

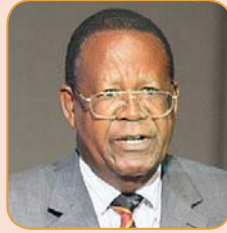


THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities



H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
President of the Republic of Uganda



PROF. EPHRAIM KAMUNTU
Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities



HON. GODFREY KIWANDA SSUUBI
State Minister for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities



DOREEN S. KATUIME (Mrs)
Permanent Secretary

Message from The Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities

On the occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of the National Resistance Movement, the Minister, Minister of State and members of Staff of the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities extend their sincere congratulations to His Excellency, the President of The Republic of Uganda General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the entire Government and all people of Uganda on the remarkable achievements attained over the last 33 years of NRM leadership.

The 33 years of visionary NRM leadership, have seen Uganda's tourism grow from decimation of wildlife and no tourists into the country in the late 70s and to now a very fast growing and prioritized sector of the economy contributing significantly to foreign exchange earnings, employment and livelihoods for Ugandans.

As Uganda celebrates the 33 years of peace and development under the theme "Moment of glory that set a new chapter of peace, unity and prosperity for Ugandans", the tourism sector has been part of the transformation journey for Uganda.

Uganda is a country exceptionally endowed with natural assets; an attractive landscape, friendly people and a beautiful climate. It is located astride the equator on a plateau and the various eco-systems with snow capped mountains, vegetation ranging from the savanna, tropical to the semi-arid climate that define its beauty. As described by Sir Winston Churchill "isn't this paradise on earth!"

The tourism sector has grown significantly and expanded in terms of visitor arrivals and investments in the tourist attractions and accommodation facilities. There has also been resurgence in the wildlife population owing to the strong conservation measures and initiatives.

The tourism numbers are growing exponentially from 205,000 recorded in 2001 to 1.4 million in 2017. Currently, tourism is the leading foreign exchange earner for Uganda generating **US\$1.453bn** and contributing **UGX 6.8 trillion** of Uganda's GDP which constitutes 7.3% of direct contribution to GDP. These are strong indicators of a vibrant and dynamic sector on a growth trajectory.

Tourism is recognized as a major growth sector contributing to the social economic transformation of Uganda. The sector recognizes the strong leadership and wise investment in infrastructure and human resource, prudent management the economy as factors contributing to this growth.

The Ministry and all its agencies, reassures Ugandans to stewarding this growth and as we celebrate the achievements of liberation, we urge you to develop a culture of patriotism, visit and enjoy the attractions in your country, conserve and protect the environment, promote peace and stability, invest and develop the attractions and make Uganda the preferred tourist destination in the world.



Translocation of Giraffes from Murchison Falls National Park



Traditional Dance



Tracking the Mountain Gorillas



Rwenzori Snow capped Mountain

Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities

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