



ANAPI

Democratic Republic of Congo Investment Promotion Agency

Tourism in the DRC

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) attracts visitors from around the world that desire to see and experience the country's unique ecosystems and species firsthand. Placed on the Equator in the heart of Africa, the DRC offers miles of ocean and freshwater coastline, protected ecological parks in the tropical forest, mountainous areas in the East, historic sites, and rich cultural offerings.

The DRC is known for its vast resources and diverse wildlife, including a large portion of the second largest tropical forest in the world, the Congo Basin. The country is home to 1,000 bird species, more than 400 fish species, 10,000 species of plants, and three of the world's four great apes. Breathtaking protected habitats are located in the DRC, including Garamba National Park and Virunga National Park—the world's oldest nature preserve of its kind. The DRC also possesses nearly 80 million hectares of arable land and more than 1,100 minerals and precious metals.

Beyond the DRC's vast ecotourism opportunities, visitors are attracted to DRC's diverse cultural traditions. A visit to the DRC exposes tourists to colorful art markets, dynamic languages, aged ethnic and cultural practices, and lively music and dance. The DRC's most valuable resource—its people—are vital to a successful visit to the country, and contribute to existing tourism opportunities as business owners, rangers, tour guides, and transportation managers.

Through targeted economic investments, travelling within the DRC to access key tourism hubs is improving. To date, there are five international airports in the DRC and 284 airport platforms. The country has approximately 350 registered travel agencies, many of which are affiliated with the International Air Transport Association. When tourists arrive, they have access to over 2,300 hotel lodging options. Some of these options include luxury hotels that have been independently rated as five-star, and more luxury hotels are scheduled to open in the coming years.

DRC Tourism by the Numbers:

- **25 Million hectares** of protected land, including seven national parks and 57 national reserves. Of those protected lands, five are UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- **Four endemic species** including the Mountain Gorilla, Okapi, Bonobo, and Congolese Peacock
- **70 million people** representing a rich mixture of cultures and traditions, and 450 ethnic groups that live in DRC
- **Four airports** modernized to accommodate more visitors and improve transportation throughout the country