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TOURING
KIGALI



CLASSIC KIGALI TOURS

ABOUT KIGALI

The capital and geographical heart of Rwanda, Kigali has undergone a modern rebirth.

The tragic genocide of 1994 still echoes along its streets, through artworks, memorials and graffiti, as well as in the memories of its more senior inhabitants. Yet rather than muting the people in mourning, this remembrance now serves as an omnipresent inspiration to unite, embrace life and live it to its fullest.

From this dark recent past, Kigali now shines brightly, with arts and crafts filling museums, galleries, streets and marketplaces, and a unified pride in their nation fills the hearts of Rwandans.

Though often visited solely for gorilla trekking, Rwanda has much more to offer, particularly its warm hospitality, and by taking time to explore its capital - and location of its international airport - you will discover a city, a people and a nation that have radiantly thrived in the aftermath of tragedy.

QUICK FACTS:

- The genocide of the Tutsi people (& several minority tribes) took place from April to July of 1994, claiming upwards of 500,000 lives
- Today, a united city comprises three districts made up of over 1,000 independent villages
- Climate barely fluctuates, with a year-round average of 61.5°F low & 81.5°F high (16.5°C & 27.5°C)
- Kigali is working hard to become the center of urban excellence in Africa, building a city of character, vibrant economy and diversity
- Numerous markets, including the Caplaki Crafts Village, exhibit the innovation & talents of Rwanda's creators
- Kigali sits in a valley between Mount Kigali & Mount Jali, at an altitude of almost 6,000 feet (1,800m)



CLASSIC HISTORICAL — TOURS —

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KIGALI GENOCIDE MEMORIAL

There is no ignoring the very recent tragedies that befell Rwanda's Tutsi, and to a far lesser extent, Hutu and Twa, people. Suffice it to say that Kigali's genocide memorial is both a fitting homage to the lost and a poignant reminder of the need for kinship and unity. The site itself is the final resting place for over 250,000 Tutsi, its Wall of Names a work in progress, as many victims are yet to be acknowledged, and many will never be known. The memorial documents the path that led to the genocide, but most importantly gives family members a place to mourn and visitors to reflect on how we all have a personal responsibility to prevent discrimination. The center also provides support for survivors, in particular orphans and widows.

KING'S PALACE

A reconstruction of the traditional royal residence, King's Palace is an intricately-woven conical structure, painstakingly handcrafted in the style of authentic Rwanda architecture. A remarkable creation, it is a wonderful reflection of regal Rwanda's history. Originally a nomadic people, when the king chose to settle in Nyanza, an almost identical dwelling was created, where he would both reside and hold court. King's Palace museum is also home to the extraordinary Inyambo cattle with their immense horns. Revered as the king's cattle, the original bloodline still resides here at King's Palace, lovingly tended and sung to by their keepers. Traditional dance is also frequently performed here, giving a true reflection of every aspect of Rwandan culture.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Learn the cause & effects of Rwanda's tragic genocide
 - Take time to reflect, in the landscape gardens & at the Wall of Names
 - Pay homage to the lost, but discover the inspiration Rwandans have found for creativity, unity & kinship
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- See the incredible Inyambo cattle
 - Step inside the King's Palace, with its towering, intricately-woven ceiling
 - Enjoy a traditional dance performance, unchanged for centuries

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CLASSIC ARTISAN TOURS

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RWANDA ART MUSEUM

Formerly the Presidential Palace Museum, Rwanda Art Museum is a spectacular showcase of the nation's rising and thriving artisan community. The nation's contemporary artworks combine traditional styles with modern imagination, reflecting on the post-genocidal growth and positivity and pressing socio-political and environmental issues. Also, exhibiting works from overseas, the museum is awash with color, and the vibrant collection contains fine art, sculpture and mixed media creations. A permanent exhibition shares the space with an ever-changing temporary section of global artists' works, and the Art Kids' Studio offers youngsters the chance to express their artistic flair. Poignantly, the site was also where debris from assassinated president Juvénal Habyarimana's jet landed in 1994, sparking the genocide, and the remnants remain there to this day as a memorial.

INEMA ARTS CENTRE

Inema gives the Rwandan people a venue to exhibit their creations. Founded in 2012, it was established to provide exposure for creative people from all walks of life and social standing, unifying community and country. The center gives five artists-in-residence the opportunity to explore and display their creations, and the adjoining Nziza Art Initiative offers products to visitors exclusively made by the women of Rwanda, including textiles, jewelry and leathersgoods. The Inema Cafe also provides plenty of refreshments, including light snacks and deliciously fresh authentic Rwanda coffee.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- See a wide & diverse collection of artworks
- Discover the inspiration behind Rwanda's distinctive contemporary art
- See exhibitions by professional artists & local craftspeople alike
- Enjoy a display of traditional dance
- Relax over a delicious cup of authentic, fresh Rwanda coffee
- Purchase a piece of art to take home, from the talented ladies of the Nziza Art Initiative

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CLASSIC CULTURAL TOUR

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NYAMIRAMBO WOMEN'S CENTRE

This Rwandan NGO was established to support the women of Kigali's Nyamirambo region, empowering them to gain independence and income, and overcome domestic violence and discrimination. One of the center's primary projects is Umutima (the Kinyarwanda word for 'heart'), a small self-run business producing textiles, home decor, women's accessories and children's clothing. This self-sustaining business generates profits that are then used directly to finance further Nyamirambo initiatives. Woven baskets, fabrics, accessories and bags, toys and apparel are all available for purchase by visitors. The center also contains a library, open to visitors but established to provide a resource for both children and adults.

Nyamirambo offers several fascinating tours. Guests can be guided through the streets of one of Kigali's oldest neighborhoods, learning about the culture and discovering true Rwandan life firsthand. Guests will also enjoy a traditional lunch and a crash course in Kinyarwanda dialect.

If the talented ladies of Umutima inspire you, perhaps a sisal basket weaving workshop might be of interest. This traditional process will be expertly instructed, enabling guests to craft their own woven item to take home with them.

A cooking workshop will take you to the markets to buy fresh produce and ingredients, before an interactive cooking class takes place. Everyone participates to create six mouthwatering traditional dishes to be shared at the end of the day.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Support the local women of Kigali
- See the wonderful crafts created by the ladies of the Nyamirambo community
- Delve into the local language, learning a few key words and phrases in the Kinyarwanda dialect
- Explore the streets of one of Kigali's oldest neighborhoods on a guided walk
- Sample, and learn to create, traditional Rwandan cuisine
- Craft your own sisal-woven keepsake
- Wander the markets, learning about local ingredients, before putting them all together in a cooking class

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CLASSIC ADVENTURE — TOUR —

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FAZENDA SENGHA

Rwanda has so much adventure to offer, but much of it lies well beyond the city of Kigali.

However, overlooking the central city on Mount Kigali, Fazenda Sengha provides a thrilling and spectacular day excursion, particularly suited to those traveling with older children.

Guests can enjoy a series of activities, or take in the spectacular valley views while relaxing on the terrace. Fazenda has fun for all ages, from sedate horseback riding, in the on-site arena or along neighboring forest trails, archery, quad biking, trampolining and exhilarating zip line rides.

The mountain ranges surrounding Kigali are stunning, both when viewed from the city and when summited to offer immense panoramas of the city and distant landscapes. At Fazenda, visitors gain a unique vantage point, with a host of activities on offer to enjoy that view on a gentle stroll, quad bike cruise or hurtling downwards on a zip line!

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Fly through the trees toward the valley floor on a zip line
- Explore the trails & forests of Mount Kigali on horseback
- Take an exciting mountaintop quad bike ride
- Take in the spectacular views of the valley below
- Enjoy a game or two of badminton
- Leap high on a trampoline or bungee spring
- Try your hand at archery



CLASSIC CULINARY TOURS

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QUESTION COFFEE

Voted as one of Kigali's five must-visit places, Question Coffee introduces you to one of the country's most famous exports. The almost exclusively female operation walks visitors through the entire coffee process, from the growing and harvesting to the roasting, brewing, pouring and, most importantly, tasting. Question Coffee proudly supports local communities, with 70 percent of all purchases reinvested into training programs for women coffee farmers. The ladies of Question Coffee escort guests on a guided walk through the farm, explaining every step of the growing, harvesting and roasting stages, before finally indulging in a cup or two of the freshest coffee imaginable. Alternatively, one can take a coffee masterclass, discovering the nuances of the roast and flavor profiles, and learning the fine art of the barista.

1,000 HILLS DISTILLERY

Named for the 1,000 hills that are said to form Rwanda's unique landscape, the 1,000 Hills Distillery is a superb outing for those with an appreciation for rum, gin and whisky. Located on the southern outskirts of Kigali, 1,000 Hills gives guest the opportunity to observe the distillation process, as well as enjoy their fine products. The property also features a cocktail bar and bistro in which you can sample the spirits and enjoy some delicious dishes with superb hinterland views. 1,000 Hills Distillery also takes its social impact seriously, and visitors will also learn how it preserves water usage and how its byproducts actively benefit the local farming communities around Kigali.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- See where coffee comes from & how it is grown
 - Join expert guides to take you through the entire journey of the coffee bean, from bean to barista
 - Try your hand at making the perfect cup of coffee
 - Meet the local farm women growing, roasting, crafting, & serving Question Coffee
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- Take a trip to a country distillery on the outskirts of Kigali
 - Sample 1,000 Hills' expertly-distilled rum, whisky, vodka & gin
 - Enjoy a lunch with spectacular views
 - Purchase a selection of products to take home with you

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