

Wonders of Burundi
10 days – 9 nights

Bujumbura, Rusizi Delta, Livingstone-Stanley Monument, Resha, Rumonge, Nyanza-Lac, Rutana, Nile Source, Nyakazu Fault, Karera Falls, Gitega, Ruvubu, Muyinga, Kirundo, Rwihinda Lake, Ngozi Nature, Discovery, Culture

**This program may be operated for individuals or for groups
This is a suggested itinerary**

This unique tour, takes us around Burundi to discover the wonders of this small and little-known country. From the idyllic shores of Lake Tanganyika to the central plateau defined by waterfalls and the African fault to the cultural centers of the north we'll be rewarded by surprise after surprise.

Day 1: Bujumbura

On arrival at Bujumbura International Airport you'll be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel by Lake Tanganyika. Rest of the day free. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [D]

Day 2: Bujumbura (Rusizi Delta, Livingstone-Stanley Monument)

After breakfast we take a short ride to get to Little Rusizi for a visit by boat. The hour-long ride allows you to observe hippos, numerous birds and the spectacle of the brown water of the river flowing into the blue water of the lake. The pedestrian path allows for a walk among the vegetation and closer to the animals. Be careful though: near the banks of the river, crocodiles may be present. At the end of the path, a bird observatory gives the opportunity to see their nests up close. We return to the hotel for lunch. In the afternoon we take the nice road along Lake Tanganyika through many villages until we reach a milestone marking the northernmost camp erected by Stanley and Livingstone in search of the source of the Nile. Free time before dinner and overnight in a hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 3: Bukumbura, Resha, Rumonge

Enjoy breakfast and relax during the morning on the shore of the lake. Lunch at the hotel and a 1 ½ hours' drive along the lake to reach Resha (Minago), the most famous holiday resort in the country. Sandy beaches and beautiful palm groves nearby, grills by the water, fearless monkeys are all part of the environment. Relax and have a refreshment by the shore. Another 45 minutes to Rumonge, created in the 19th century by the Zanzibarites as a trading post, that is today the oldest and most populated city in Burundi. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 4: Rumonge, Nyanza-Lac, Rutana

This morning we continue along the lake in the direction of Nyanza-Lac in the far south of the country. Palm oil is a flourishing and very profitable regional business. Visit an oil palm plantation on the way. After lunch at Nyanza continue to Rutana via the Makamba agricultural and pastoral region. Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Rutana. [B/L/D]

Day 5: Rutana, Nile Source, Nyakazu Fault, Karera Falls, Gitega

More than 20 centuries ago, the Egyptians were already trying to discover this mythical place! Almost a century and a half ago Livingstone and Stanley also failed on their quest! But our day starts by visiting the place they could never find! Then continue to the Nyakazu fault (known as the German fault) that marks a clear break in the Nyakazu plateau dominating the Kuumoso depression separating Burundi from Tanzania at 2,300 feet elevation. This strategic site owes its nickname to the construction of a German military fort at the beginning of the 20th century intended to control the eastern part of the country. A short ride to the Karera River Falls (5,250 feet above sea level) located in the heart of a vast forest gallery that hosts large treetops spread out a couple of hundred feet high. During the visit we stop for a picnic at this exceptional place. All around is a wooded savannah, with several dominant species. Large numbers of birds and less often monkeys populate this forest habitat, which we walk for a few hundred feet before reaching the falls themselves. They are divided into six branches and

distributed over three levels. A last step to Gitega after a busy day, for dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 6: Gitega

Gitega, the second city of Burundi, located exactly in the middle of the country, was created by the Germans who established their capital there. The Belgians kept it that way, but the Burundians, once independent, preferred Bujumbura to it. It's a trading city which, from the outset, has been able to develop international trade thanks to the European, Asian and Swahili communities which quickly settled there. The diversity of the population has made Gitega a religious melting pot. We take a tour of the city with multiple hills, still steeped in German urban planning. Gitega has also been, for sixty years, an artistic center where ceramics, painting and sculpture have made its reputation. The civil war has ruined this effervescence which, once peace was restored, is coming back. The time has come to meet the famous sacred drummers who will deploy their breathtaking performance for our exclusive pleasure. After a traditional lunch in the company of the drummers, we return to Gitega to visit a sculptor's workshop, the National Museum, rich in historical and cultural heritage of Burundi from the 19th and 20th centuries. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Gitega, Ruvubu, Muyinga

Departure for the Ruvubu National Park. Located on either side of the Ruvubu river and surrounded by high mountain ranges, this 124,000-acre park (the largest in the country) harbors a great biological diversity populated in particular by no less than 425 species of birds. We take a guided walk in the park and, with any luck, we'll find some buffaloes, Defassa kobs and crocodiles. Lunch at a nearby restaurant. In the middle of the afternoon crossing the river to the east of the country arrival in Muyinga in the evening for dinner and overnight at hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 8: Muyinga, Kirundo

Departure for Kirundo where we arrive at the end of the morning. After lunch at a local restaurant, the Intore warrior dancers will unfold before us with their dances (kwiyerekwa) straight from the monarchical tradition. Evening devoted to visiting the small town, its old Catholic mission. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 9: Kirundo, Rwihinda Lake, Ngozi, Bujumbura

We leave our hotel very early morning, before breakfast and sunrise, in order to be able to embark in our pirogue on Lake Rwihinda. More commonly called "bird lake", this lake is a real sanctuary for migratory water birds that come to breed there. We will find in abundance ducks, cormorants, herons, crowned cranes, eagles as well as sacred ibis ... We then head west towards Ngozi and then the green velvet hills of tea plantations spread out endlessly in a hilly landscape. Further south, the road descends the rift towards the great plain where Lake Tanganyika sparkles dominated by the Mitumba Mountains of neighboring Congo. Arrival in Bujumbura, dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 10: Bujumbura, USA

After breakfast you may have some time to relax. At the appointed time you'll be met and transferred to Bujumbura airport to board your connecting flight back home. [B]

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



Your Tour includes:

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 9 nights' accommodation:
 - Bujumbura 3 nights
 - Rumonge 1 night
 - Rutana 1 night
 - Gitega 2 nights
 - Muyinga 1 night
 - Kirundo 1 night
- Meals:
 - Breakfast daily
 - 8 lunches
 - 9 dinners
- Boat safari in the Ruzizi Delta
- Visit the Livingstone-Stanley Monument
- The Nile River source
- Nyakazu Fault
- Karera Falls

- The Sacred Drummers of Gitega
- Ruvubu National Park
- Intore Warrior Dancers
- Rwihinda Lake
- English-speaking driver/guide
- Transportation by A/C vehicle
- Entrance fees according to the itinerary

Tour does not include:

- International airfares
- Any taxes related to airfares or airports
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Travel Insurance
- Visas
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as "Included"

Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
First Class		
Bujumbura	Hotel Club du Lac Tanganyika	4
Rumonge	Tanganyika Bluebay Resort	4.5
Rutana	Hotel Dolce Vita	4.5
Gitega	Hotel Tropitel	4
Muyinga	Auberge Agahimbare	4
Kirundo	Hotel Rama	3

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Tour Prices:

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups. Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

- **Airfare**
We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares
- **Program**
You may add or remove;
 - Trip days
 - Cities and sites
 - Meals
- **Other options**
 - The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sight-seeing where available
 - If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.
- **Quotation**
Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: BI02BJM20VT

Options:

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.

We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.