






Ivindo Safari Extension

Destination: Ivindo National Park, Gabon

Season: July - August

-  Trek through the wonderful and remote Ivindo National Park with expert guide
-  Stake out wildlife in the open bai in Ivindo where elephants, gorillas & more come
-  Camping out in the African bush on a true wilderness safari few people experience
-  Forest Elephants, Lowland Gorillas, Red River Hogs, Sitatunga and many more
-  Explore remote and seldom visited forests, enjoy an African safari without crowds

Dates:

Group tour: 13th Jul – 18th Jul 2024

Group tour: 23rd Jul – 28th Jul 2024

Private / Tailored Tour information:

This tour can be booked anytime between of the year, however the wet season can make the terrain very muddy and also outside of the mandrill breeding season (June – August) their behaviour can be unpredictable and the magnificent males are often solitary. Between July and August the males join the large troops of females, youngsters and sub adult males and you can see many hundreds of mandrills in the forest. Whilst Mandrills are not the focus (and are not seen in Ivindo) we plan this trip as an extension our Gabon Wildlife Adventure and so has to be run at the same time of year as we run the main trip, which is the Mandrill breeding season.

So we choose the dry season (northern hemisphere summer time) which also coincides with the mandrill breeding season.

Whilst we have a good success rate in filling tours some people prefer to book a private tour to avoid any disappointment and guarantee the departure.

We can run this tour with any number of people (up to a maximum of 6 people).

We also have flexibility for the duration of trip you would like to book.

Trips for any group size and any duration are possible, please enquire further for more information on our tailored Gabon wildlife tours.

Prices (2024 season):

Group Tour (5 nights)

£3,550 per person

*single supplement £360

Minimum group size 2

Maximum group size 8

Overview

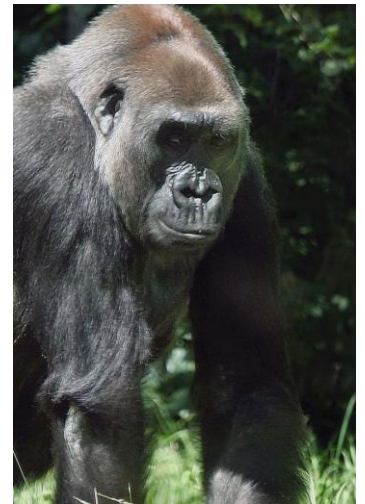
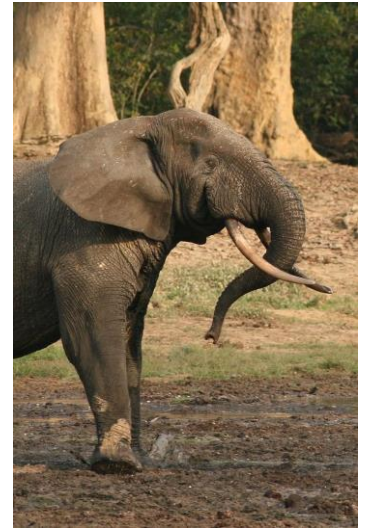
- Day 1:** Libreville

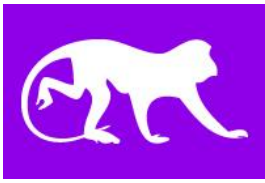
- Day 2:** Libreville - Booue village

- Day 3:** Booue village - Ivindo National Park

- Days 4-5:** Ivindo National Park

- Day 6:** Ivindo National Park – Booue – Lope National Park





Tour Information

Introduction

Gabon is a natural paradise little known by the Western traveller. A country with huge swathes of forest intact and large populations of African forest elephants, lowland gorillas, mandrills and many other rare and iconic species. This tour is an extension to our longer Gabon Wildlife Adventure tour which takes in two of the country's 3 main national parks (Lope and Loango), this extension visits the third famous and enormous park, Ivindo.

Ivindo National Park is very rarely visited and is a real taste of remote and pristine Africa. Even getting to the park requires driving, boats and hiking and once there you will be in a safari camp and most likely have the entire park to yourself. During your time in this wonderful and biodiverse park you will have access to viewing platforms overlooking a large open space called a bai. It is here in the bai that many species come out from the dense forests and into view. Your local expert guides and camping team will do their best to showcase as much as possible in this most incredible of African wildernesses.

All in all we believe that this tour is one that any wildlife enthusiast and particularly anyone interested in wildlife will love. This tour also gives you a taste of Africa before the crowds arrived in places like Eastern and Southern Africa, there are so few people who visit this area that it really is one of the last places you can visit in Africa and have the wilderness and wildlife to yourself.

Below is our itinerary, for further information, photographs and booking information please contact us further.

Itinerary

Day 1 Libreville

Arrival & Rest

Accommodation:

Hotel Onomo (4* Hotel)

Food:

No meals included today.

Transportation:

Private vehicle.

Arrival in Libreville where the guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure, the train we have to take tomorrow (to get to Ivindo) is an afternoon train and as some flights into Gabon arrive in the afternoon / evening we have to have today as a buffer day so that people can arrive and settle before leaving towards the forest tomorrow.

Day 2 Libreville / Booue Village

Travelling & Rest

Accommodation:

Hotel Ibeton (3* Hotel)

Food:

Breakfast only included today.

Transportation:

Private vehicle, Train & Walking.

This morning you will have the morning to rest and relax and perhaps have a walk along the beach or explore some of the city as the train doesn't leave until the afternoon.

Then around 16:00 you will be collected from the hotel and taken to the train station, the train is due to depart around 18:30 and you will arrive in the Booue village in the night (approximately 02:00am). You will be taken to the hotel to rest after the train journey.

Day 3 Booue – Ivindo National Park

Travelling & Wildlife Watching

Accommodation:

Ivindo Camp.

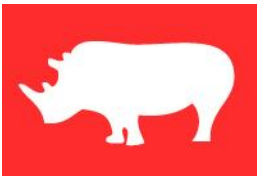
Food:

Breakfast will be served at the hotel with lunch and dinner provided by the camping team.

Transportation:

Private vehicle or Boat & Walking.

After breakfast at the hotel you will be transferred by a private car (~2 hours) to the Ivindo River. Once at the Ivindo River you will cross with a little ferry system and then on the other side you will carry on your journey. You will stop at Dilo Camp for lunch and then continue with special Quads (~1 hour) -if available, (they normally are) or if not by walking (3-5 hours) to Ivindo National Park. Most of this travelling will be inside the Ivindo National Park with the possibility of seeing wildlife along the way.



When you arrive to the Ivindo tented camp, the camp team will set up the tents and prepare dinner. Ivindo tented camp is simple, but a nice place; however in January 2020 the park was working on simple wooden rooms for this camp, we cannot guarantee they will be ready for our use, but hopefully they will be.

Days 4-5 **Ivindo National Park**

Wildlife Watching

Accommodation:

Platform Camp.

Food:

All of your meals will be served at the camp in between wildlife watching excursions.

Transportation:

Walking.

This morning you will rise early and after breakfast in the camp you will walk for around 1.5 hours until you reach the wonderful Langoue Bai; this is a large natural clearing in the middle of the Ivindo rainforest which was discovered by Mike Fay in early 2000's. It is here where many species of animals which are usually very elusive and difficult to see in the thick forest come to take vegetation, water and minerals from the surface. It is also here that there is an observation platform set up where we can observe easily the wildlife, including forest elephants, situngas and other antelopes, as well as red river hogs and if you are lucky gorillas and many other species. The platform will be turned into your camp for these two days, with tents set up here, so you are in perfect place for the early morning and late evening wildlife watching hours.

Day 6 **Ivindo National Park – Booue**

Wildlife Watching & Travelling

Accommodation:

Overnight train

Food:

Breakfast will be served at the camp, with lunch en route and dinner in Booue.

Transportation:

Walking, Private Vehicles & Train.

This morning you will have breakfast and one last chance to see wildlife in the bai before departing to the Ivindo Camp and continuing by walking and or quads to Dilo camp and Ivindo River. Here you will have a late lunch and continue by car (or boat and car) to Booue, arriving around 17:00-18:00 at the Hotel Ibeton to relax, have a shower and dinner before departing for the train station at around 23:00 to catch the train to Lope, this is the same train where other people booked on the Gabon Wildlife Adventure only will be on and you will now join up with the whole group and continue onwards on the main itinerary.

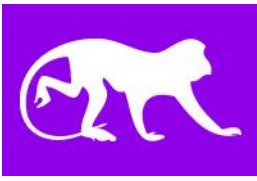
Your tour and all Royle Safaris services end upon transfer to the airport

Please note that the itinerary stated above is correct as our planned intentions for the tour. However adverse weather conditions and other local considerations can necessitate some modifications of the itinerary during the course of the tour; any changes will be made to make the best of the time, weather conditions and other constraints forced upon us and all changes will be made in conjunction with our terms and conditions.

Tour Inclusions

Absolutely everything mentioned in the above itinerary is included (except where it is expressly mentioned as an optional extra).

- All accommodation as mentioned above or of a similar standard as mentioned.
- All meals as mentioned in the itinerary; ***please note that some lunches and dinners are not included when travelling through Libreville in this itinerary.***
- Bottled mineral or purified (boiled) water will be provided throughout and on request.
- Private vehicles and boats for all transfers and safari drives / cruises.
- Camping equipment and team.
- All vehicles used for transfers in and out of Ivindo (as described on the itinerary).
- English speaking local driver and guide with years of experience in working in the areas we are travelling.
- All fuel, tolls, taxes and other expenses relating to driving.
- Professional zoologist escort provided by Royle Safaris (where available)
- All wildlife watching activities and excursions as mentioned in the itinerary.
- A selection of field guides of the local areas will be available on request from the zoologist escort.
- Also documentaries about the local area are sometimes available (depending on the electricity usage in the areas we are camping).
- Entrance fees and permits needed.



Tour Exclusions

Nearly everything you will need is included in the price you have already paid for the tour. However there are some things not included.

- International flights to and from the tour start and end points.
- Travel insurance including any fees that result from emergency medical or evacuation needs.
- Visa fees for entering the country(s).
- Vaccinations and any medication are not included.
- Any food other than the meals provided and mentioned in the above itinerary; ***please not that some lunches and dinners when travelling through Libreville are not included in this itinerary***
- Any drinks not including in the meal.
- Any items of a personal nature are not included, such as souvenirs, medication, toiletries, laundry and phone calls.
- Tips are also not included.
- If any internal flights are cancelled on this trip (should any be included in the itinerary); due to unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances then any extra costs incurred such as hotels, food and transfers are extra.
- Any departure taxes which may be due when leaving are not included (but may be included in the cost of your flights).

Please refer to our Terms & Conditions (<http://www.royle-safaris.co.uk/terms-conditions/>) before booking any trips – email or paper copies of Terms & Conditions can be provided if needed