

## LOANGO LODGE & WILD CAMPS | 4-Nights

*Experience Loango National Park's Seasonal Best Bits!*



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### *Arrival in Libreville*

#### **Overnight at the Radisson**

Guests are required to stay 1 night in Libreville before heading to Loango

#### **International Flights**

We do not provide international flights. However, we can suggest the Airlines that work well: Air France, Ethiopian Airlines, and Turkish Airlines. Whichever airline you book yourself on, we will arrange for you to be collected from Libreville Leon Mba international airport on arrival for transfer to your hotel.

#### **Relax and Prepare for your Adventure to Begin**

The Radisson is our hotel of choice for our guests because it offers everything a first-time traveller to West Africa requires. Currency exchange can be done here. Card payments are accepted for dinner, drinks etc.

We book room only because guests leave the hotel the following day just before breakfast is served.

#### **Why it is necessary to stay overnight in Libreville?**

The domestic flights from Libreville to Port Gentil are only available in the early morning or evening.

Road transfers from Port Gentil to Loango can be long and are only available during daylight hours, therefore necessitating an arrival in Port Gentil in the morning.

There are no international flights that arrive in Libreville overnight which sync up with the early morning domestic flights.



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### *Day 1*

#### **Loango Lodge**

06h00 Departure from the Radisson to Afrijet domestic airport. This is only a ten-minute drive from the hotel.

07h30 Departure from Libreville.

08h05 Arrival in Port Gentil. You will be met by our fixer outside the airport and then taken for some refreshments.

09h00 Departure from Port Gentil via 4x4. This journey usually takes around 3 hours, this is dependent on road conditions.

Lunch on arrival at Loango Lodge.

After lunch you will have the option of various seasonal activities such as 4x4 game drive, beach visit, boat safari, forest hike, and kayaking. Or...you can relax by the pool, sample some beverages, and enjoy Loango Lodge surroundings, including the river view and the monkeys and birds who regularly visit the nearby trees.

In the evening there will be more seasonal activities available: guided walks in search of pottos and galagos are available all year round, so are crocodile boat tours. In the rainy season months of November to February there are turtle patrols along the beach.



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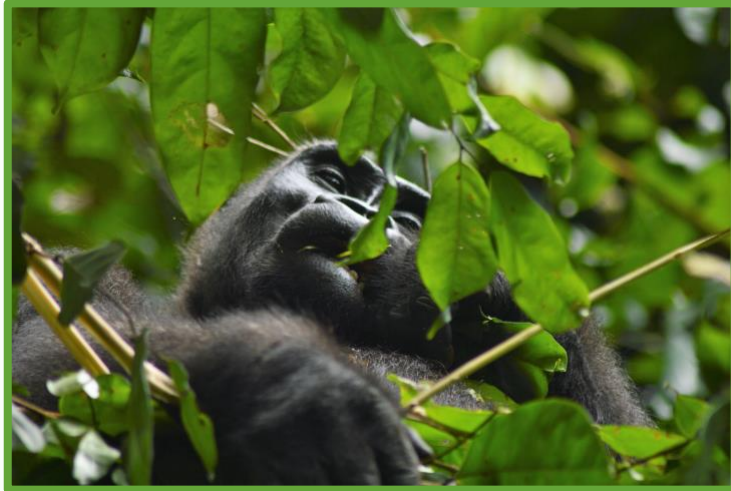
### *Day 2*

#### **Gorilla Trek & Wild Camp**

After a continental breakfast overlooking the Iguela River, you will depart the lodge for your next adventure...gorilla trekking! This can be an all-day event, dependant on the gorillas' location and movements throughout the day.

You will depart Loango Lodge around 07h30 and arrive at the gorilla tourism camp between 08h30 – 09h00.

After a welcome briefing and jungle safety talk you will head out into the jungle to find the habituated gorilla group with your guides.



Once you have found the gorillas you will experience 1-hour contact time with them. This can involve moving through the jungle with the gorillas if they are travelling during your contact time. If the travel inhibits your contact time then this will be picked up again once the gorillas are in a better place for viewing. Some days the gorillas travel a lot, other days they stay in one area feeding and relaxing. Your guides will stay with you to assist you in finding the best viewpoints and to keep you safe at all times.

They will also provide you with the necessary face masks.

After you have delved into the secret lives of the shy and enigmatic gorillas you will return to the gorilla tourism camp for some refreshments and a chance to reflect on the experience, and ask your guides questions.

Depart by boat to either Akaka or Louri. Arrival in your respective wild camp can be anytime from 13h00 to 17h30.

Afternoon activities will be available (time permitting) at the wild camps: boat safaris, forest / jungle hikes, and kayaking, while Louri will also offer 4x4 safaris and beach visits.

Evening activities will also be available.

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### *Day 3*

#### **Full Day Safari & Wild Camp**

After sleeping under the stars, followed by waking up to the serenity of the forest, you will enjoy breakfast in the wild camp.

From Akaka, there will be full day boat safaris to explore all of the waterways that cut through the jungles and large bays, offering clear views of the many elephants, buffalo, sitatunga, red river hogs and much more.

From Louri, there will be full day game drives in the savannas where large mammals come to roam in between the forest pockets. After a lunch-stop at Tassi Savanna Camp, you will continue the game drive and finish at the beach for sundowners. While at the beach you will likely see elephants and / or buffalo roaming along the shore. If you are really lucky, you may even see a hippo!

Evening activities available in your respective wild camp.



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### *Day 4*

#### **Safari Combinations & Loango Lodge**

Rise early to the sounds of the forest and enjoy a sunset breakfast before heading out in search of wildlife by 4x4 or boat before the day gets too hot, causing most animals to find relief under the cooling shade of the forest or jungle canopies.

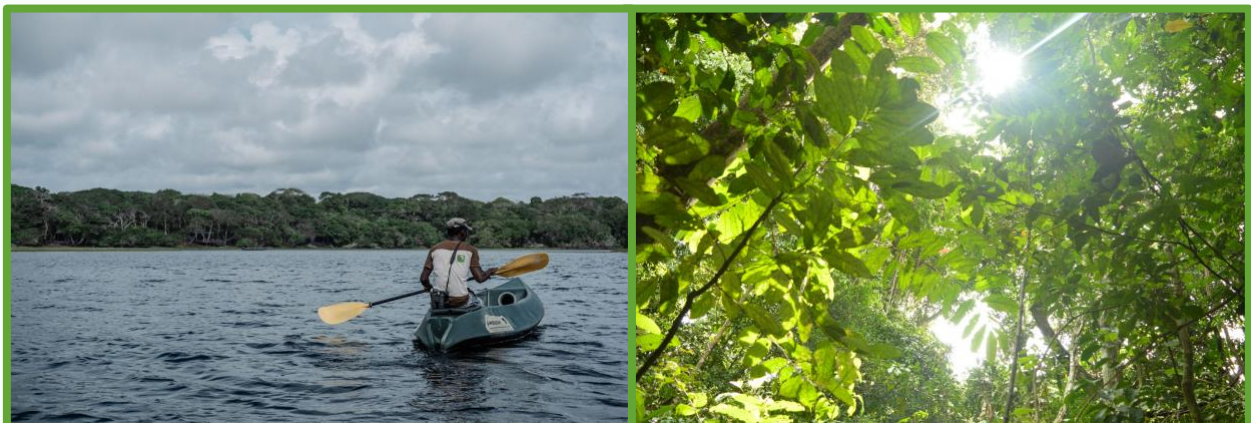
Between lunch there will be the option for forest / jungles hikes in search of all creatures great & small. Here is a great chance to immerse yourself in the forest and learn from the expertise of the local guides. Discover which animals have been passing through, follow tracks of those found. Chimpanzees frequent these forests but are hard to view because they are not habituated and normally flee from humans. Nethertheless, it can be surprisingly overwhelming to see signs of chimp activity and follow their tracks. Monkeys are abundant in the trees and can be heard for long distances. In the denser forests elephants can be deceptively well hidden to the untrained eye!

If hiking isn't for you then kayaking is a gentle way to explore close to camp & take in the tranquility of your surroundings.

Later in the afternoon, when the heat of the day starts to subside, there will be the option to head back out by 4x4 or boat. On this day you will return to Loango Lodge any time before dinner.

Enjoy a final sundowner either from the beach or overlooking the Iguela river from Loango Lodge.

Evening activities available.



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### *Departure Day*

#### **Morning Safari & Return to Libreville**

Wake up to the calls of monkeys visiting the trees surrounding Loango Lodge and enjoy breakfast overlooking the Iguela river.

Take an early morning safari in the savannas close to the lodge in search of leopards or other wildlife still on your tick-list, or a boat tour to the river mouth in search of hippos before you return to the lodge to prepare for your post-lunch departure.

Depart Loango Lodge around 13h00 by road to Port Gentil. Arrive in Port Gentil around 17h00 and head to the airport ready for your flight at roughly 18h30. There are a few different flights in the early evening.

Arrive in Libreville's domestic airport around 19h05 where there will be taxis ready to transport you along the main road to the Leon Mba international airport for an international departure that same evening.

This itinerary works brilliantly for those travelling with Air France. If you do not travel with Air France and require an extra night in Libreville before your departure from Gabon then this can be easily arranged.

It is not possible to arrive in Libreville from Loango before evening because there are no domestic flights that enable this.

Guests who add Pongara National Park onto their itinerary will need to stopover 1 night before taking a boat the next morning.

Guests who add Lopé onto their itinerary usually also stopover 1 night in Libreville and then take the train or car to Lopé the following day.





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*This Itinerary is intended as a rough guide for what guests can expect. Highlighting the logistics for travel between Libreville and Loango.*

*Timing of Safaris and wild camp stays can vary and specific wildlife sightings are not guaranteed.*

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Thank you for your business & do not hesitate to contact us at any time to discuss your trip.

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