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### **Fishing on Lake Victoria and the Nile River.**

Fishing trips in Uganda are done on Lake Victoria in Entebbe and the Nile River in Murchison Falls National Park & Jinja. The methods employed vary between lake and river and we encourage anglers to bring their own equipment.

Fishing can be enjoyed by everyone from those with no previous experience to those who are looking for a new destination with trips from half to full day offered, or longer overnight trips for the more serious fisherman.

At Murchison Falls National Park fish are caught on live bait or with casting lures including Nile perch and various species of cat fish. There are also a large variety of smaller species, (used as live bait), obtained by spinning including tiger fish. Fishing is either from the river bank or from a boat at the base of the falls area. This fishing is generally done over a few days and can be very exciting but it does require some experience and also a certain level of fitness due to the terrain and a catch and release policy applies for all the fishing excursions.

#### ***Nile Perch fishing on the Nile River at Murchison Falls***

**Getting there:** Murchison Falls National Park is approximately 6 hours' drive North West from Entebbe, via Kampala with the majority of the roads before reaching the park being tarred. Our fully inclusive trips include private transport with a driver in 4 x 4 vehicles which are comfortable and spacious, including room for fishing equipment! Alternatively scheduled flights (minimum 3 persons) or charter flights can be used between Entebbe and Murchison Falls National Park, these are at an additional cost which is provided upon request.

**Traditional Fishing Season:** The fishing at Murchison varies from year to year as to which are the most successful fishing months, but generally it is accepted that the drier months of the year produce better fishing results – December to March and June to October. Though you will catch all year round, in these months there is less chance of rain. Thunderstorms occur randomly throughout the year. The beginning of the April Rainy season is to be avoided - *please enquire about current situation before booking.*

**Fishing areas and conditions:** Sport Fishing at Murchison Falls National Park is currently conducted in the area at the base of the falls. The fishing is either from the rocks on the bank of the river or slightly lower downstream in the pools from a boat. Access to the fishing spots is either by boat from a point further downstream or by walking down the gorge to the river from the top of the falls. It's a long steep climb back up (around 45 minutes for a reasonably fit person) and hence most people tend to go fishing equipped for the day to avoid climbing up in the heat of the day.

The temperatures at Murchison are high (sometimes over 40 degrees Celsius) – especially at mid -day and anglers should be equipped with sun protection including sun tan lotion, hats and long sleeved shirts. Tsetse flies are also about at certain times and we recommend light trousers as well as insect repellent.

**Methods of Fishing / Equipment:** Fish caught on live bait / casting lures include Nile perch and various species of cat fish. There are also a large variety of smaller species, (used as live bait), obtained by spinning including tiger fish. We recommend a rod between 11feet (3 metres) and 8 feet (2.4 metres)



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together with a fixed spool or multiplier reel. For the smaller species a 7' spinning rod with 5 kg (10 lb.) line is adequate.

*Reels* - For Nile perch and catfish any reel fixed spool or multiplier with 30 -35 lb. line (17kg) will do. It depends on personal preference and skill with a multiplier. For tiger fish and smaller species any reel you can comfortably cast small spinners is suitable.

**What to pack:** There are no shops in the National Park - all necessary supplies such as sun tan lotion, cigarettes, spare batteries for electronic equipment and cameras, and mosquito spray must be brought with you. We suggest you bring as much sun protection as possible - hats, sunglasses, creams as it can be very hot. Hiking/safari boots are best for foot wear, especially for shore fishing from the steep, rough rocks. Lightweight and light colored clothes for fishing are best as they are cooler and the tsetse flies are less attracted to them. Long sleeves and long trousers are best, but avoid blue/black dark colors where ever possible as these colors actually attract the tsetse. A light weight rain jacket and a sweater for the evenings is also recommended. Tsetse flies are attracted more to some people than others - if you ble

**Note:** Our fishing safari packages include a local, experienced skippers / fishing guide only. Additional guides are available at a price depending upon requirements and inclusions and are subject to availability.