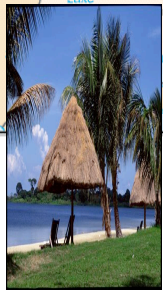


## AFRICA'S FRIENDLIEST COUNTRY

### Uganda



From the moment you land at Entebbe's modern and efficient international airport, with its breathtaking equatorial location on the forested shore of island-strewn Lake Victoria, it is clear that Uganda is no ordinary safari destination. Dominated by an expansive golf course leading down to the lakeshore, and a century-old botanical garden alive with the chatter of acrobatic monkeys and colourful tropical birds, Entebbe itself is the least obviously urban of all comparably sized African towns. Then, just 40km distant, sprawled across seven hills, there is the capital Kampala. The bright modern feel of this bustling, cosmopolitan city reflects the ongoing economic growth and political stability that has characterised Uganda since 1986, and is complemented by the sloping spaciousness and runaway greenery of its garden setting.

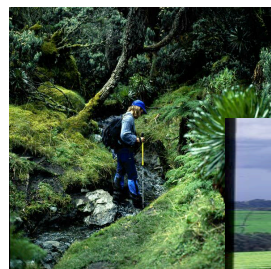


Ecologically, Uganda is where the East African savannah meets the West African jungle. Where else but in this impossibly lush country can one observe lions prowling the open plains in the morning and track chimpanzees through the rainforest undergrowth the same afternoon, then the next day navigate tropical channels teeming with hippo and crocs before setting off into the misty mountains to stare deep into the eyes of a mountain gorilla? Certainly, Uganda is the only destination whose range of forest primates is as impressive as its selection of plains antelope. And this verdant biodiversity is further attested to by Uganda's status as by far the smallest of the four African countries whose bird checklist tops the 1,000 mark.

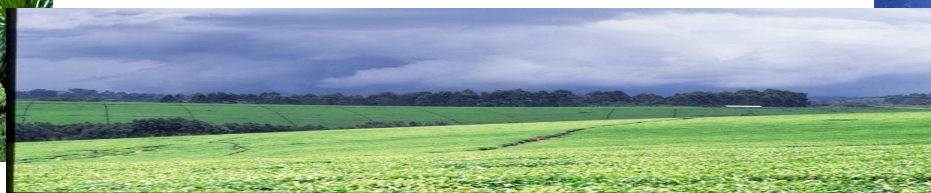


Yet there is more to the country than wildlife – far more! There is the mighty Nile, the spectacular, and the setting for some of the world's most thrilling commercial rafting. There are the snow-capped peaks of the Rwenzori, which provide a challenge to dedicated mountaineers, as well as the Virunga Volcanoes and , both of highly rewarding hiking opportunities through scintillating highland scenery. More myriad islands of Lake Victoria and Bunyonyi are idyllic venues, as are the myriad forest-fringed crater lakes that stud the rift valley

s a f a r i antelope. And which offer sedately, the



floor and escarpment around. Whether you're a first time safari-goer or a seasoned African traveller, Uganda – with its unique blend of savannah and forest creatures, its rare wealth of montane and lake habitats – is simply



dazzling.

### Africa's Friendliest Country

Uganda's reputation as Africa's Friendliest Country stems partly from the tradition of hospitality common to its culturally diverse populace, and partly from the remarkably low level of crime and hassle directed at tourists. But this amiable quality extends beyond the easygoing people. Uganda's eco-friendliness is attested to by the creation of six new national parks under the present administration, as well as a recent mushrooming of community-based eco-tourism projects at the grassroots level, while the mood of social enlightenment is characterised by the progressive and much lauded policies towards curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS and promoting women's rights. The climate, too, is highly agreeable, reflecting the combination of an equatorial location and medium to high altitudes, while amenities such as hotels and game lodges now rank with the very best has to offer.

**The Source: Tourism Uganda**

### Uganda

**Location:**

Eastern Africa, west of Kenya.

**Land Boundaries:**

Democratic Republic of the Congo 765 km, Kenya 933 km, Rwanda 169 km, Sudan 435 km and Tanzania 396 km.

**Geography:**

Size 236,040 sq km, slightly smaller than Oregon, US. Uganda is a landlocked country. The terrain is mostly plateau with a rim of mountains. Its highest point is Margherita Peak on Mount Stanley which stands at 5,110 m. Uganda's lowest point is Lake Albert at 621 m. The climate is tropical; generally rainy with two dry seasons (December to February, June to August). The northeast of Uganda is semi-arid and therefore drier. The country is generally very fertile with many lakes and rivers.

**Population:**

Just over 27 million people live in Uganda. Life expectancy is around 51 years. Birth rate is on average 6.7 per woman. 4.1% of the population is believed to have HIV/AIDS. Literacy rate is just under 70%.

**Languages:**

English (official national language, taught in grade schools, used in courts of law and by most newspapers and some radio broadcasts), Ganda or Luganda (most widely used of the Niger-Congo languages, preferred for native language publications in the capital and may be taught in school), other Niger-Congo languages, Nilo-Saharan languages, Swahili, and Arabic.

**Ethnic Groups:**

Baganda 17%, Ankole 8%, Basoga 8%, Iteso 8%, Bakiga 7%, Langi 6%, Rwanda 6%, Bagisu 5%, Acholi 4%, Lugbara 4%, Batoro 3%, Bunyoro 3%, Alur 2%, Bagwere 2%, Bakonjo 2%, Jopodhola 2%, Karamojong 2%, Rundi 2%, non-African (European, Asian, Arab) 1%, other 8%.

**Religion:**

Roman Catholic 33%, Protestant 33%, Muslim 16%, indigenous beliefs 18%.

**Political History:**

Uganda achieved independence from the UK in 1962. The dictatorial regime of Idi Amin (1971-79) was responsible for the deaths of some 300,000 opponents; guerrilla war and human rights abuses under Milton Obote (1980-85) claimed at least another 100,000 lives. During the 1990s, the government promulgated non-party presidential and legislative elections.

Ction Uganda

Background: Uganda achieved independence from the UK in 1962. The dictatorial regime of Idi AMIN (1971-79) was responsible for the deaths of some 300,000 opponents; guerrilla war and human rights abuses under Milton OBOTE (1980-85) claimed at least another 100,000 lives. During the 1990s, the government promulgated non-party presidential and legislative elections.

Geography Uganda

Location: Eastern Africa, west of Kenya

G e o g r a p h i c 1 0 0 N, 3 2 0 0 E

coordinates:

Map references: Africa

Area: *total*: 236,040 sq km  
*land*: 199,710 sq km  
*water*: 36,330 sq km

Area - comparative: slightly smaller than Oregon

Land boundaries: *total*: 2,698 km  
*border countries*: Democratic Republic of the Congo 765 km, Kenya 933 km, Rwanda 169 km, Sudan 435 km, Tanzania 396 km

Coastline: 0 km (landlocked)

Maritime claims: none (landlocked)

Climate: tropical; generally rainy with two dry seasons (December to February, June to August); semiarid in northeast

Terrain: mostly plateau with rim of mountains

Elevation extremes: *lowest point*: Lake Albert 621 m  
*highest point*: Margherita Peak on Mount Stanley 5,110 m

Natural resources: copper, cobalt, hydropower, limestone, salt, arable land

Land use: *arable land*: 25.88%  
*permanent crops*: 10.65%  
*other*: 63.47% (2001)

Irrigated land: 90 sq km (1998 est.)

Natural hazards: NA

Environment - current issues: -draining of wetlands for agricultural use; deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion; water hyacinth infestation in Lake Victoria; poaching is widespread

Environment - international agreements: -*party to*: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Life Conservation, Ozone Layer Protection, Wetlands  
*signed, but not ratified*: Environmental Modification

Geography - note: landlocked; fertile, well-watered country with many lakes and rivers

People	Uganda
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Population: 27,269,482  
*note*: estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality and death rates, lower population and growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2005 est.)

Age structure: *0-14 years*: 50.1% (male 6,875,663/female 6,784,378)  
*15-64 years*: 47.7% (male 6,511,867/female 6,494,859)  
*65 years and over*: 2.2% (male 263,790/female 338,925) (2005 est.)

Median age: *total*: 14.97 years  
*male*: 14.87 years  
*female*: 15.08 years (2005 est.)

Population growth rate: 3.31% (2005 est.)

Birth rate: 47.39 births/1,000 population (2005 est.)

Death rate: 12.8 deaths/1,000 population (2005 est.)

Net migration rate: -1.49 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2005 est.)

Sex ratio: *at birth*: 1.03 male(s)/female  
*under 15 years*: 1.01 male(s)/female  
*15-64 years*: 1 male(s)/female  
*65 years and over*: 0.78 male(s)/female  
*total population*: 1 male(s)/female (2005 est.)

Infant mortality rate: *total*: 67.83 deaths/1,000 live births  
*male*: 71.18 deaths/1,000 live births  
*female*: 64.37 deaths/1,000 live births (2005 est.)

Life expectancy at birth: *total population*: 51.59 years  
*male*: 50.74 years  
*female*: 52.46 years (2005 est.)

Total fertility rate: 6.74 children born/woman (2005 est.)

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate: 4.1% (2003 est.)

prevalence rate:

HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS: 530,000 (2001 est.)

living with HIV/AIDS:

HIV/AIDS - deaths: 78,000 (2003 est.)

Major infectious diseases: *degree of risk: very high*

*food or waterborne diseases:* bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever  
*vectorborne diseases:* malaria and African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) are high risks in some locations

*water contact disease:* schistosomiasis (2004)

Nationality: *noun:* Ugandan(s)

*adjective:* Ugandan

Ethnic groups: Baganda 17%, Ankole 8%, Basoga 8%, Iteso 8%, Bakiga 7%, Langi 6%, Rwanda 6%, Bagisu 5%, Acholi 4%, Lugbara 4%, Batoro 3%, Bunyoro 3%, Alur 2%, Bagwere 2%, Bakonjo 2%, Jopodhola 2%, Karamojong 2%, Rundi 2%, non-African (European, Asian, Arab) 1%, other 8%

Religions: Roman Catholic 33%, Protestant 33%, Muslim 16%, indigenous beliefs 18%

Languages: English (official national language, taught in grade schools, used in courts of law and by most newspapers and some radio broadcasts), Ganda or Luganda (most widely used of the Niger-Congo languages, preferred for native language publications in the capital and may be taught in school), other Niger-Congo languages, Nilo-Saharan languages, Swahili, Arabic

Literacy: *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write

*total population:* 69.9%

*male:* 79.5%

*female:* 60.4% (2003 est.)

Government	Uganda
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Country name: *conventional long form:* Republic of Uganda

*conventional short form:* Uganda

Government type: republic

Capital: Kampala

Administrative divisions: 56 districts; Adjumani, Apac, Arua, Bugiri, Bundibugyo, Bushenyi, Busia, Gulu, Hoima, Iganga, Jinja, Kabale, Kabarole, Kaberamaido, Kalangala, Kampala, Kamuli, Kamwenge, Kanungu, Kapchorwa, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kibale, Kiboga, Kisoro, Kitgum, Kotido, Kumi, Kyenjojo, Lira, Luwero, Masaka, Masindi, Mayuge, Mbale, Mbarara, Moroto, Moyo, Mpigi, Mubende, Mukono, Nakapiripirit, Nakasongola, Nebbi, Ntungamo, Pader, Pallisa, Rakai, Rukungiri, Sembabule, Sironko, Soroti, Tororo, Wakiso, Yumbe

Independence: 9 October 1962 (from UK)

National holiday: Independence Day, 9 October (1962)

Constitution: 8 October 1995

Legal system: in 1995, the government restored the legal system to one based on English common law and customary law; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

Executive branch: *chief of state*: President Lt. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI (since seizing power 26 January 1986); note - the president is both chief of state and head of government  
*head of government*: President Lt. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI (since seizing power 29 January 1986); Prime Minister Apollo NSIBAMBI (since 5 April 1999); note - the president is both chief of state and head of government; the prime minister assists the president in the supervision of the cabinet  
*cabinet*: Cabinet appointed by the president from among elected legislators  
*elections*: president reelected by popular vote for a five-year term; election last held 12 March 2001 (next to be held NA 2006); note - first popular election for president since independence in 1962 was held in 1996; prime minister appointed by the president  
*election results*: Lt. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI elected president; percent of vote - Lt. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI 69.3%, Kizza BESIGYE 27.8%

Legislative branch: unicameral National Assembly (303 members - 214 directly elected by popular vote, 81 nominated by legally established special interest groups [women 56, army 10, disabled 5, youth 5, labor 5], 8 ex officio members; members serve five-year terms)  
*elections*: last held 26 June 2001 (next to be held by June 2006);  
*election results*: percent of vote by party - NA%; seats by party - NA; note - election campaigning by party was not permitted

Judicial branch: Court of Appeal (judges are appointed by the president and approved by the legislature); High Court (judges are appointed by the president)

Political parties and leaders: only one political organization, the Movement (formerly the NRM) [President MUSEVENI, chairman] is allowed to operate unfettered; note - the president maintains that the Movement is not a political party, but a mass organization, which claims the loyalty of all Ugandans  
*note*: the constitution requires the suspension of political parties while the Movement organization is in governance; of the political parties that exist but are prohibited from sponsoring candidates, the most important are the Ugandan People's Congress or UPC [Milton OBOTE]; Democratic Party or DP [Paul SSEMOGERERE]; Conservative Party or CP [Ken LUKYAMUZI]; Justice Forum [Muhammad Kibirige MAYANJA]; and National Democrats Forum [Chapaa KARUHANGA]

Flag description: six equal horizontal bands of black (top), yellow, red, black, yellow, and red; a white disk is superimposed at the center and depicts a red-crested crane (the national symbol) facing the hoist side

Economy	Uganda
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**Economy overview:** -Uganda has substantial natural resources, including fertile soils, regular rainfall, and sizable mineral deposits of copper and cobalt. Agriculture is the most important sector of the economy, employing over 80% of the work force. Coffee accounts for the bulk of export revenues. Since 1986, the government - with the support of foreign countries and international agencies - has acted to rehabilitate and stabilize the economy by undertaking currency reform, raising producer prices on export crops, increasing prices of petroleum products, and improving civil service wages. The policy changes are especially aimed at dampening inflation and boosting production and export earnings. During 1990-2001, the economy turned in a solid performance based on continued investment in the rehabilitation of infrastructure, improved incentives for production and exports, reduced inflation, gradually improved domestic security, and the return of exiled Indian-Ugandan entrepreneurs. Corruption within the government and slippage in the government's determination to press reforms raise doubts about the continuation of strong growth. In 2000, Uganda qualified for enhanced Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt relief worth \$1.3 billion and Paris Club debt relief worth \$145 million. These amounts combined with the original HIPC debt relief added up to about \$2 billion. Growth for 2001-02 was solid despite continued decline in the price of coffee, Uganda's principal export. Solid growth in 2003-04 reflected an upturn in Uganda's export markets.

GDP (purchasing power parity): \$39.39 billion (2004 est.)  
GDP - real growth rate: 5% (2004 est.)  
GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity - \$1,500 (2004 est.)  
GDP - composition by sector: *agriculture*: 35.8%  
*industry*: 20.8%  
*services*: 43.6% (2004 est.)  
Labor force: 12.41 million (2004 est.)  
Labor force - by occupation: agriculture 82%, industry 5%, services 13% (1999 est.)

Population below poverty line: 35% (2001 est.)

*Agriculture* products: coffee, tea, cotton, tobacco, cassava (tapioca), potatoes, corn, millet, pulses; beef, goat meat, milk, poultry, cut flowers  
*Industries*: sugar, brewing, tobacco, cotton textiles, cement, steel production

Current account balance: -\$590.8 million (2004 est.)

Exports: \$621.7 million f.o.b. (2004 est.)

*Exports* commodities: coffee, fish and fish products, tea; gold, cotton, flowers, horticultural products

Exports - partners: Kenya 15%, Netherlands 10.7%, Belgium 9%, France 4.4%, Germany 4.4% (2004)

Imports: \$1.306 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

*Imports* commodities: capital equipment, vehicles, petroleum, medical supplies; cereals

Imports - partners: Kenya 32.3%, UAE 7.3%, South Africa 6.5%, India 5.8%, China 5.6%, UK 5.1%, US 4.8%, Japan 4.8% (2004)

Reserves of foreign exchange and gold: \$1.2 billion (2004 est.)

Debt - external: \$3.865 billion (2004 est.)

Economic aid recipient: -\$1.4 billion (2000)

Currency (code): Ugandan shilling (UGX)

Currency code: UGX

Exchange rates: Ugandan shillings per US dollar - 1,810.3 (2004), 1,963.7 (2003), 1,797.6 (2002), 1,755.7 (2001), 1,644.5 (2000)

Fiscal year: 1 July - 30 June

## Communications Uganda

Telephones - main lines in use: 61,000 (2003)

Telephones - mobile cellular: 776,200 (2003)

Telephone system: *general assessment*: seriously inadequate; two cellular systems have been introduced, but a sharp increase in the number of main lines is essential; e-mail and Internet services are available  
*domestic*: intercity traffic by wire, microwave radio relay, and radiotelephone communication stations, fixed and mobile cellular systems for short-range traffic  
*international*: country code - 256; satellite earth stations - 1 Intelsat (Atlantic Ocean) and 1 Inmarsat; analog links to Kenya and Tanzania

Radio broadcast stations: AM 7, FM 33, shortwave 2 (2001)

Radios: 5 million (2001)

Television (plus one low-power repeater) (2001)

broadcast stations:

Televisions: 500,000 (2001)

Internet country code:

code:

Internet hosts: 2,692 (2004)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs):

Providers (ISPs):

Internet users: 125,000 (2003)

Transportation Uganda

Railways: *total: 1,241 km*  
*narrow gauge: 1,241 km 1.000-m gauge (2004)*

Highways: *total: 27,000 km*  
*paved: 1,809 km*  
*unpaved: 25,191 km (1999 est.)*

Waterways: 300 km (on Lake Victoria, 200 km on Lake Albert, Lake Kyoga, and parts of Albert Nile) (2004 est.)

Airports: 29 (2004 est.)

Airports - with paved runways: *total: 4*  
*over 3,047 m: 3*  
*1,524 to 2,437 m: 1 (2004 est.)*

Airports - without paved runways: *total: 25*  
*2,438 to 3,047 m: 1*  
*1,524 to 2,437 m: 6*  
*914 to 1,523 m: 11*  
*under 914 m: 7 (2004 est.)*

Military Uganda

Military branches: Ugandan Peoples' Defense Force (UPDF): Army, Marine Unit, Air Wing

Military service age and obligation: 18 years of age for compulsory and voluntary military duty; the government has stated that recruitment below that age could occur with proper consent and that "no person under the apparent age of 13 years shall be enrolled in the armed forces"

Manpower available for military service: *males age 18-49: 5,012,620 (2005 est.)*

Manpower fit for military service: *males age 18-49: 2,889,808 (2005 est.)*