



# Uganda Abayudaya Community Connection

10 Day Abayudaya Community Trip: December 20 - 29, 2026

Optional Add-ons:

Gorilla Trek only: December 29, 2026 - January 1, 2027

Gorilla Trek and Safari or Chimp Trek: December 29- Jan 3, 2027

# Uganda

## Abayudaya Community Connection

### *The Pearl of Africa*

Explore Uganda on a 10-day journey to the Pearl of Africa. Engage with several Abayudaya communities, experience a Ugandan Shabbat, witness breathtaking natural wonders, encounter mountain gorillas and elephants and lions up close.

We'll be staying in the eastern part of Uganda, where you'll have a real connection with our local Jewish communities. You'll visit Abayudaya projects, schools and synagogues. Hike the beautiful Sipi Falls, take a boat ride to the source of the Nile and learn to cook traditional African food and African dance.

Enjoy the beautiful surroundings and an average summertime temperature of 78 degrees Fahrenheit.

# Uganda

## Abayudaya Community Connection



### *About The Abayudaya*

The Abayudaya (the name means “people of Judah” in Luganda). Most of the community keep kosher, celebrate Jewish holidays, and welcome people from around the world to come and pray.

In 1919, people began converting to Judaism after the founder, the African chief-tain and military leader Semei Kakungulu, read the Torah and decided to adopt Jewish customs and laws. Kakungulu circumcised his sons and himself, and his community in Eastern Uganda began to practice Judaism. By the 1960s, the Abayudaya had around 1,500 followers, but they suffered intense religious persecution under dictator Idi Amin’s regime throughout the 1970s. Synagogues were destroyed, the government prohibited Jewish observance, and many Abayudaya felt forced to convert to Christianity or Islam. By the time Idi Amin left power, there were about 300 Jews left in the community. But the younger generation rebuilt the community and it continues to grow.

Today, there are over 2600 Jews spread out across 14 villages with 16 synagogues.

# Itinerary

Uganda 10 day



## Day 1-2 | December 20-21, 2026

### Depart U.S. Arrival in Entebbe Overnight stay

Welcome to Uganda! After your international flight lands, a representative will be waiting for you at the airport. Most flights arrive late night, overnight in Entebbe

**Accommodation:** Protea Hotel or similar

## Day 3 | December 22, 2026

### Drive to Mbale, stop en route to visit an Abayudaya community

Drive to Mbale, where we'll be staying for the next few days. We'll cross the Nile, have lunch in Jinja, and stop en route to visit one of the many Abayudaya communities.

**Accommodation:** Mbale Resort

**Meals:** B

## Day 4 | December 23, 2026

### Visit the Abayudaya schools and projects

Visit Hadassah Primary School and Semei Kakungulu high school (school will be closed due to the holiday break.).

Afternoon, visit to see Abayudaya projects and solo entrepreneurs. See how people make their living. Learn about the challenges and successes..

**Accommodation:** Mbale Resort

**Meals:** B, L



# Itinerary

Uganda 10 day (continued)



## Day 5 | December 24, 2026

### Market visit, cooking lesson and dance lesson

Visit the Mbale market to purchase food for Friday Night Shabbat dinner. Afternoon cooking lesson, African style and dance lesson.

**Accommodation:** Mbale Resort

**Meals:** B

## Day 6 | December 25, 2026

### Cooking for Shabbat, entrepreneur visits, Oneg Shabbat

Cooking for Shabbat is a community endeavour. Help prepare for Shabbat at the rabbi's home.

OR visit some of the many community projects and hear from small business entrepreneurs. Try your hand making bricks or mandazi with a local business owner.

Oneg Shabbat at Stern synagogue

**Accommodation:** Mbale Resort

**Meals:** B, D

## Day 7 | December 26, 2026

### Shabbat morning services

Saturday morning services. Enjoy kiddush and discussion group afterservices.

Evening havdallah under the African skies.

**Accommodation:** Mbale Resort

**Meals:** B



# Itinerary

Uganda 10 day (continued)



## Day 8 | December 27, 2026

**Boat trip at the source of the Nile River or ATV riding, evening Ndere Music and Dance performance**

Take an easy boat ride at the source of the Nile or go ATV'ing along the Nile. Head back to Kampala for a music, dance and dinner show with the pros, the Ndere Dance and Music Troupe.

**Accommodation:** Latitude 0

**Meals:** B

## Day 9 | December 28, 2026

**City tour and visit to the arts and crafts market. Day room at a hotel near the airport.**

Take a Historical Tour of Kampala, stop at the arts and crafts market, then head to Entebbe for an evening departure or overnight in Entebbe if continuing onto the gorilla trekking

**Accommodation:** Protea Resort (or similar) If staying on for the gorilla trek



# Itinerary

Gorilla Trek



Mountain Gorilla Bwindi National Park

## Begin Optional Add-ons

### Day 10 | December 29, 2026

#### Flight to Bwindi for gorilla trekking or arrive back in the U.S.

Fly to Bwindi Impenetrable National Forest, take a canoe ride on Lake Mutanda or walk to the nearby village.

**Accommodation:** Nkuringo Gorilla Lodge

**Meals:** B, L D

### Day 12 | December 31, 2026

#### Continue onto a Wildlife Safari or fly back to Entebbe to depart Uganda

Fly to Queen Elizabeth National Park for a game drive and boat safari. See elephants, lions, hippos, and so much more wildlife!

**Accommodation:** Turaco treetops

**Meals:** B (L,D for Chimp Trek participants)

### Day 11 | December 30, 2027

#### Gorilla Trekking

Stare into the eyes of a Gorilla Trek. Depending on the length of your trek, you may have time to visit the nearby village or sit relax as you enjoy the view.

**Accommodation:** Nkuringo Gorilla Lodge

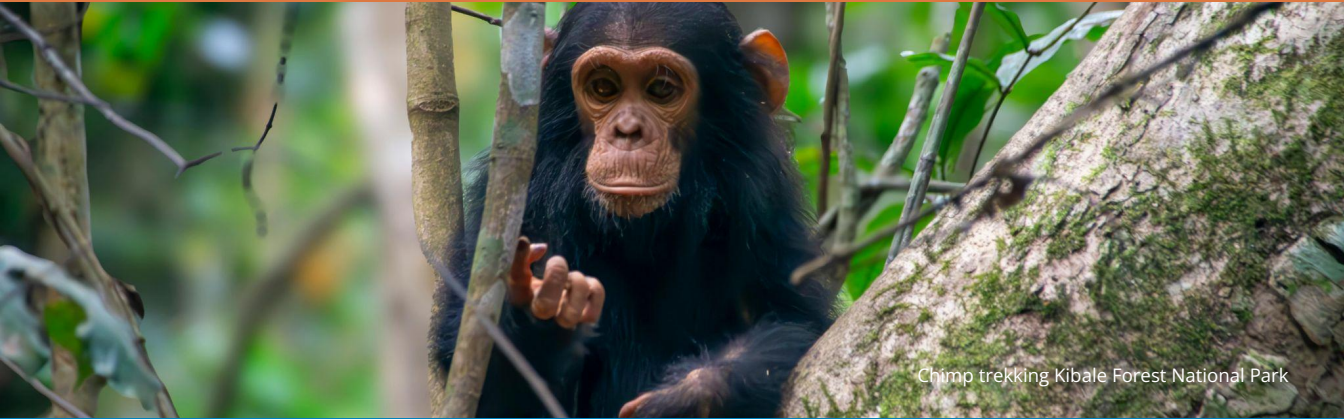
**Meals:** B, L



Queen Elizabeth National Park

# Itinerary

Uganda Add-ons



Chimp trekking Kibale Forest National Park

## Optional Add-ons

### Day 13 | January 1, 2027

#### Chimp trekking

Morning Chimpanzee tracking in Kibale Forest National Park and transfer back to Entebbe for your outbound flight.

**Accommodation: Not included:** Protea Hotel or similar if departing on Jan 2. Flight should depart after 6pm.

**Meals:** B, L D

### Day 14-15 | January 2-3, 2027

#### Fly back to Entebbe to depart Uganda > U.S. Arrival

Depart Jan 2 (or late-night Jan 1) overnight in Entebbe, depending on flight time,

Arrive in the US

Jan 2: **Meals:** B



Kibale Forest National Park

# Trip Details



## Trip Costs:

### Base Trip Cost - per person

12 people	\$3,759
Single supplement:	\$931

### Gorilla Trek Add-on:

2 people	\$4,025
3 people	\$3,853
4 people	\$3,766
Single supplement:	\$410

*Add-ons include local RT flights, a \$800 gorilla permit, accommodation and meals as indicated*

### Chimp trekking and safari:

2 people	\$2,009
3 people	\$1,719
4 people	\$1,573
5 people	\$1,486
Single supplement:	\$236

*All costs are based on double or triple occupancy and a minimum of 12 total participants*

### What's included in the cost?

- Accommodations.
- Transportation with our own local guide.
- Transport for emergencies is available at all times.
- An experienced American guide
- Bottled water at hotels and in the vehicle
- Meals as indicated, see under the daily itinerary
- Pre-departure information session

### Additional Gorilla Trek Inclusions

- 1 gorilla trekking permit per person (\$800)
- Round trip flights from Entebbe to Bwindi
- Transport to and from airports in Bwindi and Entebbe
- Canoeing in Lake Matunda
- Transport to and from the Entebbe and Bwindi airports
- AMREF Evacuation Insurance

### What's not included in the cost?

- Airfare to and from Uganda
- Gratuities
- Visa
- Medical evacuation and cancellation insurance
- All items of a personal nature
- Alcoholic and other drinks and snacks between meals
- Laundry



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