



THE VOYAGE

Iniva

WILDERNESS

8 Day Itinerary
Nyanga & Tchibanga
Great Ape Circuit

2026/2027

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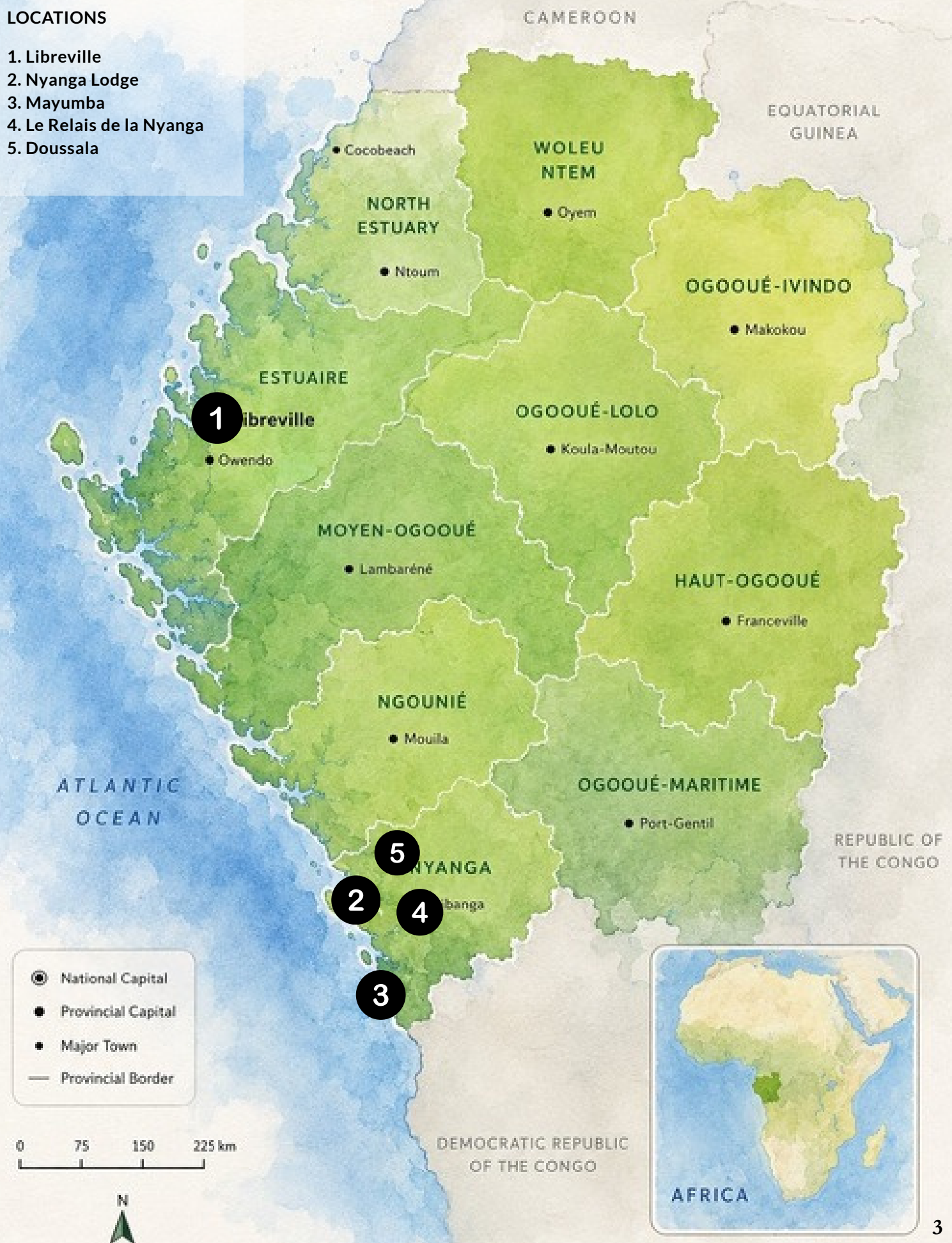
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GABON



LOCATIONS

1. Libreville
2. Nyanga Lodge
3. Mayumba
4. Le Relais de la Nyanga
5. Doussala



recommended packing

Attention: ←
Doxycycline
causes sun
sensitivity

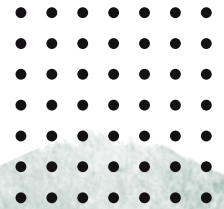
Yellow Fever Vaccination cards	Passport & entry authorisation letter/ visa	Insect repellent & sunscreen	Band-aids & basic first aid medications
Malaria meds - optional.	Small pack of wet wipes & a couple facemasks	Soft shell luggage	Large waterproof bag/ziplock
Hat & sunglasses	Adaptors (we use EU plug points)	Headlamp & battery chargers	Phone charger, adaptors (French) & cameras
Cash; FCFA/Euros preferable	flip flops	Walking shoes (ideally ones that dry quickly)	Neutral colour shirts (Long sleeve & short sleeve)
2 x Long pants (neutral colour) for bush walks	Socks, Underwear, swimming attire	1 x Waterproof jacket 1 x Light Jumper	Neutral colour shorts
Small Backpack	Binoculars	Toiletries	Fishing tackle & gear if needed

DAY 1

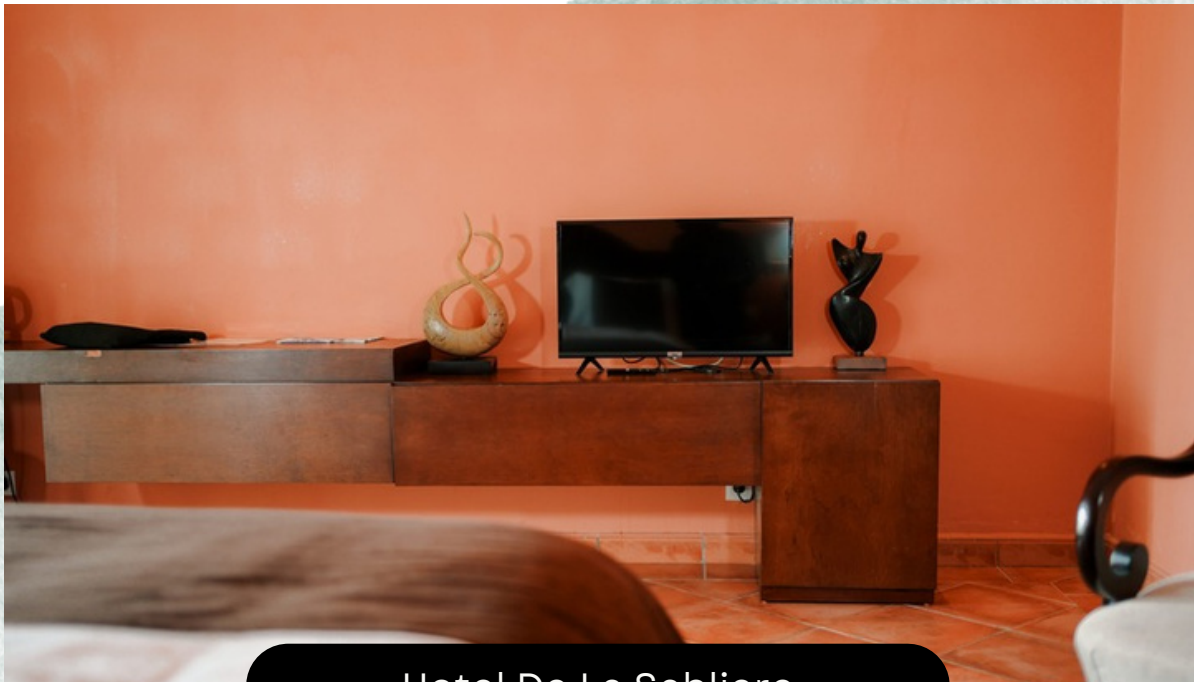
Arrive at Leon Mba International Airport. This is the recommended location for foreign exchange for the duration of your trip. ATM's are unreliable and cash is king throughout Gabon.

Transport will be waiting for you at the airport with an 'Iniva' sign, to take you to your hotel Residence du Phare.

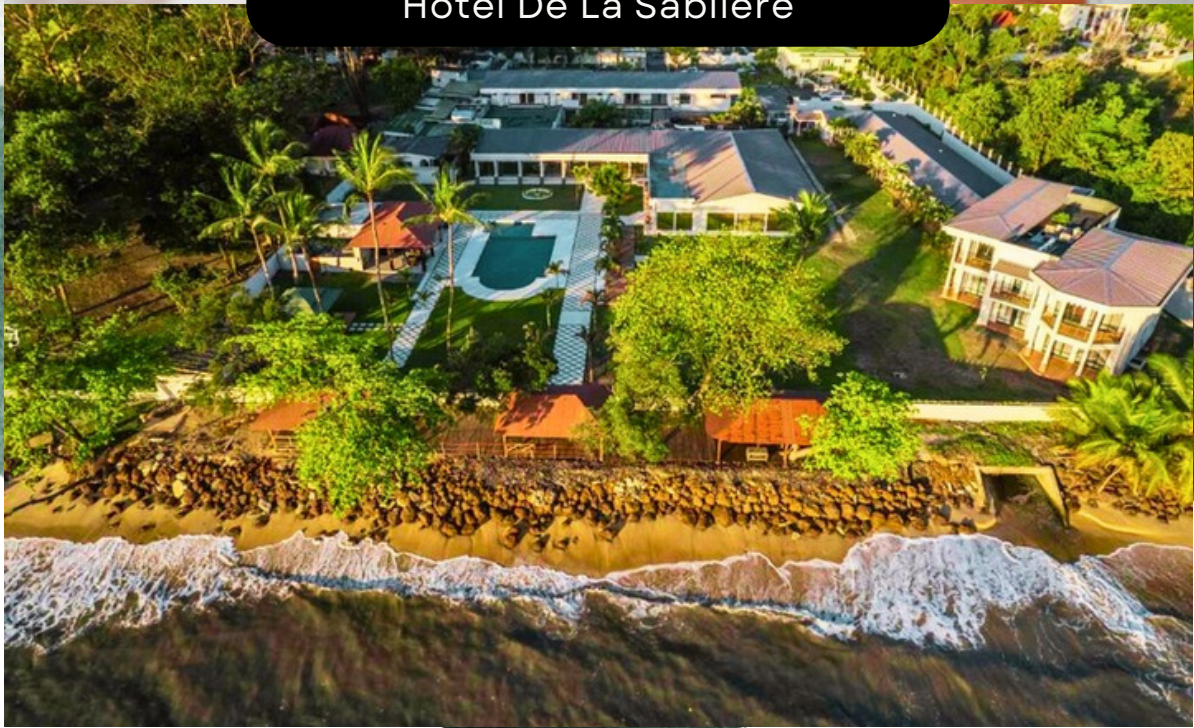
Take a walk along the beach, stop to have a couple cold beers and enjoy a relaxing evening before your adventure into the heart of Gabon begins.



Libreville



Hotel De La Sabliere



DAY 2

GABON FROM THE AIR

07h45: After a well deserved sleep, a hearty fresh croissant and hot coffee filled breakfast awaits you at the restaurant on the beach

08h30: Your driver will collect you from your hotel to take you to your charter flight (10min drive)

09h30: Depart LBV for Gamba Airport and enjoy some low level flying. There are no assigned seats and general plenty of room, so grab a window seat so that you can take in all the sights of Gabon's virgin rainforests and mammoth river systems en route. (55min flight)

10h30: Arrive in Gamba and transfer by car to Mayonami Village (40min drive).

11h15: Arrive in Mayonami, have a brief wander around the village to see the local delicacies for sale before jumping into a small boat for a brief mangrove forest safari before arriving at Mougagara to meet the village chief.

11h45: Opening ceremony led by the chief at the forest entrance. Small donations of €7 are encouraged.

12h15: Continue by boat through the river and mangrove system to Nyanga Lodge (15min)

NYANGA LODGE

12h30: Arrive at Nyanga Lodge. Uniquely located on a peninsula between the Nyanga Lodge and the Atlantic Ocean, the area is renowned for turtle nesting, birding, marine life and it's great ape population. It is the first lodge of its kind within Moukalaba-Doudou National Park and unlike other national parks in Gabon, you can watch Humpback whales calving from the balcony of your luxury tent.

A 3 course lunch will be ready on your arrival and give the staff the chance to deliver all your luggage to your rooms. If you have not done so already, let the managers know about any dietary restrictions you may have.

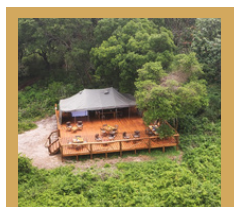
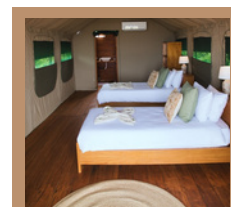
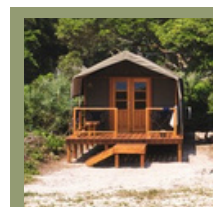


13h30: After lunch and a briefing from the Managers, get settled in your rooms. Configured as either a king or twin bed as per your request, you can refresh, unpack, and relax.

15h30: Grab a drink at the bar and a bottle of water and set off for an afternoon boat safari, exploring the mangroves and travelling upriver between the savannahs and virgin rainforests, will likely encounter hippos, all 3 species of crocodile, forest buffalo, incredible birdlife and a chance of seeing snorkeling elephants

17h45: Return to the lodge and refresh.

18h30: Have a cocktail followed by a 3 course dinner on the viewing deck and a solid night's sleep.



Moukalaba DouDou National Park

Nyanga Lodge

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES



Throughout the year, Nyanga Lodge will host various leading experts in different fields to promote greater understanding and deeper experiences in Gabon of it's culture and wild areas. The concept of this approach is to provide travellers to Gabon with lasting impressions that are less broadly available elsewhere in Africa to the general public.

At particular times of the year, aiming to emphasise the impact of the experiences, groups of no more than 14 guests will be guided and in certain activities trained, in immersive experiences and projects over 6 days in the topics listed on this page. For those not wishing to participate in the full immersive experience, there will be a daily activity option to participate too.

For the purpose of this itinerary, we have incorporated whale watching as an activity rather than the retreat.

Jan	Sea Turtle Research Retreat
Feb	Great Ape Research Retreat
Mar	Community Upliftment Project
Apr	Wilderness Survival Week
May	Advanced Jungle Tracking
Jun	Primitive forest trail
Jul	Primitive Forest Trail
Aug	Humpback Whale Research Retreat
Sep	Advanced Birding
Oct	N/A: Fishing season
Nov	N/A: Fishing season
Dec	Sea Turtle Research Retreat

Nyanga Lodge	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Elephants on the beach	*	*	**	**	**	***	***	**	*	*	*	*
Long Dry season						**	***	***	***	*		
Humpback whales						*	***	***	**	*		
Sea turtle nesting/hatching	***	***	**							**	***	***
Chimpanzees	**	*	*	*	**	**	***	***	***	***	**	**
Gorilla trekking	***	***	***	***	***	**	*	*	**	***		***
Bird watching season	*	*	*	*	**	***	***	***	***	***	**	*
Fishing season	***	***	**	*	*	*	*	**	***	***	***	***
Tarpon season	***	***	**	*				**	***	***	***	***

NYANGA BUCKET LIST



CHIMPANZEE



FOREST
BUFFALO



MANDRILL



LOWLAND
GORILLAS



RED RIVER
HOGS



MOUSTACHE
MONKEY



FOREST
ELEPHANT



LEOPARD



CROWNED
MONKEY



FASSA
WATERBUCK

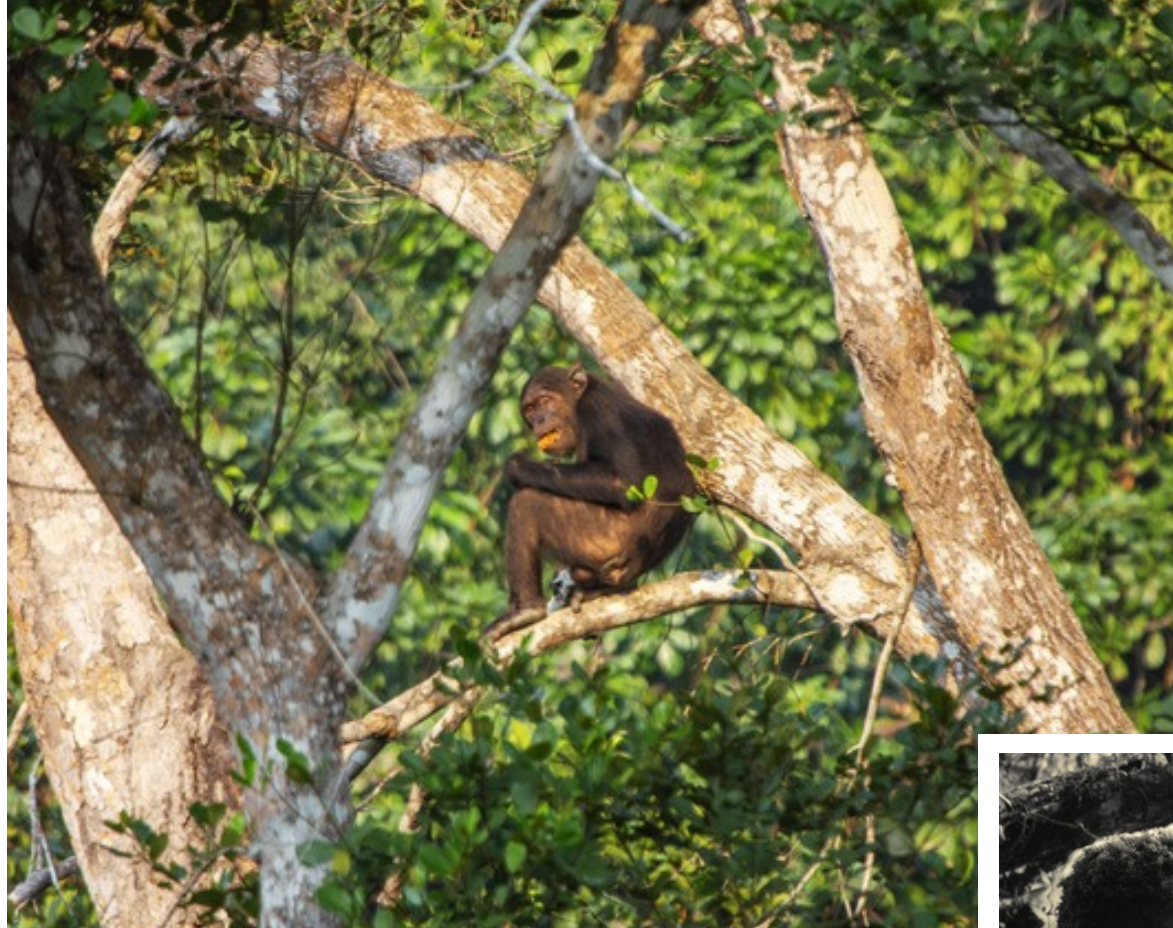


RED CAPPED
MANGABEY



HIPPO

DAY 3



WILD CHIMP TRACKING

Moukalaba Dou-Dou is locally referred to as 'The Great Ape' National Park, boasting the highest density of wild Western Lowland Gorillas and Chimpanzees, and hosting substantial populations of the other primate species in Gabon.

Under the guidance of Dimitri, our head guide and a seasoned Gorilla and Chimpanzee researcher and Francois, one of the most well known Babongo Pygmy trackers in Gabon, Francois, guests will track and learn how to track the various primates of Gabon. A part of this experience also involves setting and checking our system of camera traps in partnership with our Great Ape Research Team which we use to monitor the troops of Chimpanzees in the area. During this excursion, guests have an outstanding chance of encountering wild troops of primates whilst learning about the behaviours, environment and threats and encountering other animal species along the way.

All proceeds go to funding the project.

06h30: Light breakfast

07h00: Depart for safari on foot

10h00: Return for full breakfast

13h00: Lunch

15h00: Walking safari in another part of the reserve tracking the primates of the park, Forest Elephants & other species

17h30: Return to the lodge & refresh

18h30: Cocktails

19h00: Dinner

DAY 4

Traditional Gabonese culture is incredibly rich and diverse, shaped by over 40 distinct ethnic groups, each with its own languages, customs, music, and spiritual practices. The area around Nyanga Lodge is predominantly inhabited by the Punu people, one of the major Bantu-speaking ethnic groups in the region. The Punu are known for their deep connection with the natural world, especially the forest, which is central to their identity - making the area particularly meaningful in both ecological and cultural terms. Today will be centrally focused on gaining an authentic insight into the local culture and traditions.



07h30: Breakfast on the deck.

08h15: Depart for a forest walk to discover the local medicinal and edible plants. Your guide will give you the opportunity to taste the fresh forest fruits as you go as well as gather particular herbs and foods which will be used in your traditional lunch

10h45: Return to the lodge to refresh and relax

LOCALLY GROWN



12h00: A traditional lunch by chef Claude: This is one of the camp staff's favourite activities as they all contribute to your meal. Featuring freshly caught fish by our fishing guides, the forest herbs, fruits and vegetables collected during your morning walk, bisap syrup made by our housekeepers and top it all off with a taste of fresh Palm Wine from your service staff's family. Each individual will give you a small insight into how these foods are prepared in their homesteads.

CULTURE & TRADITIONS

15h00: After some well needed time to digest, depart for the local village up the river. Discover how most of the small villages of Gabon function and survive.

Inhabited by 15 people, this is considered a typical sized settlement in remote Gabon. Discover how a village of this size sustains itself and their living environment as they welcome you into their homes. The elder of the village will willingly share some insight into their spiritual beliefs of the area before his wife will offer everyone a herbal tea. After this, the elder will begin the Mwiri mask tradition where you will witness the use of traditional masks, clothing and dance as they ask for a blessing from the ancestors for you wisdom, protection, health, and peace.

17h30: Return to the lodge.



18h30: Beers on the deck with the team. Our team come from all different walks of life and tribes. This is a great opportunity to ask questions and get to know the cultural differences of Gabon

19h30: Dinner on the viewing deck

CONTINUED DAY 4



INIVA & AFRIQAPES PROJECT

Our commitment to sustainability goes beyond tourism, extending to conservation projects that protect Gabon's most remote wilderness. In December 2025, Iniva partnered with Afrique Apes to support the study of wild Western Lowland Gorillas and Chimpanzees living in complete isolation in the south of the country.

These gorillas are unhabituated, observed without altering their natural behaviour. Encounters are rare, unpredictable, and deeply moving—offering a powerful contrast to later experiences with habituated groups. Today you travel south to Mayumba National Park, to take part in meaningful research while witnessing primates as they have existed for generations: cautious, untamed, and truly wild.

07h00: Breakfast and pack your bags

08h10: Depart for Mayumba National Park (1hr) before taking a boat through the maze of rivers and mangroves to the research station (40min)

09h45: Have a briefing by the head researcher before beginning the tracking experience

13h30: Packed lunch

+14h30: Transfer to Le Relais de la Nyanga Hotel in Tchibanga

16h15: Arrive at the hotel and enjoy the evening to yourselves. Option to explore the markets of the town center (request a taxi from reception)

DAY 5

€170pp

LE RELAIS DE LA NYANGA



Tchibanga is a key location in exploring the southern areas of Gabon and for those travelling from Sette Cama, Nyanga and Libreville.

Le Relais de la Nyanga is a recently renovated hotel in Tchibanga, Gabon, set on a hilltop with beautiful views over the Nyanga River. Reopened in 2024, it offers 27 modern rooms with air conditioning, private bathrooms, and many with balconies overlooking the landscape.

The hotel features a restaurant serving local and international cuisine, a bar, free Wi-Fi, gardens, and a tennis court.

It's a convenient and comfortable base for exploring nearby highlights like Moukalaba-Doudou National Park, home to Doussala for the habituated Lowland Gorillas, the Digadou marble caves, and the Nyanga River region. With friendly staff and quality service, it is one of the best urban accommodation options in southern Gabon.



ROOMS
27

RIVER
VIEWS

WIFI

AIRCONDITIONING

DAY 6

€701pp

UP CLOSE WITH GORILLAS

Habituation is the long and demanding process of gradually accustoming wild gorillas to the calm, non-threatening presence of humans, without altering their natural behaviour. This process can often take five or more years to achieve, is not possible with all groups and requires daily tracking, patience, consistency, and deep respect for the animals and their environment.

After having observed unhabituated great apes over the previous days, at a distance, today's experience in Doussala offers a powerful contrast. Here you are able to share the forest in close proximity with a large group of gorillas, quietly witnessing their social interactions, feeding, family dynamic and movement through the forest. The result of habituation with this group offers an intimate, emotional encounter that highlights the delicate balance between access, research, and long-term protection.

06h30: Breakfast & pack up

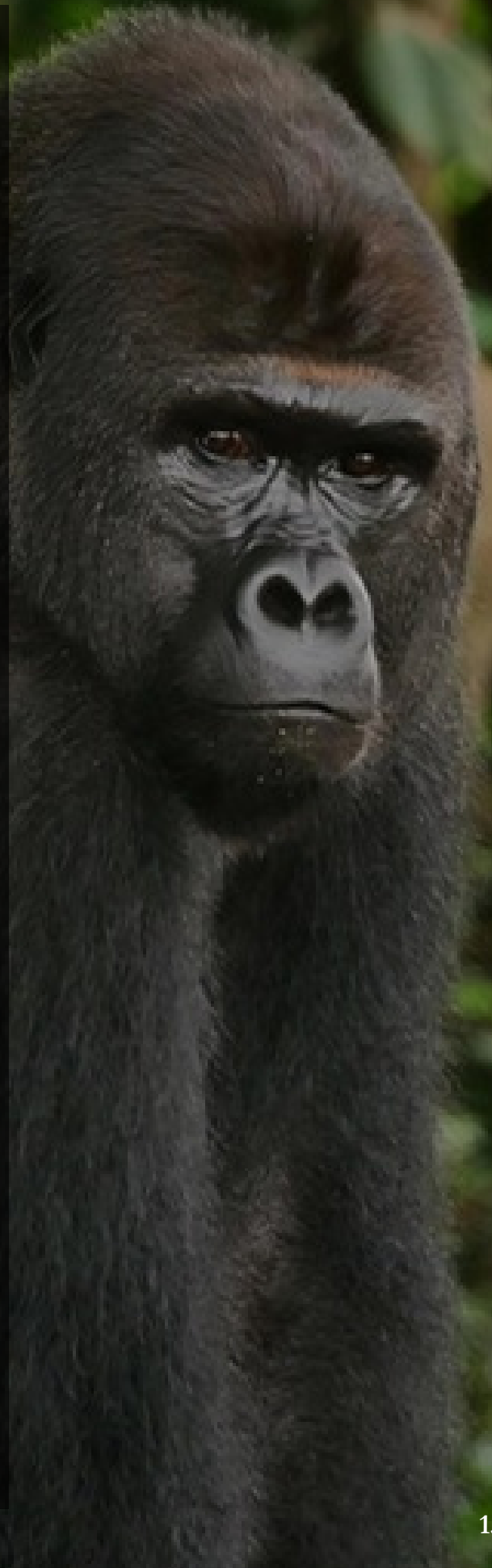
07h30: Depart for Doussala (1hr30 drive). Ensure you take your passport with you for the control stops. The journey to the gorillas will start as soon as the trackers have relocated the troop from where they left them the day before.

10h30: Briefing by the researcher & light refreshment

13h00: Packed lunch

13h30: Depart for Nyanga Lodge (3.5hrs)

16h30: Arrive at the lodge, freshen up



NYANGA AT NIGHT

17h00: After a peaceful afternoon of relaxation, soak up the sounds of the bush once again with an immersive, lantern-lit dining experience on the beach as you watch the sunset and welcome the appearance of the stars



18h00: Depart for a night safari by boat, exploring the smaller, darker riverines, mangroves and open savannahs in search for the likes of hippos, civet cats, leopard, genet, owls, flying squirrels and loris.

20h30: Return to the lodge for a light snack and nightcap before calling it a day

DAY 6

CONTINUED

€229pp

July - Sept

FROM LAND TO SEA

Between July and September, more than 10% of the global population of Southern Humpback whales come to the shores between Nyanga Lodge and Mayumba to give birth.

Congregating in the rich waters of the marine park in front of the lodge, mothers, calves and soon to be mothers take shelter in the warm waters here whilst anticipatory males, engage in intense competition for access to females, who shortly after birthing return to oestrus. The spectacle is defined by a remarkable chaos of breaching males and moment of solitude and gentleness as newborns are assisted to the surface to breathe.

The critically endangered Humpback Dolphins also usually accompany these whales and Gabon is one of only a few places in the world where there is a chance to see them.



08h00: breakfast

09h00: Depart the lodge via one of the National Park's boats crossing the river into the Atlantic Ocean in search of the whales down the coast to Mayumba. The mornings are the most active times for mothers and calves. Be sure to pack a hat and suncream.

12h00: Arrive in Mayumba for a traditional fresh caught fish lunch and explore the local village.

14h00: Depart by boat, heading back north toward the lodge. Afternoons are characterised by the greatest male competitive behaviours. Keep your camera readily at hand for that perfect breaching photo and the chance to see whales mating.

17h30: Arrive back at the lodge and refresh.

17h45: Cocktails on the deck

19h00: Dinner

DAY 7

€50pp

Nov - Feb



On your last day, experience an unforgettable walking safari to witness a major part of the life cycle of sea turtles on one of the region's major nesting beaches.

Night-Time Turtle Nesting Safari (November–January)

Walk along the beach under the stars with our expert guides as leatherback, olive ridley, and green turtles come ashore to nest. You'll witness this incredible natural ritual and take part in real conservation work—helping count nests, measure and tag turtles, and record essential data.

Day-Time Turtle Hatching Safari (January–March)

Watch hatchlings emerge from the sand and instinctively make their way to the sea.



FROM LAND TO SEA

Sometimes, hatchlings become disoriented by lights or debris, and you may have the chance to assist in safely guiding them to the ocean, while also recording hatch counts to support conservation research.

Make a Real Difference

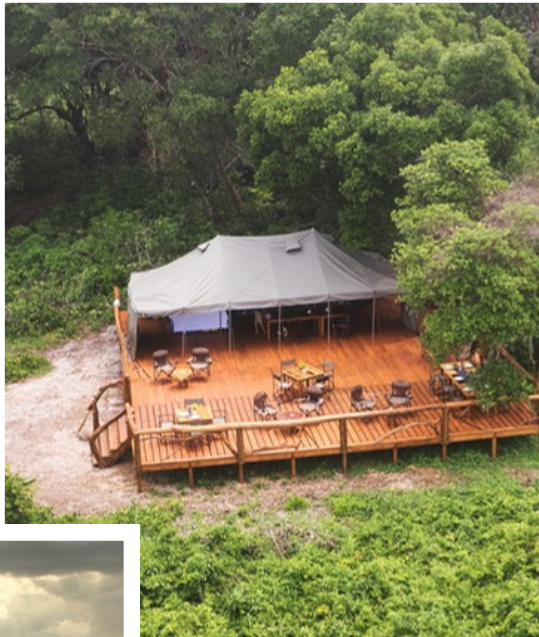
Marine debris threatens these amazing creatures, but your participation helps. All proceeds from this activity fund a monthly beach clean-up team, while your hands-on involvement directly protects this vital nesting site. This safari isn't just an adventure—it's a chance to experience, learn, and actively conserve the world's most remarkable sea turtles.

Programme dependant on which time of year you are visiting.

DAY 7

DAY 8

- au revoir -



All good things sadly have come to an end. Enjoy a slow morning after a hearty breakfast. Pack your bags and say your goodbyes.

08h00: Depart for Gamba

09h00: Arrive Gamba and check into your flight

10h00: Depart for LBV. If you have a long layover, day rooms are available at hotels on the beach

FAQs

- 1) What vaccinations are required? Yellow Fever
- 2) Are antimalarials recommended? Yes, however we prefer prevention over cure and speaking with your General Practitioner.
- 3) Are Tsetse flies an issue? It depends on the time of year. Generally throughout the year, Tsetse are not an issue when on foot. They react to fast moving objects, so during boat transfers they can be more prevalent. Avoid dark coloured clothing, particularly navy and black. The Tsetse fly in Gabon typically do not carry Sleeping Sickness.
- 4) What is my luggage allowance? If your mode of transport is by plane, a maximum of 20kg is permitted/person and subject to payload.
- 5) What is an Entry Authorisation Letter? The Government of Gabon requires all visitors to have a valid Entry Authorisation Letter or Visa for entry. Guests are able to process this themselves at their own risk, or we can assist at a cost of €90.
- 6) Do you accept credit cards? We don't accept credit cards. Cash is king in Gabon, and we recommend that you travel with cash (euros or CFA francs) because ATMs are often out of service.
- 7) What is the recommended gratuity per day? Whilst gratuity is not expected, our staff are always very grateful for any contributions of thanks. We recommend budgeting €15 per guide per person per day and €15 for all general staff per person per day.



SEASON	PERIOD	CONDITIONS
SHORT DRY SEASON	DEC- JAN	CLEAR BLUE SKY, VERY LITTLE RAINFALL.
LONG WET SEASON	FEB - APRIL	HEAVY RAINFALL, WARM.
LONG DRY SEASON	MAY - SEPT	COVERED SKY, NO RAIN, SMOOTH MORNINGS
SHORT WET SEASON	OCT - NOV	HEAVY RAINFALL FOLLOWED BY SUNSHINE.

LOCATION

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INIVA WILDERNESS

