Volcanoes Safaris Partnership Trust (VSPT)

Fact Sheet

Uganda & Rwanda

- Established in 2009, the Volcanoes Safaris Partnership Trust (VSPT) is a non-profit organisation that connects VS luxury lodges to the neighbouring communities and conservation activities.
- The VSPT seeks to create long-term, self-sustaining projects to enrich the livelihoods of local communities, promote the conservation of great apes, restore natural habitats and work with communities and institutions to reduce human-wildlife conflict.
- The VSPT receives funding through VS, which contributes $100 from safari bookings, as well as private donations by our guests and others.
- As part of their stay at Volcanoes Lodges, guests get an opportunity to visit VSPT projects and to share the lives of the local communities.

Kyambura Gorge Lodge, Queen Elizabeth National Park, Uganda

- **Kyambura Gorge Eco-Tourism Project** launched in February 2019.
- Kyambura Coffee Tour & Café - Demonstrations of the 5 stages of organic coffee processing and opportunity to participate in roasting your own coffee. Sample one of Uganda’s best cups of coffee and enjoy a freshly made pizza from the wood fired pizza oven.
- Drama Group - Cultural songs and dances from the local drama group.
- Kyambura Wetland walk and restoration project - Guided walk, ideal for birders. Over 200 species of bird have returned to the wetland.
- Bee Keeping - Visit a local apiary and learn about bee husbandry and the use of bees as an elephant deterrent.
- Kyambura Community Playground - Watch or participate in a football or netball match with members of the local community.
Bwindi Lodge, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Uganda

- Bwindi Tea Cooperative - Learn about local tea processing methods and sample black, white and green teas.
- Bwindi Bar - Sample traditional Ugandan cuisine. The bar provides a practical training institution for local disadvantaged youths living near the Bwindi National Park in Buhoma.

Mount Gahinga Lodge, Kisoro, Uganda

- Gahinga Batwa Village – visit the newly built permanent settlement which hosts 110 members of the Gahinga Batwa community.
- Batwa Heritage Site - Learn about the ancient ways of the Batwa tribe.
- Batwa Dance Group - Watch and participate in local Batwa songs and dances.
- Batwa Vocational Centre - Purchase crafts made by the Batwa.

Virunga Lodge, Parc National des Volcans, Rwanda

- Intore Dance Performance - Watch a traditional Rwandan dance performance.
- Visit the craft centre and purchase handmade local crafts.
- Virunga Sheep Project – Donate a sheep to one of the families living in the proximity of the lodge.
- Virunga Water Tank Project – Donate a water tank to one of the families living in the proximity of the lodge.
- Virunga Micro-Finance Savings Scheme

Useful information

All private donations are made at the discretion of our guests with all proceeds going back into the projects.

- All donations can be made via the Volcanoes Safaris website https://volcanoessafaris.com/community
- VSPT does not accept any school sponsorships.
- VSPT products, such as handmade soaps, coffee, tea and crafts, can be purchased at each of the lodges.