

## **12 Days Birding Green Breasted Pitta, Africa broadbill in Uganda**

Birding forests of Uganda for Green breasted Pitta and African broadbill. Both bird species belong to pittadea bird family. You will Walk and hike the interior rain forest of Kibale park for the pittas and Montane forest along the Albertine rift for the beautiful leafy green broadbill..

Best time to see Green breasted pittas and African broadbills in Uganda is in July and August when the birds are busy displaying and building nests.

### **Birding spots in Uganda**

- \*Mabamba swamp, Uganda's best site for the shoebill stork and swamp specials
- \* Kibale National park, hotspot for Green breasted pitta, African pitta, Abyssinian ground Thrush
- \*Queen Elizabeth Park, Uganda's birding haven with over 580 bird species
- \*Bwindi National park, richest rain forest with 24 bird species of Albertine Rift endemics, globally threatened species (African Green broadbill / Shelly's crimsonwing), Mountain gorillas, tree species and butterflies
- \* Lake Mburo Park, hotspot to see the southern savannah species and Papyrus endemics

### **GO 1: Introductory birding Uganda**

Leave home on an evening flight for Entebbe airport where you arrive next morning and transfer to hotel. In the afternoon you will visit the botanical gardens and shores of Lake Victoria where you will encounter both forest and several water birds

O/N: Imperial Botanical Hotel /Boma Guest house B/B

### **GO 2: Birding Mabamba Bay – Kibale Forest Park**

Early pick up from hotel transfer to Mabamba Wetland located on the fringes of Lake Victoria a hotspot for swamp birds, jump into a hand paddled canoe for a 2-3 hours' search for the elegant shoebill stork and papyrus species. Paddle out and drive to Kibale forest.

O/N: Isunga Lodge/ Chimpanzee guest house F/B

**Birds in Mabamba wetland:** Lesser Jacana, Blue Swallow, Black-Shouldered kite, Blue Breasted Bee-Eater, Papyrus Gonolek, White Winged warbler, Carruther's Cisticola ,Papyrus Gonolek, Swamp Flycatcher, ducks, plovers, gulls, egrets, Malachite and Pied Kingfishers

### **GO 3: Birding Kibale Forest –Green Breasted Pitta**

Early start to Kanyachu tourist center meet the site bird guide who will guide and lead you to nesting areas and search for the Green Breasted Pitta and other forest species.

O/N: Isunga lodge/ Chimpanzee guest house F/B

#### **GO 4: Green Breasted Pitta –Kibale Forest Park.**

Whole morning birding Kibale forest for the Green breasted pitta after which visit Bigodi sanctuary in the afternoon for more birding and search for monkeys.

O/N: IsungaLodge /Chimpanzee guest house F/B.

**Birds of Kibale forest:** Uganda woodland warbler, Grey headed Olive back, Masked and Black capped Apalises, White naped pigeon, Red winged Francolin, Joyful greenbul

#### **GO 5: Forest birding, Chimpanzee Tracking**

Early morning return to Kibale forest for chimpanzees tracking high end tourist attraction the forest is also a home to 13 primate species with the highest concentration of Red colubus monkeys in Africa. Return for lunch and transfer to Queen Elizabeth Park reaching in time for an evening boat cruise on Kazinga channel where you will see varieties of birds and wildlife.

O/N: Mweya Lodge/ Buffalo safari lodge F/B

#### **GO: 6 Bird watching in Ishasha sector.**

Today you make the drive to Ishasha sector open savanna grassland with forest river line and several fig trees famous for lion hang outs. You will take up the afternoon to look out for raptors, vultures ,savannah birds and big game. Return to your hotel for one night stay.

O/N: Jungle lodge/ Ejonjo lodge F/B

**Birds of Ishasha sector:** Yellow Throated leaflove,Grey capped warbler, White browed robin chat, Grey apalis, Black bee- eater, Broad billed roller, Cassin’s Grey flycatcher, White backed vulture, Martial Eagle, Brown chested plover etc

#### **GO 7: Birding Bwindi Impenetrable Forest Park**

Early start to Ruhija of Bwindi forest bird the Neck en route to the eastern sector, look out for Black bee-eaters, woodpeckers Greenbuls, Cassin’ grey flycatcher. Arrive Hotel in the afternoon and do some birding around the lodge.

O/N: Ruhija Gorilla/ Trekker’s Traven F/B

#### **GO8: Birding Albertine Rift Valleys, African Green BroadBill**

Today you will explore the highland forest of Ruhija 800M higher than Buhoma with perfect views of the Virunga’s mountains on a clear day. It has a dramatically different nature and avifauna an area with the most sightings for Albertine endemics. Mubwindi trail reveal some of the most difficult of all rift-endemics including the mythical African Green Broadbill. Please note this trail is strenuous and requires one to be fit but taken slowly its quite manageable.

**Birds of Mubwindi trail:** Graur’s Rush Warbler, Grauer’s Warbler, Carruther’sCisticola, Collared Apalis, Rwenzori Hill Babbler, Shelly’s Crimsonwing, Dusky Crimsonwing, Archer’s Robin-chat, Regal

Sunbird, Blue-headed Sunbird, Dwarf Honey guide and many others. O/N: Ruhija Gorilla/Agandi Eco lodge/ Trekkers Traven F/B

**GO 9: African Green Broadbill –Birding Mubwindi trail**

Birding Albertine rift for African broadbill take a shorter trail to Mubwindi swamp and search out for rift endemics:— Handsome francolin, African Hill babbler, Banded prinia, Shelley’s crimsonwing, Collared Apalis, Regal sun bird and many more.

O/N: Ruhija Gorilla/ Trekkers Traven F/B

**GO: 10 Gorilla Tour experience**

Gorilla trekking is optional, otherwise, bird the bamboo zone on your way out to Lake Mburo Park.

O/N: Mihingo Lodge/Rwokobo Rocks F/B

**GO: 11 Birding Lake Mburo –Guided Nature walk and Boat trip**

You will start birding around the swamps and lodge surroundings for papyrus gonelek, Rufous bellied heron, long tailed cisticola, Red faced barbet, and Yellow breasted apalis. Later take up a boat cruise to search for African fin foot, White backed heron and water birds on Lake Mburo. After the boat you drive to Entebbe across the equator halt for pictures and water experiment. Proceed and check in your hotel for a night stay.

O/N: Imperial botanical hotel /Anna’s Guest house B/B

**GO: 12 End of safari**

Final area birding around your lodge and souvenir shopping, transfer to Entebbe airport to catch your evening flight. End of tour n