



Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary

Chimpanzees are an endangered species found only in the forests of Africa. Experience a rare and incredible opportunity to visit chimpanzees in a near-wild setting while helping to conserve their precious habitat and contribute to the conservation of their species.

Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) are one of three members of the Great Ape family found solely in Africa. (Gorillas and bonobos are the other two species in Africa; while orangutans are found in Asia.) Chimpanzees once inhabited the entire equatorial zone, now occupied by 25 African countries. But their habitat is slowly disappearing as human populations increase and encroach on the forest throughout the region. Chimpanzees are now found only in 21 of these countries. There are now thought to be only 20,000 to 100,000 wild chimpanzees remaining, and their populations have become fragmented and isolated due to this human encroachment. Because of this chimpanzees are on the endangered species list and are protected, in many countries, by CITES laws (Convention for



International Trade of Endangered Species). Currently the major threats to survival of the species are illegal poaching for "bushmeat" and the pet trade, as well as deforestation for agriculture and logging.

Ngamba Island is part of the Koome group of islands located on Lake Victoria 23km south of Entebbe, Uganda. It consists of approximately 100 acres, 98

of which are forested and separated from the visitors area by an electric fence. Ngamba Island was officially opened to visitors in October 1999 and is currently home to 35 orphaned chimpanzees, 15 of which have been confiscated and brought to the island since it's opening.

Ngamba Island is a project of the Chimpanzees Sanctuary and Wildlife Conservation Trust (CSWCT), established in 1997 by the Born Free Foundation (UK), International Fund for Animal Welfare (USA), the Jane Goodall Institute (Germany and Uganda), The Uganda Wildlife Education Centre Trust (UWECT) and the Zoological Board of New South Wales (Australia) and it provides these orphaned chimpanzees with a secure home to live out their lives, since a return to their natural habitat is not possible, while educating visitors and local communities about their remarkable species and the importance of conserving their fragile forest habitat.

You can help support this project by visiting. The entrance and activity fees paid goes directly towards helping cover the recurring costs of the island sanctuary and ensuring the well being of the chimpanzees.



Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary, offers chimpanzee encounters including:

Day trips:

Depart from Entebbe Pier on the mainland and travel by boat to the island (approximately 45 minutes by speedboat or 1½ hours by motorised traditional boat). View either a morning or afternoon feeding of the chimpanzees from the visitors platform area along the edge of the sanctuary fence, hear an informative talk by sanctuary staff, and enjoy lunch (on full day trips), kayaking, swimming on the equator, viewing a neighbouring fishing village, fantastic bird-watching and other wildlife encounters, or just sunbathe and relax!

Overnight trips:

An excursion over two days, staying in an East African style tented camp on the island with each of the tents overlooking the lake and accommodating two persons (twin beds) in comfort with full size beds, en suite bathroom facilities and solar lighting.

All meals are prepared and provided by friendly camp staff in either our relaxed covered dining area or open dining area besides the lake when conditions allow. Meals are substantial with several courses for dinner and local specialities such as fish served whenever possible.

Hot beverages including tea and coffee are available at all times on a self serve basis. Cold drinks are available on a cash sale basis including water, sodas and beers and anyone requiring anything else is welcome to bring it along with them.

Life on the island

View two of the day time chimpanzees feedings from the visitors platform area along the edge of the sanctuary fence, the bedtime and early morning feeding routines at the overnight chimpanzee holding facility and unlimited use of the other island facilities and optional activities.



You may like to take out one of the kayaks around the island bays searching for wildlife such as monitor lizards, otters and abundant bird life (154 recorded) or view a local fishing village, go for a sunset cruise, fish or just relax on your tent's private deck overlooking the lake with sundowners while watching the bats emerge from the forest and the colourful African sun set.

During your stay on Ngamba, as well as our camp staff, a CSWCT staff member will be resident on the island and available to provide information, and answer any questions on chimpanzees and the project.