

Amahoro Tourism Initiative

– Responsible Tourism & Ecotourism in Rwanda –

<http://www.amahoro-tours.com>



Rwanda's first exclusive Community-based tourism experience (Press release, 22nd August 2005)

Amahoro Tours, Rwanda's leader in community-based tourism and ecotourism, has recently launched Rwanda's first exclusive community-based tourism experience. Together with the Amahoro Tourism Association, the Dutch Development Agency SNV and the German NGO "Sustainable development through tourism e.V.", the operator works with local communities in the northern parts of the country. The results are intimate visitor experiences with the local living culture, and tangible benefits for the local population.

The first tour in May was a 4-day experience with many exciting activities. Visitors stayed in private family homes in the Ruhengeri area and took part in the everyday life, including cooking, water fetching, shopping on markets, agricultural work on the fields and so on. Excursions were undertaken to island fishing communities, local schools and orphanages, traditional village healers, craft workshops, the Ruhengeri Women's Association, the local bee keepers and a family engaged in local banana beer brewing. In the evenings, villagers invited their guests to participate in cultural shows including traditional dancing and drumming. The visitors were overwhelmed by the sincerity and hospitality of their hosts and promised to return soon.

Community-based tourism is but one of the various specialised experiences that Amahoro Tours offers apart from the standard mountain gorilla- or safari-tours. Other new tours include a recent history tour with a guide who specialised in politics, human rights and regional relations, as well as an outdoor activities tour with a guide who specialised in trekking, sports fishing and other nature-related activities.

Please contact Michael at michael@amahoro-tours.com or visit the website www.amahoro-tours.com for more information.

Amahoro Tourism Initiative

Market Street, Ruhengeri – P.O. Box 87 Ruhengeri – Rwanda

Tel: +250 546877, Cell: 08687448, Email: info@amahoro-tours.com

www.amahoro-tours.com