

Glorious Gabon: a Dark Heart Safari

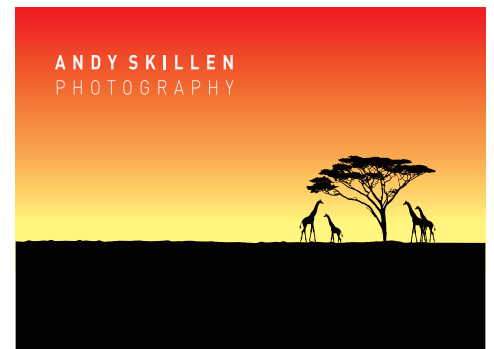
Dates: D1: 1 – 9 February, 2027

D2: 9 - 17 February, 2027

Location: Libreville and Loango National Park

Group size: 4; Cost GBP 9,450 per person for 8 nights

(inclusive of final departure day; based on two people sharing)



Central Africa, the greater Congo basin, is arguably one of the most exciting safari destinations on the continent...if not the planet. The array of species to seek, the experience of being in some of the oldest jungles on earth and the chance to capture images that so few manage every year in comparison to the more popular locations, makes this relatively uncharted destination hugely attractive.

As such in 2027, I'm giving a total of eight people (two groups of four) the chance to head to this most special of places with the aim of trekking for lowland gorillas, forest elephants on the beach and perhaps hippos in the surf, red river hogs, giant forest hogs, Congo buffalo, an array of primates and countless other species. The calendar window I have chosen is also the best balance of time and opportunity photographically. It is the peak time for gorilla observation...and lowland gorillas are far more special than their mountain counterparts!

Working with my excellent guiding team and with private boats and vehicles throughout, as well as treks, you will be thoroughly immersed in this spectacular location, as well as being looked after in complete comfort in superior accommodation. We will also avail ourselves of internal flights between locations too, to guarantee you as much time in the field as we can in a country where logistics can otherwise – and usually are – a challenge. This is a truly epic photographic adventure.

In addition, Because of the work I'm doing out there presently, I've managed to get permission from the authorities to allow guests travelling with me (or on the independent version) to fly a drone within the national parks. This is normally **HUGELY** restricted, and the preserve of professionals, but having negotiated on your behalf, I have managed to open the chance for you to secure a drone permit and a daily opportunity to fly. One thing to bear in mind though...there is an extra charge for the permit and paperwork, so please consider that before jumping in. If you're keen, let me know when you book and I'll get the price updated for you. It's likely to be around GBP100/day and will be monitored. However, a few days of flying should be enough to get you sufficient aerial coverage. Please note, the paperwork for drones is still **ONEROUS**...so please plan this in early! ☺

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **EXCLUSIVE GROUP SIZE OF JUST 4 GUESTS**
- **REMOTE LOCATIONS AND TRULY EPIC SCENERY AS WELL AS MARKET-LEADING ACCOMMODATION**
- **TWO SEPARATE LOWLAND GORILLA TREKS JUST WITH YOUR GROUP AND THE RESEARCH TEAM**
- **CHANCES FOR ELEPHANTS AND OTHER ANIMALS ON THE BEACH**
- **PRIVATE VEHICLES AND BOATS THROUGHOUT**

COSTS AND LOGISTICS

- **Group size: 4 guests only**
- **GBP 9,450 for 8 nights**
- **Start point: Libreville International Airport**
- **End point: Libreville International Airport**

WHAT'S INCLUDED...

- 8 nights' accommodation (full board except in Libreville)
 - Airport collection and drop-off (meeting you from your in-bound flight and airport assistance if needed)
 - All internal transfers (including domestic flights when required)
 - Private boats and vehicles at our disposal
 - Two gorilla treks (just your group)
 - Assistance with visa applications with letters of invitation
 - Ability to purchase a drone license (see notes below) as an additional advantage
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WHAT'S NOT...

- International and/or any domestic flight to/from the itinerary start/end points
 - Items of a personal nature
 - Visa fees as appropriate (with your own local consulate/embassy)
 - Any departure taxes not covered in your international flight
 - Gratuities
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YOUR ITINERARY....

Day 1: Arrive in Libreville (1 night)

Land from your international flight in the bustling capital of Gabon and be met the Fauna Vista Libreville-based team. You will be transferred to your hotel for the night (dinner not included) so you can rest and be readied for the adventure starting the next morning.

Day 2-7: Loango National Park (6 nights)

Up and out today as you head for the airport and a flight to Port Gentil. Here you will pick up our 4x4 transfer (just two passengers per vehicle for comfort) and be taken to Loango National Park. This would otherwise be a loooong journey from Libreville, so the domestic flight cuts out a lot of that time. Over the next 6 days here you will get to track gorillas twice. There are a number of camps in Loango we have at our disposal, but we will work out the optimum based on game movements. You will explore this mosaic of landscapes by boat, foot and vehicle – at all times putting you in the best position for your images. The team will seek out some iconic stuff if they can – elephants on the beach example – but at all times they will be seeking to expose you to some truly fantastic settings in which the likes of red river hog, gorilla, buffalo, sitatunga, glorious birdlife and a wide variety of primates (even chimps if you're lucky) will provide the focal points of interest. We will also take time to focus on the little things too...bring your macro! The plants, flowers and bugs (don't worry...they don't all bite!) that make up much of the biodiversity here are key components of your Gabon portfolio. Do bear in mind, many encounters with forest elephants will happen on foot...truly a special experience and one that is much harder to execute elsewhere in the region.

Day 8: Depart for Libreville

Alas...the trip is done and we will re-trace our steps to Port Gentil to connect with a domestic flight back to Libreville. Here you will be escorted back to your original hotel for a night of reflection and relaxation.

Day 9: Libreville tour and home

One last chance to see more of this beautiful country as we take you on a half day city tour of the vibrant capital before

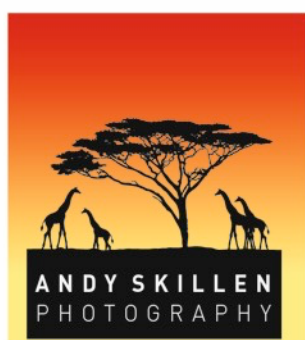
getting you to the airport in good time for your flight home.

*****Want to spend more time? We can arrange a few nights in Pongara National Park too...just a short boat ride from Libreville...where chimpanzees are possible, and nesting turtles (at the time of year you will be there) are a major draw. Let me know if you'd like to consider an extension to your Loango-based trip.**

HOW DO I BOOK MY SPACE?

Send an email to Andy@faunavista.com to register your interest and receive a booking form.

This trip will be done on a **first come, first served** basis.



CHANGING THE IMAGE OF WILDLIFE TRAVEL...