

KIVU QUEEN

uBuranga



A Mantis Waterway Experience

Mantis luxury hotels, eco-lodges, and waterways are dream holiday and vacation experiences located around the world. Created by Adrian Gardiner, Mantis grew from a humble vision to create travel experiences where man and nature co-exist sustainably. Sustainable travellers have been enjoying eco-tourism, safaris, and adventure travel with Mantis since 2000.

Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga

Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga is a one-of-a-kind luxury expedition vessel that allows you to explore the stunning African Great Lake, Lake Kivu. This magnificent lake forms Rwanda's western boundary and is renowned for its thriving fishing industry, preserving the traditional methods of the Rwandan people. As you sail on either the 2 or 3-night itinerary, you'll be immersed in the splendour of the Kivu belt, filled with lush flora, diverse fauna, and enchanting nature trails.

Prepare for an unforgettable adventure as you embark on our carefully curated excursions. Traverse the hilly, subtropical terrain hiking, revealing endless natural wonders to captivate your senses. Explore the smaller islands on Lake Kivu, including Napoleon, Teddy Bear, Monkey, and Peace Islands, during a memorable guided excursion. Engage with local fishing communities and discover their traditional fishing techniques, as well as the melodious songs they sing at dusk while preparing for their evening catch.

One of the highlights of the journey is the unique opportunity to connect with nature by visiting the chimpanzees in the Nyungwe Forest National Park and majestic gorillas in the Volcanoes National Park pre or post your Lake Kivu sailing.

Unique selling features

All-inclusive luxury expedition vessel on Lake Kivu
Connecting both Nyungwe Forest and Volcanoes National Parks primate experiences
Exclusive island and cultural immersion excursions

Accommodation

10 modern cabins consisting of:
6 standard cabins (17m²)
2 deluxe cabins (24m²)
2 executive suites (30m²)

Cabin facilities

King-size bed (convertible to twin)
Air-conditioning
En suite bathroom (shower only)
Electronic safe
Gown and slippers

Boat features

Dining area
Bar
Splash pool
Jacuzzi (Executive floor only)

Services

Daily turndown service
Complimentary Wi-Fi

Weather, Seasons & Time Zone

Rwanda generally has a temperate tropical highland climate. The two rainy seasons in a year are from mid-February to May and mid-September to mid-December. The dry season, from June to mid-September, sees light cloud cover and occasional light rainfall. In every season, Rwanda has its diverse climates making it an ideal tourist destination. Rwanda operates on Central Africa Time (CAT), which is UTC/GMT+2.

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Activities

Guided walks
Bird watching
Kayaking
Boat excursions

Policies

Check-in: 1 hour prior to departure
All cabins are non-smoking
No children under the ages of 12 years

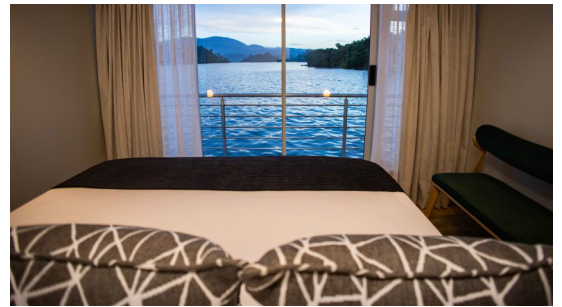
It's all in the location

Lake Kivu is Rwanda's largest lake and the sixth largest in Africa. The lake marks the border between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and covers a surface area of 2,700 square kilometres. Its calm waters offer a serene and picturesque setting for both novice and experienced sailors. Gentle breezes are common, providing a pleasant experience, and brilliant sunsets can be expected around 6pm each evening. Explore Lake Kivu's fancifully named islands while also enjoying sunset or sunrise cruises that offer breathtaking views. Traverse the hilly, subtropical terrain hiking, revealing endless natural wonders to captivate your senses. One of the highlights of the journey is the unique opportunity to connect with nature by trekking both chimpanzees in Nyungwe National Park and majestic gorillas in Volcanoes National Park before or after your Kivu Queen uBuranga experience.

Address

Daily international flights to Kigali.
Kivu Queen scheduled itinerary:

- Saturday's sailing south bound from Gisenyi (Rubavu) 2-night sailing to Nyamasheke.
Embarkation/disembarkation is Rubavu Port, for directions click [here](#). Rubavu Port is approximately 1-hour from Volcanoes National Park and 4- hours drive directly from Kigali.
- Tuesday's sailing north bound from Nyamasheke 3-night sailing to Gisenyi.
Embarkation/disembarkation near Nyamasheke, for directions click [here](#), approximately 1-hour drive from Kamambe Airport.



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2-night itinerary

Departure every Saturday South bound from Gisenyi 2-nights to Nyamasheke.

DAY 1

2pm - Embarkation: Board the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga by tender boat from Rubavu Port in the Rubavu District (also known as Gisenyi). Rubavu Port is a mere 10km from the Volcanoes National Park.

3pm- Sail to Kinunu Bay: A 4 hour cruise through the tranquil waters of Lake Kivu, where lush hills, charming villages, and majestic mountains create a stunning backdrop for an unforgettable journey

First night onboard: Delight in a serene overnight stay surrounded by the calming ambiance of the lake - and be sure to catch the stunning sunset.

DAY 2

7am - Mwaramutse: Awaken your senses with a morning coffee and a refreshing start to your day as we set sail from Kinunu and sail to Karongi.

10am - Embark on a guided hike and summit Napoleon Island. Back on the lake, enjoy a guided tour by tender boat of Lake Kivu's, Monkey, Peace and Teddy Bear Islands, each with a unique significance.

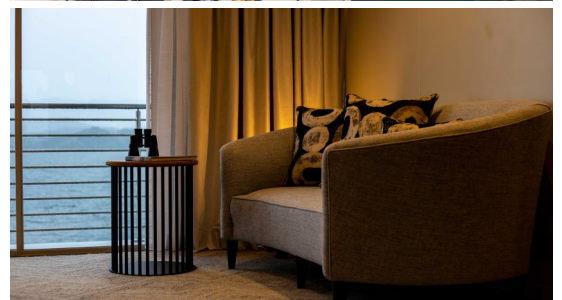
Back onboard, guests have the opportunity to wild swim in the lake or enjoy some kayaking and bird watching. Depart to the south, sailing to Kumbya.

DAY 3

7am - We set sail and make our way to Nymasheke.

11am - Nyamasheke disembarkation: After a sumptuous breakfast, the team will bid you farewell.

Note: Itineraries are subject to change based on weather conditions and unforeseen circumstances.



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3-night itinerary

Departure every Tuesday North bound from Nyamasheke 3-nights to Gisenyi.

DAY 1

2pm - Embarkation: Board the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga in Nyamasheke and let your adventure begin.

Sail to Kumbya: Cruise through the tranquil waters of Lake Kivu, experiencing the scenic beauty as you make your way to where the smaller lake islands are located.

When moored, guests can enjoy wild swimming in the lake, or paddle out with the kayaks available.

DAY 2

7am - Depart Kumbya sailing to Karongi.

10am - On arrival in Karongi, embark on a guided hike and summit Napoleon Island. Back on the lake, enjoy a guided tour by tender boat of Lake Kivu's, Monkey, Peace and Teddy Bear Islands, each with a unique significance.

Back onboard, guests have the opportunity to wild swim in the lake or enjoy some kayaking and bird watching.

DAY 3

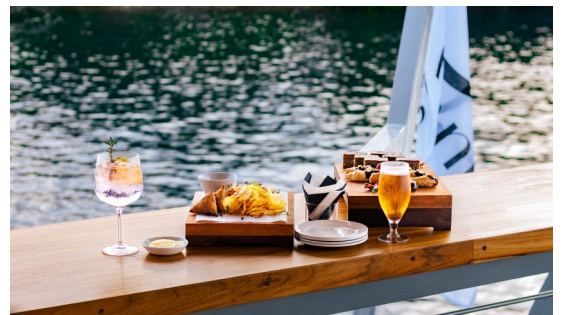
7am - Depart Karongi and set sail through the tranquil waters to Kinunu.

10am - Arrive in Kinunu and join a morning tour at a local Coffee Washing Station. Immerse yourself in the world of coffee from how it is harvested to how they produce the famous Rwanda coffee.

Back onboard, guests have the opportunity to wild swim in the lake or enjoy some kayaking and bird watching.

DAY 4

Note: Itineraries are subject to change based on weather conditions and unforeseen circumstances.



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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga

1. What are the unique features of the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

The Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga is a luxury expedition vessel with features like a dining area, bar, splash pool, and a Jacuzzi (exclusive to the executive floor). It offers a unique opportunity to explore Lake Kivu and connects both Nyungwe Forest and Volcanoes National Parks primate experiences.

2. What types of cabins are available on board, and what are their facilities?

The accommodation includes 6 standard cabins (17m²), 2 deluxe cabins (24m²), and 2 executive suites (30m²). Cabin facilities include a king-size bed (convertible to twin), air-conditioning, en-suite bathroom (shower only), electronic safe, gown, and slippers.

3. What activities are offered during the journey?

Guests can enjoy guided walks, bird watching, kayaking, and boat excursions while sailing on Lake Kivu.

4. Are there any age restrictions for passengers?

Yes, the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga has a policy of no children under the age of 12 years.

5. How is the weather on Lake Kivu, and when is the best time to visit?

Rwanda generally has a temperate tropical highland climate. Lake Kivu experiences two rainy seasons (mid-Feb to May and mid-Sept to mid-Dec) and a dry season (June to mid-Sept). The lake offers calm waters, gentle breezes, and brilliant sunsets, providing a pleasant experience.

6. What is the check-in time and location for embarkation/disembarkation?

Check-in is 1 hour prior to departure. Embarkation/disembarkation locations vary based on the sailing itinerary. For example, Rubavu Port is used for Saturday's south-bound sailing, and Nyamasheke is used for Tuesday's north-bound sailing.

7. How can I book a journey on the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

You can make reservations by contacting +250 78 8377 775 or emailing kivuqueen.reservations@manticollection.com. Additionally, you can book online at Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga on Accor Hotels.

8. What is the address of the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

The boat operates from Rubavu Port, which is approximately 1 hour from Volcanoes National Park and 4 hours directly from Kigali. Daily international flights to Kigali are available.

9. Can the itinerary change?

Yes, itineraries are subject to change based on weather conditions and unforeseen circumstances. The safety and comfort of guests are a priority.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga

10. What are the unique selling features of the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

The vessel is an all-inclusive luxury expedition on Lake Kivu, connecting primate experiences in Nyungwe Forest and Volcanoes National Parks. Exclusive island and cultural immersion excursions are also offered.

11. Where are the pick-up locations for the North-Bound and South-Bound sailings of Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

North-Bound Sailing (Tuesday)

Pick-up Location: Nyamasheke

Description: The embarkation/disembarkation point for the north-bound sailing is in Nyamasheke. Guests can use the provided map link for directions. The location is approximately a 1-hour drive from Kamembe Airport.

South-Bound Sailing (Saturday)

Pick-up Location: Rubavu (Gisenyi)

Description: For the south-bound sailing, embarkation/disembarkation takes place in Rubavu (Gisenyi). The provided map link can be used for directions. Rubavu Port is around 10 km from the Volcanoes National Park and approximately 4 hours' drive directly from Kigali.

12. Can I bring my own food and alcohol onboard the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

To maintain the high standards of service and safety, our vessel features a licensed bar offering a curated selection of beverages. In accordance with regulations and to ensure a consistent and enjoyable experience for all guests, we kindly request that no private alcohol be brought onboard. Our licensed bar is well-equipped to cater to a variety of preferences, providing a delightful array of drinks for you to savor during your journey.

13. Can we check out late or stay past the check-out time on the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga?

We understand that sometimes you may want to extend your time on the vessel, and we'll do our best to accommodate your request. If available, late check-out can be arranged for a fee of \$50 per hour per room after the standard check-out time. Please note that late check-out is subject to availability, and arrangements should be made in advance with our attentive staff. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience for all guests.

14. Are any of the activities mandatory during the Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga journey?

No, none of the activities are mandatory. Your experience with us is designed to be entirely flexible, allowing you the freedom to choose how you spend your time onboard. Whether you prefer to immerse yourself in guided walks, bird watching, kayaking, or simply enjoy the tranquility of the surroundings, the decision is entirely yours. We want your journey to be as relaxing and personalized as possible.