

## Kyevu Market and Volcanic Gas Emissions

Kyevu sits on the shores of Lake Bunyonyi near the **Rwandan border**. On Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, this small community bustles with activity as the locals and **Pygmies** from Rwanda come to sell their wares. The market was established in 1964, illegally operating as a **black-market** center of trade between Rwanda and Uganda. The market was at its peak in the mid-1970s during the **Idi Amin regime** when goods from Rwanda (e.g., coffee, goats, cows, and farming tools) were under high demand in Kabale. Kyevu is also the site of **volcanic gas** emissions near the Uganda/Rwanda border that are reached in a leisurely one-hour walk along an extensive **papyrus swamp**. Farming communities and an abundance of **birds** can be seen on this walk.

**Duration:** 5 hrs; motorboat and hike

**Days:** Wednesday and Saturday

**Cost:** U\$23 for boat; U\$4 per person (picnic lunch included)

## History of Bushara and Neighbouring Islands

Bushara, Akampeine, Bwama, and Sharp's islands have a long and fascinating history.

On this tour, you will learn about traditional and church history and visit the homes of founding **missionaries**. Bwama Island was acquired by Dr. Sharp following the government's forced dispersal of a **sinister cult** lead by a powerful witchdoctor. Dr. Sharp established a hospital to treat the many **lepers** living within Uganda and surrounding countries. At one point, more than **2,000 patients** inhabited the island. Children of the lepers used Bushara Island to grow food crops. Pregnant girls were abandoned on Akampeine Island (**Punishment Island**), although some were rescued by single men from nearby villages.

**Duration:** 4 hrs; dugout canoe and walk

**Days:** Monday through Sunday

**Cost:** U\$5 per person (snack included)

## Bukoora Cave and Abaheshi Blacksmiths

A vigorous hike will bring you to **Bukoora Cave**, a place of refuge during times of civil unrest and the site of a local shrine. Currently, local Ugandans visit the cave to rest and reflect. Along the way, you will enjoy **spectacular views** of Lake Bunyonyi and will experience a little of the farmers' daily lives on the steep slopes above the lake. After having a rest and a picnic, we will visit the **Abaheshi blacksmiths** in the village of Ahamugada, situated on the hills opposite the cave. The blacksmiths traditionally gathered iron ore from the hillsides but they now buy ore from a local market in Kabale. The blacksmiths still use traditional methods passed down from their ancestors to form tools and weapons.

**Duration:** 8 hrs; dugout canoe and walk

**Days:** Monday through Sunday

**Cost:** U\$8 per person (picnic lunch included)

## Muko Forest Reserve and Local Market

In 1940, Muko was a dense forest inhabited by **monkeys, elephants, and wild pigs**. Forestry officials recognized the strategic location of Muko en route to Kisoro and established the Muko Forest Reserve. The former jungle was cleared and a small-scale **lumber operation** using modern and traditional methods was established. The animals which once inhabited the area were pushed back into the forests of Mgahinga and Bwindi. We will visit the forest reserve and learn about the reforestation program, browse through the **local market**, and visit a **traditional potter**. Lake Bunyonyi and the area around Muko are also one of the **sources of the Nile**.

**Duration:** 6 hrs; motorboat and walk

**Days:** Saturday

**Cost:** U\$23 for boat; U\$4 per person (picnic lunch included)

## Mukoni Village

After paddling 15 minutes across the lake, we will arrive at the shores of a **charming farm with cows, goats, chickens and a banana plantation**. We will wander through this traditional village and observe the locals going about their daily business. We will then take a leisurely hike along an elevated trail to a fantastic lookout which provides **stunning 360° views** of Lake Bunyonyi and surrounding farms, villages, schools and churches nestled on the steep slopes. The industrious Murandi Youth association manages the lookout. A combination of forest groves, cultivated areas, and gardens are home to a large diversity of **bird species**. Hawks can be seen soaring on thermals above the ridge on most days.

**Duration:** 3 hrs; dugout canoe and hike

**Days:** Monday through Sunday

**Cost:** U\$5 per person (snack included)



***Bushara Island Camp***

*Lake Bunyonyi, Kabale, Uganda*

## CULTURAL & NATURAL HISTORY TOURS

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Mobile Phone (256) 077 464585

Phone/Fax (256) 486 22447

Email [bushara@maf.or.ug](mailto:bushara@maf.or.ug)

Web Page [www.acts.ca/lbdc](http://www.acts.ca/lbdc)