Uganda Charity Tours

...where travel and humanity meet

The Pearl of Africa

Uganda is gifted by nature. From the splendor of the <u>Murchison falls on the Nile</u> – the longest river in Africa, only second to River Rhine in the world – to the thrilling game driving in the <u>Queen Elizabeth National Park</u> in the great East African rift valley. From bird watching on the boat cruise on the Kazinga channel to <u>Gorilla tracking</u> in Bwindi Impenetrable Rainforest. Did I mention <u>Kibale Forest National Park</u>, the home to the biggest primate density in East Africa? Did I mention watching giraffes and Zebras graze the grasslands in <u>Kidepo Valley National Park</u>? What about the diverse cultures engraved in the hospitality of the people, <u>cultural monuments</u>, and <u>historical sites</u>?

Whether you're planning your first Africa tour or a return visit, one person or a group, Uganda will offer you a lifetime experience. From the moment you land at Entebbe International Airport on the shores of Lake Victoria and feel the breeze from the second biggest freshwater lake in the world, you will get the sense that Uganda is truly the Pearl of Africa.

Yet this country experiences one of the biggest social tragedies. Uganda is one of the poorest countries in the world with the majority of its 48.5 million people not able to afford two meals a day. Almost half (45%) of Uganda's population is below the age of 15. Young people from the country's poor population find it difficult to access an education. Due to poverty and gender inequalities, 40% of girls in Uganda are married off underage where they face a higher risk of domestic violence. Only one in 10 girls is able to return to school after giving birth. The World Bank estimates that Uganda could save up to USD 3 billion by 2030 if child marriages were eliminated, and the country's productivity would be much higher if girls delayed marriage to their 20s and acquired a skill and worked.

An Unconventional Tourism Expedition

The **UgandaCharityTours** give travelers to Uganda no ordinary tourism adventure but a **captivating** travel expedition and the **opportunity to serve humanity** by donating to the **Brian Mutebi Dream** Scholarship Fund through which scholarships are awarded to girls at-risk of child marriage, survivors of violence, and orphans. While we award scholarships to boys, we pay special attention to girls because, despite the gains over the last decade, significant barriers such as poverty, early marriages, cultural and social practices, gender inequalities, and unsafe or unwelcoming learning environments continue to inhibit girls from enrolling in school at all levels and reaching pivotal learning milestones. The Fund is managed by the charity Education & Development Opportunity—Uganda (EDOU).

A combination of adventure and the opportunity to make a **real difference in the lives of those who otherwise have no hope of attaining education** is the reason Uganda should be your preferred travel destination. We ensure that by the time you complete your expedition to the country, you truly have no substitute for the senses of adventure and inexplicable fulfillment. With the **UgandaCharityTours**, you get much more than adventure. It is more than travel; it is where travel and humanity meet.

Partners and Ambassadors Connecting Willing Hearts to the Need

It is more than donating money; it is transforming lives. Travelers to Uganda who voluntarily sign up for the **UgandaCharityTours** become our Partners and Charity Ambassadors. A Partner donates to the Fund through which scholarships are awarded. Ambassadors share this cause with people in their networks and urge them to support our work. Ambassadors connect willing hearts to the area of practical need. Brian started EDOU aged 26 years. We seek Partners and Charity Ambassadors in 26 countries: the United States, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Finland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Australia, New Zealand, Poland, Denmark, Italy, Ireland, France, Poland, Estonia, Hungary, Georgia, Portugal, Luxemburg, South Korea, and Japan.

Partners and Charity Ambassadors help:

- Contact individuals, families, churches, philanthropists, companies, charities, and foundations and urge them to donate to the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund.
- Organize fundraising events in their counties, cities, states, or countries.
- Connect platforms where scholarship recipients can share their stories with a global audience.
- Incorporate the charity that manages the Fund in their respective states or countries.
- Mobilize for the UgandaCharityTours where Partners and Ambassadors annually visit Uganda for a tourism expedition and experience firsthand how their donations are transforming lives.

Come let's transform lives together

Please contact us at charitytours@edouganda.org or on WhatsApp at +256701378219. Alternatively, you could plan your tour through any of our two tour and travel partner companies: Maranatha Tour and Travel or Mirembe Tours and Travel, or use the services of your favorite travel agency and connect with us in Uganda. Come, let's transform lives together!

About us, Conceiving the Dream

Education & Development Opportunity – Uganda (EDOU) is the charity that manages the **Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund**. EDOU is incorporated and operating in Uganda since 2009. Founded by <u>award-winning women's rights campaigner</u>, Brian Mutebi, EDOU's mission is to transform lives. Our work is deeply rooted in our strong conviction about man's primary responsibility of serving humanity. We take up the case of strangers. We are the father to the fatherless. We answer he who called and none assisted him. We make the widow's heart sing.

"Orphaned at 10 and brought up by my peasant grandmother, I nearly dropped out of school when my grandmother could no longer afford the cost of my education. Along this difficult journey, however, I met Good Samaritans who held my hand up. Thanks to their support through school, I became the first graduate in my village in 2007 when I graduated with a Bachelor of Tourism Management from Makerere University! My journey of grace had made me understand everyone needs a hand extended to them so they could realize their dreams. I wanted to do something that would make a real difference in the lives of people. I conceived a Dream. It was a joyful burden on my heart – joyful because the thought of transforming lives was pleasant to the mind yet a burden because I didn't know how it would turn into a life-transforming reality. A pen and paper, I had, however. I wrote down my dream. Convinced that education is key to transforming lives, in 2012, I sold my land worth \$1,500 and started the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund for girls at-risk, violence survivors, and orphans."

Our Impact: Her Story

In 2019, we marked 10 years of transforming lives in Uganda. Since its inception, the Fund has awarded 50 scholarships to pupils and students in primary and secondary schools and at universities.

Lisa, 25, lived with her mother, a single mother who struggled to take care of her and her 3 siblings. Her father abandoned them in a rented house in a Kampala slum. "Knowing that my mother could not afford to pay for my university education, I looked up scholarships. There is no single lead that I did not follow but all was in vain. I lost all hope until the opportunity came through the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund. I have never been so excited," Lisa said. In 2015, Lisa, a GBV survivor, was the first university recipient of the Brian Mutebi Dream scholarship. In January 2020, she graduated from Makerere University with a Bachelor of Laws. Today Lisa is a practicing lawyer in Kampala.

Margaret is a 20-year-old who was at risk of being married off after she and her three brothers dropped out of school for lack of school fees. Her parents are peasants in rural Uganda, and her mother was terminally ill for two years, which drained the meager family incomes. "The piece of land we leased from a neighbor was too small to farm to get school fees. My relatives suggested to my parents that I should be married off saying that it was a waste of money in the first place to take me to school. Luckily, I got a scholarship from Education & Development Opportunity - Uganda; it was God-sent! Now I have a bright future ahead of me," she said. Margaret was awarded the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship in 2019, and in 2021 excelled in her end-of-high-school exams. She joined the university in 2022.

Management and Governance

EDOU is governed by a Board of Directors, comprised of the charity's founding directors. The Board is advised by the Advisory Council comprised of experienced professionals in management, finance, and development work. The Board supervises the Management Team headed by the Executive Director. To ensure that we live to the promise of being good stewards of people's generosity, generally accepted accounting principles are followed in keeping our books of accounts, following our core values of Accountability and Integrity. EDOU's books of accounts are audited by independent external auditors who are given autonomy to exercise their duties and express a professional opinion on the financial statement of the organization. The audit reports are shared with our partners.

Knowledge Management

We apply a robust knowledge management framework involving documentation of project activities, challenges, impact, key learnings, and best practices, and share reports with partners. We use the media – both mainstream and social to share the impact of our work, while respecting the rights to privacy of our partners and beneficiaries, according to our partnership code and Child Protection Policy.

UgandaCharityTours

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Partner Tour and Travel Companies:

Mirembe Tours and Travel: geraldexg@gmail.com Maranatha Tours and Travel: info@adventureugandasafaris.com