



Deeper Adventure Mobile Camp Setup (Robert Wheeler)

Wil Smith, co-founder of safari company Deeper Africa, has partnered with Tanzanian wildlife and guiding expert Aminiel Nnko to launch Deeper Adventure, an outfitter for wildlife and nature experiences in East Africa. Smith and Nnko will lead travelers on expedition-like itineraries through the few remaining uncharted regions of West Tanzania, including Burigi-Chato National Park and beyond.

Deeper Adventure seeks to preserve Africa's wildlife, lands and popular tourist destinations. Burigi, established in 2019, is among Africa's newest national parks and serves as the foundation of a unique safari linking off-the-grid Burigi with the Serengeti.

According to Smith, "Park fees will fund maintenance and conservation needs. The tourism purchase of goods and services will garner support from surrounding communities by providing jobs and adding value to local businesses. By choosing Burigi over a more traveled destination, a traveler will add a meaningful contribution to wilderness conservation and wildlife preservation."

Each safari will encourage spontaneous exploration without rigid itineraries, leaving room for discovery. Burigi-Chato National Park is ideal for hiking safaris, remote camping and wilderness exploring. For the active traveler, there is game viewing, bird watching, nature photography, walking, camp-to-camp hiking, boating and overlanding. There are no permanent camps or lodges in the area. Thus, the experience requires walking safaris and camping. Anyone can visit, but it requires professional outfitting with tents, gear, vehicles and bush skills.

Deeper Adventure's two-week itinerary centers around Burigi National Park. The adventure begins with the mountain gorillas in Rwanda, as Burigi is easily accessible from Rwanda's Kigali International Airport. From there, the expedition moves to active adventure in Burigi National Park and later flies across Lake Victoria for a finale with the Serengeti's migrating mammals, along with lions and other big cats. While Burigi and the Serengeti are on opposite sides of Lake Victoria, the two destinations can be connected via a short flight on a bush plane.

Stretching from Lake Victoria in the East to the Rwandan boundary in the West Burigi-Chato encompasses freshwater lakes, forest-lined valleys, plains, swamps, rivers, flood plains and hundreds of square miles of medium and tall grass wooded savanna. At night, with no artificial light to blight the sky, the starlight is intense. Smith shares, "Most of the park is roadless. It is remarkably peaceful, with no planes

flying, no vehicles driving, and no mechanical or electrical noises. The only sounds are natural, the loudest being hippos bellowing in the night."

The wildlife population includes big cats, elephants, plains antelopes, zebras, giraffes and tropical birds. Because the park is new and visitors are few, the animals are shy around humans. The best time to visit is during the dry season, from June through October. Deeper Adventure recommends traveling in groups of six to 12 persons (smaller groups can be arranged). The outfit offers a range of customizable safari styles to choose from throughout East Africa:

- "The Adventure Safari:" Wildlife immersion with active options such as hiking, biking, canoeing or climbing
- "The Classic Safari:" Leisurely wildlife viewing from a safari 4×4 with traditionally comfortable lodgings
- "The Expedition Safari:" Rugged explorations where few have traveled
- "The Wild & Rewarding:" Starts with outside adventure and ends with a stylish finale at a luxury camp

Rates are inclusive of park fees, road transportation, professional guides and domestic flights within Rwanda and Tanzania. Guests will have the option to add on mountain gorilla trekking out of Kigali, adding three extra days to the safari.

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