

Thank you for your interest in the Abayudaya Jewish Community of Uganda (see: [www.kulanu.org](http://www.kulanu.org))  
 Here is information on our exciting eco-tourism development project now in our 8th year. Space is limited, so please book early.  
 This is a perfect family Jewish heritage trip for all generations. Please forward to all interested parties.

Our travelers rave that this is one of the best experiences of their lives!

**Adventure Travel with the Abayudaya Jews of Uganda & Shalom Tours Uganda**

## **“Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour & Wildlife Safari 2011”**

**Sunday, Jan. 9 - Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011.**

**14 days/13 nights \$3720. PP Double / \$4060. PP Single**

**OPTION 2: JOIN THE MITZVAH TOUR AFTER THE SAFARI**

**Abayudaya Village Tour Only - No Safari: 10 Days/9 nights: Thursday, Jan.13- Sunday, Jan.23  
 \$2355.Double / \$2535. Single**

Note: Airfare, travel insurance, gratuities, & drinks are not included in either package.

Visit with the Abayudaya Jewish community and spend two shabbatot in a rural African village synagogue.

Be honored guests at the fabulous Abayudaya Music and Dance Festival. Experience exciting safari adventures, and a wildlife cruise on the (natural Kazinga Channel which connects two lakes – George and Edward). The “Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour” is led by experienced Abayudaya tour guides. We travel in air-conditioned vans. Accommodations are in friendly hotels & beautiful safari lodges, featuring hearty meals.

Meet the “Delicious Peace” interfaith coffee cooperative. Tour the lovely countryside, (both sections of Queen Elizabeth National Park where we have higher chances of seeing the Tree Climbing Lions), Lake Victoria, Jinja,

Mt. Elgon National Park, Sipi Falls, and Mbale town. Extended Stay Options (additional fees): Take a mountain gorilla trip and/or be long-term community volunteer.

- Meet the Abayudaya Jewish Community! Visit the Abayudaya synagogues and the many Kulanu.org supported mitzvah projects. Learn the history of this amazing community and enjoy the hospitality of Ugandan Jewish families.
- Enjoy an authentic, worldbeat African Jewish Music and Dance Festival, exclusive to this tour.
- Share Ugandan Jewish culture, history and music through talks, celebrations, concerts, and arts and crafts demonstrations. Learn about the ethnic groups, languages, agriculture, economy, as well as unique flora, birds, and wildlife of Uganda.
- Volunteer if you wish, sharing skills with the Abayudaya Community.
- Tour the famous Kulanu- Abayudaya “Delicious Peace” fair trade, interfaith organic coffee project, recently featured in Oprah Magazine. Learn about our other self-help business development and micro-finance projects in remote villages.
- Thrill to fantastic safari adventures in beautiful Queen Elizabeth National Park. Marvel at the sight of baby hippos, elephants, colobus monkeys, warthogs, antelopes, crocodiles, 612 species of birds, and more, all living freely in the national park.
- Cruise on a lovely wildlife viewing boat trip on the Kazinga Channel between Uganda’s Great Lakes. See the source of the magnificent Nile in Jinja town.
- Tour the colorful eastern Ugandan countryside and explore Mt. Elgon National Park, a huge extinct volcano that is one of the grandest mountains in Africa. Visit beautiful mountain top Sipi Falls. Explore ancient Sabinyi Cave
- Visit colorful, bargain-filled arts & crafts markets in Jewish villages, in the bustling capital, Kampala, and in Mbale town.

Best of all, make a personal connection with our friends in this remarkable African Jewish community!

Suggested itinerary. Subject to change. Flights limited! Book now!

Contact: Laura Wetzler (volunteer) [laura@laurawetzler.com](mailto:laura@laurawetzler.com)

Shalom Tour Company, Samson Shadrak Waziwu, Guide

[samson@shalomtoursuganda.com](mailto:samson@shalomtoursuganda.com), [sbshadrak@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sbshadrak@yahoo.co.uk) or [shalomsafaris@gmail.com](mailto:shalomsafaris@gmail.com)

Tel. 011 256 078 2 396 397 (8-5pm Uganda time)

Mailing address: PO Box 225 Mbale, Uganda

[www.shalomtoursuganda.com](http://www.shalomtoursuganda.com) Custom group tours available at other times throughout the year.

**Suggested Itinerary. Subject to Change.**

# Adventure Travel with Shalom Tours Uganda

## “Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour & Wildlife Safari 2011”

Sunday, Jan.9 - Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011. 14 days/13 nights  
1 night Entebbe Hotel, 2 nights Mweya Safari Lodge, 1 Ishasha Lodge, 1 night Sheraton, Kampala,  
8 nights Mt. Elgon Hotel, Mbale,

Sunday Night Arrival Jan. 9

Welcome! Pick up at Uganda Airport.

Meet tour guide Samson Waziwu and Laura Wetzler

Check in and brief orientation.

**Entebbe Hotel**

Monday

**Mweya Safari Lodge Queen Elizabeth National Park**

Early breakfast. Long drive through picturesque hillside villages and colorful markets, gorgeous tea and banana plantations, to Mweya safari lodge. Look for baboons on the way. Check-in.

PM optional Game Drive to see elephants, hippos, crocs, buffalo, storks, warthogs and more.

Tuesday

**Mweya Safari Lodge**

Early AM Game Drive.

PM Game drive or boat trip or relax at the pool

Wednesday

**Ishasha Wilderness Camp**

Early AM Game drive as we transfer to the southern sector of the tree climbing lions, game drive as we check-in or after check-in.

Thursday

**Sheraton Kampala**

Early AM Checkout. With a game drive enroute, today we have higher chances of seeing the Leopard and another chance for the tree climbing lions plus huge migrant elephants from the neighboring Congo.

Transfer to Kampala Sheraton

Friday

**Kampala city tour to Mbale Mt. Elgon Hotel**

Jinja town, source of the Nile. Lunch in Jinja

Drive to Mbale ( 4 hours) Check in/ Dinner at Hotel

6:30 Shabbat EVE Services at Nabagoye Hill

Saturday

**Mbale Mt. Elgon Hotel**

Shabbat service, family visits, meet the community!

Lunch with Abayudaya at Abayudaya Guest House

PM Torah study. Shuttles to hotel.

Dinner at hotel. Havdalah 7pm

Sunday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

AM free time

Lunch at hotel

2-5 PM Meet all community at Nabagoye Hill for The Abayudaya Music & Dance Festival (Including Abayudaya Women's Association & Abayudaya Youth from five villages.)

Monday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

9:30 AM Tour Primary school with Headmaster Aaron Kintu Moses

10:30 AM Tour High School Headmaster Seth Jonadav.

Lunch at Hotel.

2 PM Visit Namonyoni synagogue.

3 PM Coffee Tour: Meet "Delicious Peace" Director JJ Keki in Nangolo.

Tour new "Delicious Peace" Kulanu USAID construction project.

/or free time.

Tuesday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

10:30 AM Visit Namutumba Synagogue

Lunch in Busembatia or Nasenyi.

3PM Visit Nasenyi Synagogue.

Visit with Abayudaya members, including youth and Abayudaya Women's Association in Namutumba and Nasenyi.

Wednesday

**Sipi Falls Day Trip**

Visit beautiful Mt. Elgon National Park.

Sabinyi caves, Sipi Falls.

Thursday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Mitzvah Day (volunteer or free time)

Friday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Mitzvah Day (volunteer or free time)

Saturday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Shabbat service, family visits, meet the community!

Lunch with Abayudaya at Abayudaya Guest House

PM Torah study. Shuttles to hotel.

Dinner at hotel. Havdalah 7pm

Sunday

Check out.

Transfer to Kampala & Entebbe for farewell dinner and evening departure.

Airport check in

## Option 2.

### Abayudaya Village Tour -No Safari

Join the tour Thursday, Jan.13-Jan. 23

1night Sheraton, 8 nights Mt. Elgon Hotel

Thursday

Airport Pick up Sheraton Hotel Shuttle Join the Group at  
**Sheraton Kampala**

Friday

**Kampala city tour to Mbale Mt. Elgon Hotel**

Jinja town, source of the Nile. Lunch in Jinja

Drive to Mbale ( 4 hours) Check in/ Dinner at Hotel

6:30 Shabbat EVE Services at Nabagoye Hill

Saturday

**Mbale Mt. Elgon Hotel**

Shabbat service, family visits, meet the community!

Lunch with Abayudaya at Abayudaya Guest House

PM Torah study. Shuttles to hotel.

Dinner at hotel. Havdalah 7pm

Sunday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

AM free time

Lunch at hotel

2-5 PM Meet all community at Nabagoye Hill for The Abayudaya Music & Dance Festival (Including Abayudaya Women's Association & Abayudaya Youth from five villages.)

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Wednesday

**Sipi Falls Day Trip**

Visit beautiful Mt. Elgon National Park.

Sabinyi caves, Sipi Falls.

Thursday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Mitzvah day

Friday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Volunteer in Abayudaya Community if you wish.

Mitzvah projects such as painting classrooms, adult education workshop or tutoring. TBA

Saturday

**Mt Elgon Hotel**

Shabbat service, family visits, meet the community!

Lunch with Abayudaya at Abayudaya Guest House

PM Torah study. Shuttles to hotel.

Dinner at hotel. Havdalah 7pm

Sunday

Check out. Transfer to Kampala & Entebbe for farewell dinner and evening departure. Airport check in at 6pm

## What to expect on this trip?

The Abayudaya Jewish Community welcomes you to their beautiful country! This is adventure travel, perhaps unlike any you have experienced before. This trip is a project to empower sustainable economic development in the Abayudaya Jewish community through eco-tourism. You may be changed forever. You will be inspired by Africa and her people and moved by the survival of Jewish communal life there. Our wildlife safari lodges and national parks have been featured on Animal Planet and BBC documentaries and will thrill your family.

If you join us, you must be in good health, flexible and ready to deal with changing circumstances with a sense of humor. You may walk as much or as little as you wish. We are traveling in the dry season. Expect occasionally dusty air quality. Remember to drink constantly and enjoy!

Everything has been done to help us be as comfortable as possible, given that we will be traveling by air-conditioned van on dirt roads into agricultural villages, some with no electricity and no running water. Uganda is a developing country. The pace is much slower there.

Bring your camera, binoculars and patience. Expect occasional delays.

Look up our hotels on the internet. Hotels are friendly, modest and clean, with running water and electricity. TV is occasional. Power outages are frequent. Remember that hotels, meals, and ground tour as outlined are all included. **No credit cards. No traveler's checks. Note: Ugandan banks will only exchange spending money in \$50. bills issued after the year 2000.** Please leave expensive jewelry at home.

Food may be different from what you are accustomed to and is influenced by East Indian cuisine. Vegetarian meals are available. Great fish (tilapia, Nile perch) is generally available fresh from Lake Victoria. Kosher Shabbat meals in the Abayudaya community are available. Bring dry protein snacks to keep with you on long road trips.

### What to bring:

Bring a sense of humor. Bring a willingness to learn from our hosts.

Important: Bring spending money in US \$50 bills issued after 2000. Uganda will not cash US bills issued earlier than this date.

No kidding.

No credit cards and no traveler's checks.

Uganda is on the equator. Bring lightweight, easy to rinse out casual summer clothes for adventure travel. Bring a hat. Pack for a very hot climate, with a light jacket for mountainous regions. Wear sneakers or comfortable walking shoes.

Due to space restrictions on the safari van, you are permitted:

**One checked bag**, and leave plenty of room for purchases! African clothing and crafts are beautiful and reasonably priced.

**One carry on bag** including prescription meds, an extra set of clothes, underwear and sundries, in the event of lost baggage.

## Items worthwhile to bring for your own comfort and safety:

Cash in \$50 bills post 2007	Camera and batteries
Passport and visa	Prescription medications <u>in your carry-on bag.</u>
Plane tickets	Medicines, including malaria prophylaxis.
Proof of vaccinations	Our doctor also recommended bringing antibiotics for
Travel belt money holder that fits under your clothes	diarrhea, if needed, headache medicine, nausea meds, a
Lightweight travel slacks and tops	cream for bug bites; a small first aid kit.
Sneakers or comfortable walking shoes	Snacks such as granola bars, trail mix and peanut butter
Refillable water bottle with shoulder	crackers
or belt holder	Daypack: Shoulder bag or small backpack to always have
Flashlight or headlamp (for reading	with you, containing water bottle, tissue, notebook and
at night in low level lighting.)	pen, camera, gifts, granola bar, medicines you might
Bathroom tissue.	need, insect repellent, sunscreen
Hand-wipes and anti-bacterial hand sanitizer	Bathing suit for hotel pools
Sunscreen and sunhat	Travel binoculars, if you are a birdwatcher.
Insect repellent	
A duplicate pair of glasses	

### Suggested Reading List

*The Spectrum Guide to Uganda*, Interlink Books  
*Jews in Places You Never Thought Of*, by Karen Primack, Ktav Publishing  
*CD Shalom, Everybody, Everywhere!* Music by the Abayudaya Jews of Uganda, Kulanu.org  
*Abayudaya Jews of Uganda*, Photos and Text by Richard Sobol; CD Music Annotation by Jeffrey Summit, Abbeville Press  
*CD Music of the Jews of Uganda* Smithsonian Institution  
*National Audubon Society Field Guide to African Wildlife*  
*Lonely Planet Guide to East Africa*, Lonely Planet  
*Field Guide to the Birds of East Africa*, Terry Stevenson and John Fanshawe, T& AD Poyser, London  
 (THE African birders guide but this is a very heavy hard cover!)  
*Birds of Africa* Chris & Tilde Stuart, The MIT Press Cambridge, Massachusetts  
*Jonathan Scott's Safari Guide to East African Birds*, Kensta, PO Box 46309, Nairobi, Kenya

### Support Kulanu's all-volunteer mitzvah work!

Select books, hand-made Judaica crafts and the Abayudaya music CD are available on-line at [www.kulanuboutique.com](http://www.kulanuboutique.com).  
 All proceeds and tax-deductible donations help communities around the world. [www.kulanu.org](http://www.kulanu.org)  
 More Questions?

Contact: **Laura Wetzler** [laura@laurawetzler.com](mailto:laura@laurawetzler.com) (413) 634-5617

## Tour Fees and Cancellation Policy

All contractual agreements are solely with Shalom Tours /Samson Shadrak Waziwu, Abayudaya Guide  
[www.shalomtoursauganda.com](http://www.shalomtoursauganda.com) samson@shalomtoursuganda.com or sbshadrak@yahoo.co.uk

Tel. 011 256 078 2 396 397 (8-5pm Uganda time)

Mailing address: Shalom Tours Uganda PO BOX 1817 MBALE, UGANDA

### **BANK WIRING INFORMATION**

SHALOM SAFARIS UGANDA AGENCY LMD.

BARCLAYS BANK

6001302106.

USD ACCOUNT, BRANCH MBALE

SWIFT CODE BARCUGKX

CODE BANK 024, USB.

Mbale Branch of Barclays Bank

Plot 56/58 Kituntu Road,

Republic Street, P.O Box 1098, Mbale

Fax Number: +256 453 3972

Branch Manager: Monica Oyanga: +256 772 655757 or +256 312 218410/02/02/04

**The cost of the “Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour and Wildlife Safari” is:**

**\$3620. Per Person double occupancy/\$3960. Per Person Single Occupancy.**

**NOTE: Airfare, Travel insurance, drinks and gratuities are additional. To reserve your place choose which tour package, with safari or without, and contact [laura@laurawetzler.com](mailto:laura@laurawetzler.com) (volunteer) and then send your deposit via international bank wire to Shalom Tour Company bank wiring info above.**

**“Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour and Wildlife Safari” Tour Deposit: \$1800. Per Person.**

**NOTE: To avoid delays on arrival in Africa, total balance due must be paid in full by Nov. 15, 2010.**

If cancellation is made **before Nov. 15, 2010**, Shalom Tour Company will refund the \$1800. per person tour deposit **minus 50% (\$900.) per person**, plus charge international bank wiring costs, as a cancellation fee. Due to the fact you are traveling during peak holiday season, hotels and other vendors will not make refunds to the Abayudaya community past a certain date.

**If cancellation is made after Nov. 15, 2010 you will forfeit the total per person tour fee. We urge you to please be certain to get cancellation insurance to cover all your costs.**

**Tour Deposit: \$1800. Per Person**

**NOTE: To avoid delays on arrival in Africa, total balance due must be paid in full by Nov. 15, 2010.**

**The cost of the Option 2 “Abayudaya Village Tour Only” is:**

**\$2255. Per Person Double Occupancy / \$2435. Per person Single Occupancy**

**NOTE: Airfare, Travel insurance, drinks and gratuities are additional.**

**Abayudaya Village Tour Only” Tour Deposit: \$1250. Per person**

**NOTE: To avoid delays on arrival in Africa, total balance due must be paid in full by Nov. 15, 2010.**

Contact [laura@laurawetzler.com](mailto:laura@laurawetzler.com) (volunteer) and then send your deposit via international bank wire to Shalom Tour Company bank wiring info above. “If cancellation is made **before Nov. 15, 2010**, Shalom Tour Company will refund the \$1250. per person tour deposit **minus 50% (\$625.) per person**, plus charge international bank wiring costs, as a cancellation fee. Due to the fact you are traveling during peak holiday season, hotels and other vendors will not make refunds to the Abayudaya community past a certain date.

**If cancellation is made after Nov. 15, 2010 you will forfeit the total per person tour fee. We urge you to please be certain to get cancellation insurance to cover all your costs.**

**“Abayudaya Village Tour Only” Tour Deposit: \$1250. Per person**

**NOTE: To avoid delays on arrival in Africa, total balance due must be paid in full by Nov. 15, 2010.**

## Legal Disclaimer

While Kulanu, a not-for-profit, all-volunteer organization certainly supports the Abayudaya community and is delighted to publicize this trip, this tour and any follow-on activities, including any extended stays with the community or safaris, are not being sponsored by Kulanu. Kulanu and Kulanu volunteers assume no liability of any kind whatsoever with respect to this trip.

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

Booking airfare, (**limited flights; book now!**) acquiring passport, visa, medical vaccinations, and travel insurance (cancellation, medical, evacuation, flight, baggage loss) **is the responsibility of each individual, unless special arrangements are made with your tour leader and travel agent.**

**AIRFARE:** "The Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour & Wildlife Safari " is the basic package. If you choose this option, depending on what city you are flying from, flights must **usually depart from the U.S. via BA to Uganda (EBB) Sat. Jan. 8, 2011 for arrival in Uganda Sunday night, Jan. 9 to meet the tour. You must meet the tour by Sunday night Jan. 9 at Entebbe airport.**

The Abayudaya Village Tour "Only" travelers must arrive Thursday Jan. 13 to meet up with the tour.

**Other arrangements will incur additional fees and disrupt the tour.**

Deborah at The Travel Loft: 1888 843-5638, travloft@verizon.net for best flights and best rates.

## What to do first?

1) **BOOK TOUR NOW:** Contact Laura Wetzler [laura@laurwetzler.com](mailto:laura@laurwetzler.com) 413 6345617 9am-3pm EST to check availability and email your detailed contact information. **CHOOSE LONG OR SHORT TOUR.**

After being in touch with Laura, wire your .correct deposit outlined above to Shalom Tour Company at their bank in Uganda (wiring info above) to place reservations immediately. "Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour and Wildlife Safari" and "The Abayudaya Village Tour Only" is contracted solely with Shalom Tour Company and reservations are by deposit.

## 2) BOOK AIRFARE IMMEDIATELY:

Depending on what city you are flying from, flights must usually depart from the U.S. via **BA to Uganda (EBB) Sat. Jan. 8, 2010 with a stop in London, to arrive in Uganda Sunday NIGHT, Jan. 9 2011** to meet our tour. The Abayudaya Village Tour "Only" travelers must arrive in Uganda Thursday Jan. 13 to meet up with the tour.

**Other arrangements will incur additional fees and possibly disrupt your tour.**

Contact: Deborah Walsh at 1888 843 5638 [travloft@verizon.net](mailto:travloft@verizon.net) The Travel Loft, Amherst, MA, or other travel agent of your choice. The Travel Loft is has info regarding possible wholesale costs and the best flight arriving on time to meet the tour in Uganda. Please book your airfare as soon as possible to get the best rates. Inform Laura of your flight.

## 3) PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is a must and is available through The Travel Loft, [travloft@verizon.net](mailto:travloft@verizon.net) (413) 256-6481; or [www.InsureMyTrip.com](http://www.InsureMyTrip.com), or other agent of your choice. Please review all details of trip cancellation terms.

## 4) GET YOUR TRAVEL VACCINATIONS STARTED:

Some vaccinations and anti-malarial medications require multiple doses over a period of months previous to travel. Consult your travel medicine specialist or CDC for current requirements for Uganda immediately.

## 5) GET YOUR PASSPORT:

Allow ample time for normal processing. Check with your U.S. Post Office.

## 6) GET YOUR UGANDA TOURISTVISA in the US or at the Entebbe Airport if you prefer. Cost \$50.

**Allow ample time for normal processing direct to Washington DC: [www.ugandaembassy.com](http://www.ugandaembassy.com).** Or tourist visas are also available at Uganda House near the UN in NYC, overnight.

Also available through Duke's Visa Service, 2651 Connecticut Ave. Suite 202, Washington, DC 20008 (202) 667-7445/ fax (202) 667-7023; [dbrobby@aol.com](mailto:dbrobby@aol.com) or another service of your choice for a fee.

**Looking forward to sharing this great experience with you and your family!**

"Jewish Life in Uganda Mitzvah Tour & Wildlife Safari 2011"

Shalom Tour Company. Samson Shadrak Waziwu, Guide [samson@shalomtoursuganda.com](mailto:samson@shalomtoursuganda.com), [shalomsafaris@gmail.com](mailto:shalomsafaris@gmail.com) or [sbshadrak@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sbshadrak@yahoo.co.uk)  
Tel. 011 256 078 2 396 397 (8-5pm Uganda time) Mailing address: PO Box 225 Mbale, Uganda