

UGANDA - NILE EXPLORER

ITINERARY

Day 1

The transfer from Entebbe to the start of the ride is normally at 09.00.

You are strongly recommended to arrive into Entebbe on the day before the start of the ride so that you are fresh for your first day and minimise the risk of flight delays spoiling your holiday. There are many accommodation options very near to Entebbe airport and you will be collected from your accommodation on the morning of day one.

Your homeward flight should depart Entebbe after 15:00.

Over lunch get to know one another and the guide as well as discuss the week ahead and have a safety briefing.

After lunch check-in to your accommodation at Holland Park, which is near to the stables.

Later you have a short ride of about 1.5 hours to try out the horses. Ride around Naminya village and along the banks of the River Nile.



Please note that the following is the proposed itinerary but it is always possible that local conditions will mean a change is necessary. If it is raining a ride might be shortened and a longer ride take place on a day with better weather. It is also possible that the order in which you stay at the lodges will be different. Over the week you stay at all the lodges and do the different rides.

On some days the horses are trucked to the starting point (and you meet them by vehicle) and/or they are collected by truck at the end of the day. This is so you avoid riding in areas which are highly populated or just not offering great riding. Horses may also be replaced during the week by fresh horses from the stables.

Overnight Holland Park. Holland Park is next to the horse stables which are a few miles north of Jinja.



Guest chalet at Holland Park

There are three guest cottages set in gardens on the west bank of the Nile and overlooking the river.

There are also some smaller single rooms. The hotel has a small swimming pool. There is abundant birdlife as well as vervet monkeys in the surrounding trees.



Typical room at Holland Park

Day 2

Your first day's ride is for approximately four hours through various tea and sugar plantations and villages, over some hills with stunning vistas of the country side. Picnic lunch.



Today offers fabulous views and long canters for those who wish them (the ride can split for those who prefer to go slower).



Overnight Holland Park.

Day 3

The ride today is five to six hours' riding around an enormous peninsula that lies into Lake Victoria. The horses are trucked to the starting point so that you have maximum riding in the more interesting places. While the horses are being moved this might be an opportunity to visit the local school. Feel free to bring any primary age books you wish to donate to the library.

You stop for a picnic lunch in the hills overlooking Lake Victoria and Jinja town.



Throughout the day you have fabulous views of the lake, sugar plantations and traditional villages. There are possibilities for good canters.



You ride to an end point and then transfer by boat to the famous Source of the Nile and later transfer by vehicle to the Haven Lodge.

Overnight The Haven. The Haven is on the banks of the Nile and from the bungalows there are wonderful views down over the Nile and towards the rapids.



Thatched cottages (Bandas) at The Haven.

There are a number of bungalows scattered through the gardens.



Interior of one of the bungalows at The Haven

Enjoy meals in the spacious restaurant area with beautiful views of the River Nile. There is also a swimming pool and pool table.

Day 4

Ride for between three and four hours exploring Mabira forest and the surroundings with a lunch stop during the day.



You will be looking for rare forest primates, a sub species of Grey Cheeked Mangabeys, that are only found in Mabira forest. There is also lots of spectacular birdlife.

Later relax at the Haven - with a massage or swim.

Overnight The Haven.

Day 5

After a couple of hours riding in and out of the forest you arrive at Wild Waters Lodge.



You will be simply amazed at this beautiful lodge located on an island in the middle of the Nile with massive white water all around.

Enjoy the pool in the afternoon - one of the most spectacular places to view the Nile.

Overnight Wild Waters Lodge. Wild Waters has an amazing location - on an island in the middle of the Nile.



Wild Waters Lodge

There are ten en-suite canvas and thatch rooms each with their own private view of the Nile.



Guest chalet at Wild Waters

The rooms are linked by wooden walkways to the central dining area.

Day 6

Today you may head out to experience some of the most beautiful white water rafting in the world (warm water thrills and spills).



Please note that the white water rafting is an optional extra (payable locally) and you may prefer to rest or do some of the other activities in the area.

Overnight Wild Waters Lodge.

Day 7

Cross back from the lodge and meet your horses.

This morning it may be possible to swim with your horse in the Nile. This is an optional part of the ride. You swim the horses in the river where there is a sandy bottom and no crocodiles or hippos. (Please note that sometimes if the river is too high then it is not possible to swim safely).



Later ride back to Wild Waters and say a final goodbye to your horses before crossing back to the island.

Overnight Wild Waters Lodge.

Day 8

Breakfast at Wild Waters Lodge.