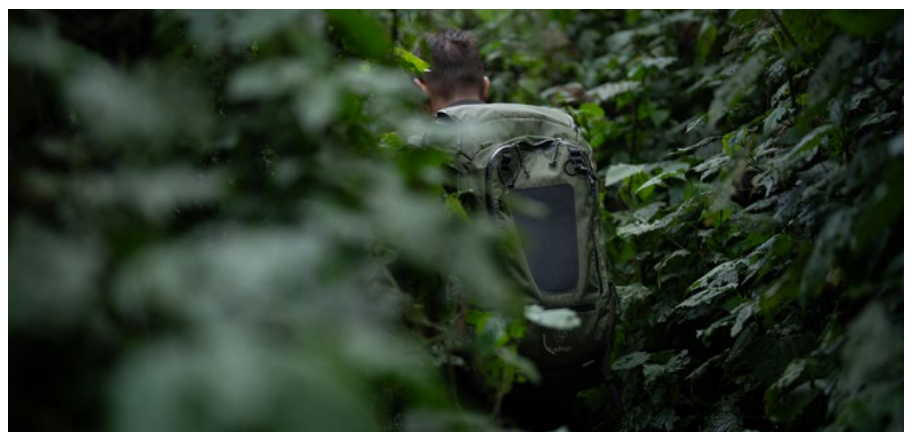
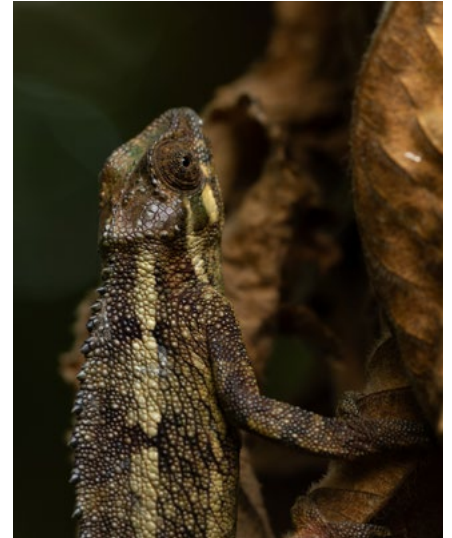


Singita

A SMOOTH JOURNEY FROM START TO FINISH

Rwanda

Our guide to Volcanoes National Park



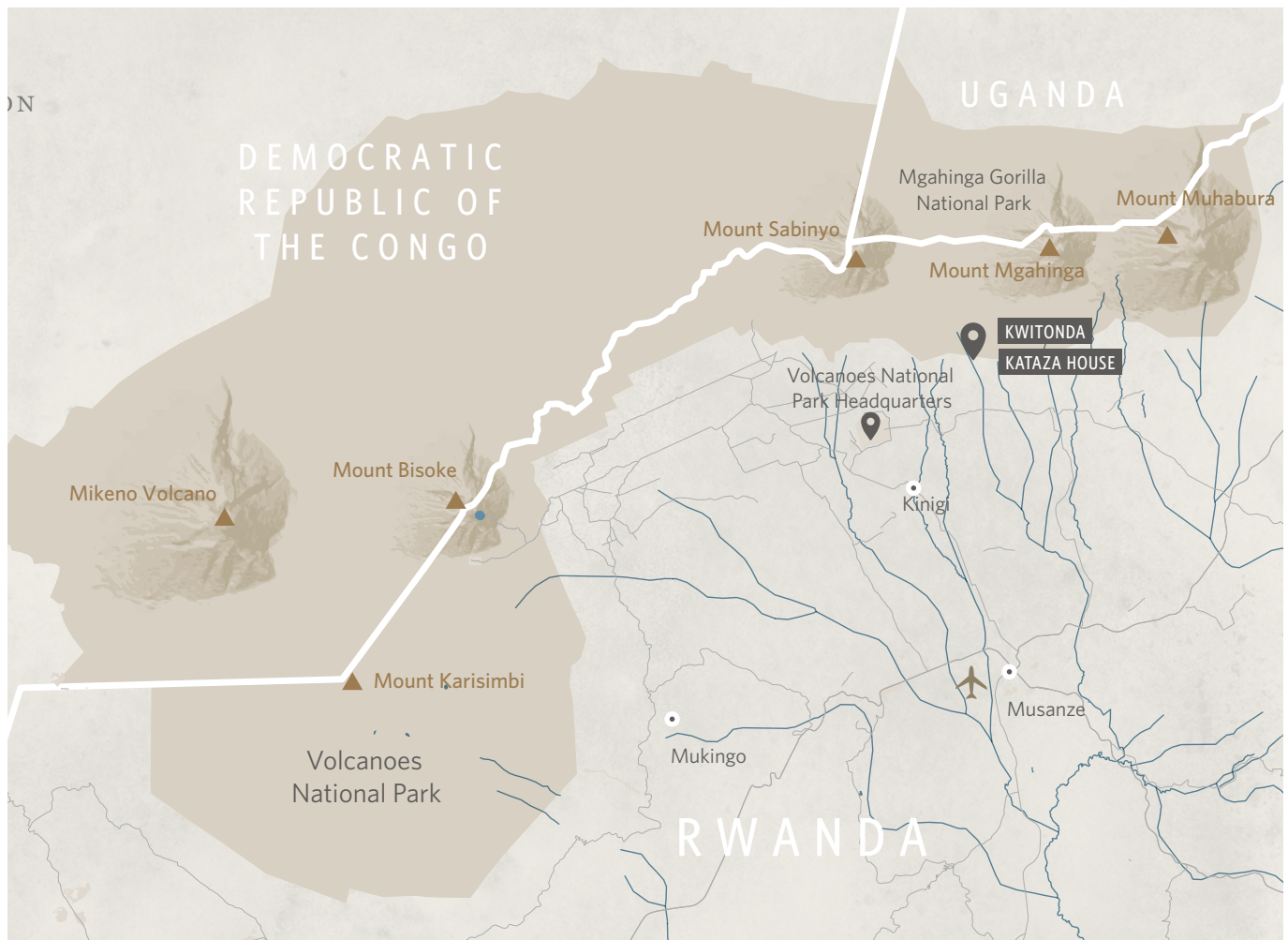
Please take the time to read this document thoroughly before embarking on your journey with us, as it contains important information about travelling to and within Rwanda.

Contents

REGIONS & RESERVES	4
TRAVEL INFORMATION	5
BAGGAGE INFORMATION	6
WHAT TO PACK	7
WEATHER & SEASONS	8
GORILLA & GOLDEN MONKEY TREKKING	9
GIVING GUIDELINES	10
ELECTRICITY	11
COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY	11



Regions & Reserves



Singita Volcanoes National Park (A)

In the remote northwest of Rwanda, jagged volcanic peaks rise over a thick blanket of tropical rainforest, shrouded in mist and dripping with humidity. Amongst the trees, along the slopes, and in the farmland around these Virunga mountains, life abounds.

Singita's properties are situated on the edge of Volcanoes National Park — one of the most biodiverse landscapes on Earth, home to endangered mountain gorillas and golden monkeys, buffaloes, and an abundance of bird species, as well as vibrant communities that have formed part of this ecosystem for generations. The park's headquarters, where treks begin, are only a short drive away.

Travel Information

Passports

All visitors to Rwanda require a passport valid for six months from their initial date of departure. For each entry into the country, the passport must have at least one completely blank page (not including the final page or endorsement pages).

You may be refused entry if these conditions are not met.

Visas

A visa is required for citizens of certain countries to enter Rwanda and can be obtained on arrival (USD 50). Alternatively, you can arrange a visa online [here](#).

Please ensure that you check the entry requirements for the passport you will be travelling on in advance of your departure.

Travel Insurance

Singita does not take on the risks and liabilities associated with travel and cannot be held responsible for delays, cancellations, or trip interruptions. For these reasons, we strongly encourage you to take out sufficient travel insurance. We recommend the services of **Global Rescue**, an independent third-party service provider.

Health Requirements

COVID-19 tests are no longer required prior to trekking or entering Rwanda. However, it is still mandatory to wear masks on gorilla treks.

MALARIA

Singita's properties in Rwanda are situated in a malaria-risk area. It's therefore essential that you consult a doctor or a travel clinic regarding anti-malaria requirements and precautions before your trip.

YELLOW FEVER

It's recommended that guests travel with a Yellow Fever certificate when visiting Rwanda, particularly if their route entails transiting through Kenya.

Although Rwanda is now considered low-risk and is no longer on the watch list, the certificate is still advised as a precaution. Requirements do change from time to time, so please check for updates closer to your travel date.

While we endeavour to have the most current information available, Singita cannot be held liable for any incorrect or outdated information.

TRAVEL VACCINATIONS

Please consult your doctor or a travel clinic before your trip for advice on further vaccinations and recommendations.

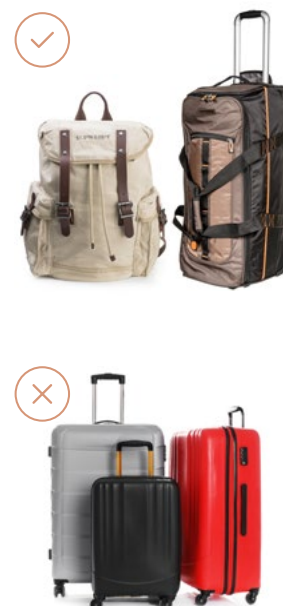
Baggage Information

TYPE OF BAG:

Due to limited space in vehicles, luggage is subject to weight and size restrictions and must be packed in soft-sided duffel bags only.

NO PLASTIC BAGS:

Several East African countries, including Rwanda, enforce strict bans on single-use plastic bags. Travellers who arrive with them risk confiscation and fines. We recommend that you avoid packing plastic bags in checked or carry-on luggage before travelling to the region, and to check current restrictions for your specific destination before departure.



Akagera helicopter baggage information

- Helicopter flights are weather-permitting.
- Helicopters have specific weight restrictions that cannot be exceeded. If your total weight (body weight plus luggage) exceeds the limitation, an additional vehicle may be required to transfer your luggage between Kigali and Singita Volcanoes National Park.

HELICOPTER TYPE	NO. OF SEATS	MAX WEIGHT PER HELICOPTER (BODY & LUGGAGE)
Robinson 44 (unable to land at Singita's helipad)	3	180 kg (Musanze)
Agusta 139	5	550 kg (Musanze), 400kg (Singita)
Agusta 109	6	380 kg (Musanze), 220kg (Singita)
Agusta 119	6	380 kg (Musanze), 220kg (Singita)

Please consult your Travel Advisor for further information regarding helicopter flights and restrictions.

What to Pack

Neutral tones and light colours are best, as they allow you to blend in with your surroundings, ensure minimal disturbance to wildlife (and therefore a better, more natural viewing experience) and attract the least number of insects. The temperature and climate at Singita Volcanoes National Park fluctuate significantly throughout the day. For this reason, we recommend layering clothing.

Formal wear isn't required at any of our properties, and you're welcome to attend meals straight from any experience. Laundry, including ironing, is complimentary.

TRAVEL TIP

Packing lighter helps to lower your travel footprint.

Suggested packing guide

- Trousers, long-sleeved tops, T-shirts, and a warm layer for the evenings.
- Comfortable walking shoes and sandals.
- Woollen hat/beanie, gloves, and scarves for the winter months.
- Breathable clothing for walks and cycling.
- Swimwear, sunglasses, and a sun hat.
- Camera equipment, binoculars, and a spare memory card. Each suite is also equipped with a pair of binoculars for you to use.
- Spare contact lenses/glasses and contact lens solution.

Trekking

Although our Gear Room offers high-quality outdoor hiking and wet weather equipment for you to borrow during your stay, we cannot guarantee availability or correct sizes. For this reason, we encourage you to bring your own trekking equipment, including:

- Waterproof hiking boots with a good grip and ankle support. They'll need to withstand the terrain, which is often slippery and muddy.
- A waterproof jacket or raincoat.
- A long-sleeved top.
- Hiking trousers.
- Gloves.
- Thick socks.

AVAILABLE ON PROPERTY

- Hiking chaps/gaiters.
- Water-resistant hiking trousers.
- Hiking shoes (limited sizes).
- Backpacks.
- Rain covers.
- Trekking poles. Standard aluminium poles are available on property, but you can also opt to use locally made, hand-carved poles, which are provided by VNP and available at the starting point of your trek.

PROVIDED BY SINGITA

- Comfort kits containing sunblock, a sweat towel, hand sanitiser, tissues, a buff, and sanitary/toilet eco-bags.
- Backpacks containing a lunchbox, snacks, gloves, and a water bottle.

Weather & Seasons

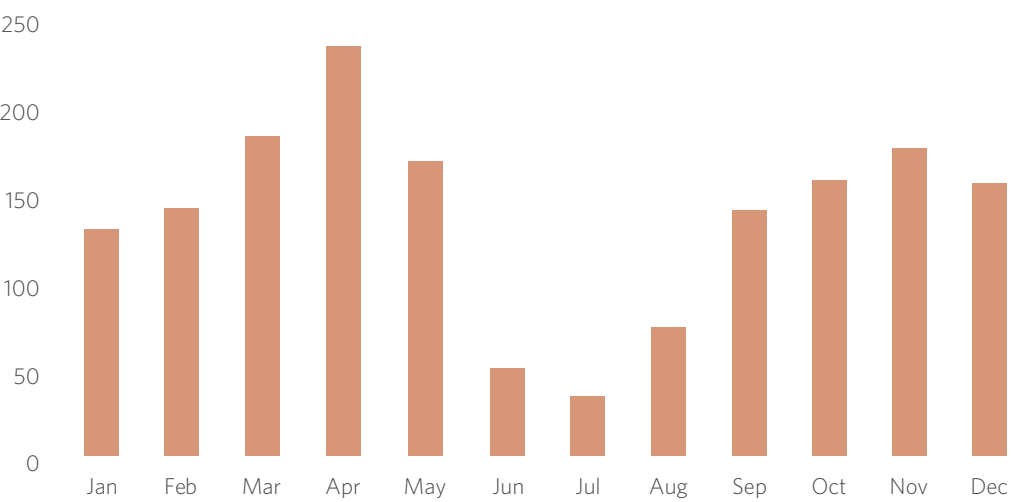
Rwanda is located just south of the equator. Most of the country spans a plateau, around 1,500 metres above sea level, though in the Volcanoes National Park region the altitude rises to approximately 2,600 metres.

This altitude makes for cool mornings and nights and a pleasant tropical highland climate throughout the year, with plenty of rain. Light cloud cover during the day helps moderate temperatures, though it can also bring the occasional light shower.

The long rainy season, when the rain is heavy and persistent, stretches from March to May. It's followed by a long dry season from June to mid-September. A shorter rainy season runs from October to November, followed by a short dry season from December to February.



SINGITA VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL (MM)



SINGITA VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK AVERAGE SEASONAL TEMPERATURE RANGES

SHORT RAINY SEASON (Sept - Nov) Low 8 °C / 46 °F High 20 °C / 68 °F	LONG RAINY SEASON (March - May) Low 9 °C / 48 °F High 20°C / 68 °F	SHORT DRY SEASON (Dec - Feb) Low 9 °C / 48 °F High 19 °C / 66 °F	LONG DRY SEASON (June - Aug) Low 7 °C / 45 °F High 21 °C / 70 °F
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The above temperatures are monthly averages. Actual daily temperatures and rainfall may differ.

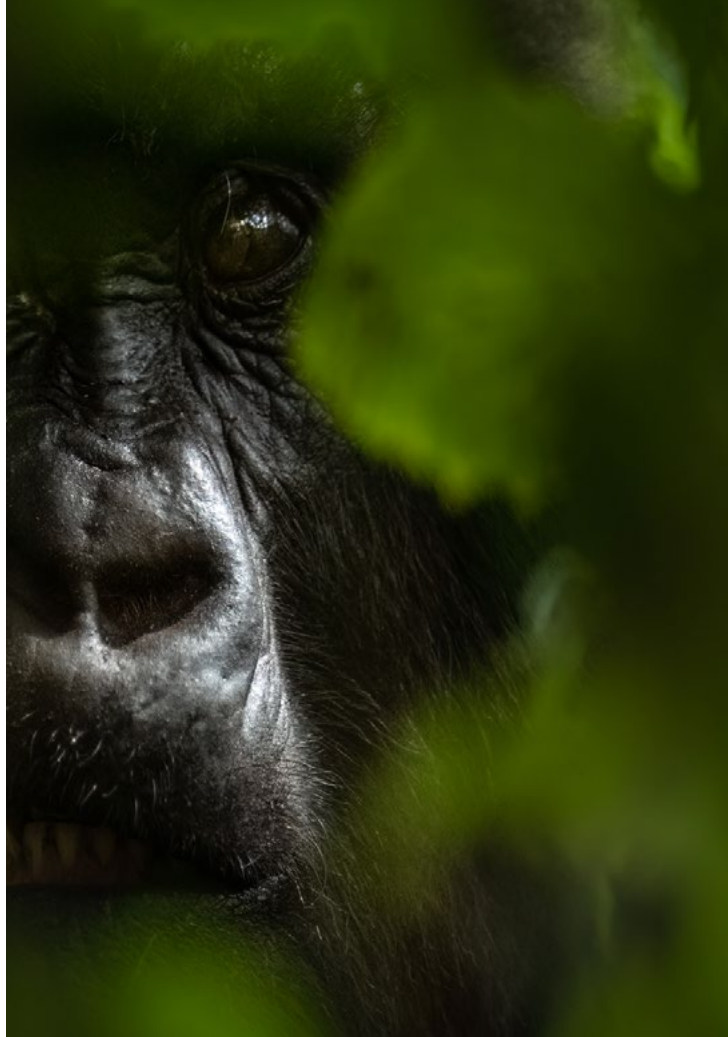
Gorilla & Golden Monkey Trekking

Gorilla trekking

Venturing into the region's rainforests to encounter mountain gorillas up close is amongst Africa's most sought-after wildlife experiences. From the morning briefing at park headquarters to the drive into Volcanoes National Park, to the trek itself, every moment builds toward an hour you won't forget. Please note that permits are required for this experience, and there is a minimum age of 15 years.

Cost: USD 1,500 per person

Duration: Treks can take between one and eight hours, depending on which gorilla family you're allocated.



Golden monkey trekking

Explore the high-altitude bamboo forests home to these playful primates. Golden monkeys are endangered and endemic to the region. Troops can number in the dozens, and you can expect to spend up to an hour observing them. Please note that permits are required for this experience, and there is a minimum age of 12 years.

Cost: USD 100 per person

Duration: Treks can take between one and four hours, depending on the location of the monkeys.

[Download our Trekking Guidelines >](#)

Giving guidelines

Tipping cultures differ from country to country. While our people do not expect or rely on gratuities from guests, you may wish to leave a discretionary token of your appreciation — either cash or a nominated amount added to your bill. Tips from the general staff gratuity pool are divided equally amongst chefs, homekeepers, porters, front-of-house, and back-of-house staff. Should you wish to allocate a gratuity to a particular staff member, we ask that you please specify this.

All Singita properties accept Visa, MasterCard, and American Express.

Please note that gratuity for Volcanoes National Park trekking guides, porters, and trackers, as well as driver guides, should be paid independently and in cash.



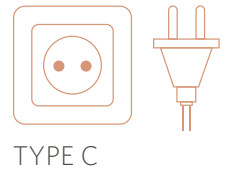
POSITION	AMOUNT
VNP tracker	From USD 40 per couple per trek
VNP trekking guide	From USD 55 per couple per trek
VNP porter	From USD 25 per person per trek
Driver guide	From USD 40 per couple per day
Waiter	From USD 45 per couple per day
Wellness therapist	10% of treatment cost
General staff gratuity pool	From USD 55 per couple per day

VNP porters

We strongly recommend hiring porters. Their knowledge of the area and routes is invaluable, and they can assist you through slippery and tricky sections of the trek, making the experience more comfortable. They can also help carry belongings and retrieve items from your bag when needed. Porters' fees are their main source of income and make a tangible difference to the local economy.

Electricity

All Singita suites have multiple plug points for charging devices and accommodate EU, UK, North American, and USB connections. Rwanda uses Type C (standard European) power outlets and plugs.



Communication & Technology

Complimentary internet access is available at Kwitonda and Kataza House. If you do wish to be connected, please be mindful of other guests who choose to switch off. We ask that you keep your mobile phone on silent and refrain from using it around other guests in communal lodge areas and on game drives.



THE LONG RUN

Singita is a member of **The Long Run**, a global network for sustainable tourism.