



50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON: 19th August – 8th October 2025

FOCUS ON THE GOVERNANCE SPHERE

2026 NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND THE FUTURE OF LEADERSHIP IN UGANDA

PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK FOUR: 8th to 14th September 2025

Day	Day of the Week	Date	Area of Focus
21	Monday	8 th September 2025	The National Economy
22	Tuesday	9 th September 2025	Transport and Logistics
23	Wednesday	10 th September 2025	Information Communication and Technology
24	Thursday	11 th September 2025	Entrepreneurship, Trade and Commerce
25	Friday	12 th September 2025	Manufacturing & Industry
26	Saturday	13 th September 2025	Tourism and Hospitality
27	Sunday	14 th September 2025	Labour & Employment

DAY 26: 13th SEPTEMBER 2025

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

PSALM 24:1

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”

GENESIS 1:31

“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”

HEBREWS 13:2

“Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”

Uganda is often described as the “Pearl of Africa” — a land of breathtaking landscapes, abundant wildlife, and rich cultural heritage. Tourism is one of Uganda’s largest sources of foreign exchange, contributing nearly 8–10% of GDP and employing hundreds of thousands of people directly and indirectly.

But the success of tourism is not automatic; it depends on good governance. Leaders must ensure that roads, airports, hotels, security, and conservation systems are in place so that visitors find Uganda welcoming, safe, and worth returning to. Where governance fails, even God-given beauty cannot yield its full blessing.

1. Uganda's Tourism Assets

- **Wildlife:** Home to half the world's mountain gorillas, the iconic tree-climbing lions of Ishasha, elephants, giraffes, and over 1,000 bird species.
- **Natural Beauty:** The Nile River, Lake Victoria, Murchison Falls, Rwenzori Mountains, Mount Elgon, and Lake Bunyonyi.
- **Culture:** Over **50 tribes**, rich music, dance, crafts, and hospitality traditions.

Governance Role: Protect wildlife, preserve culture, and market Uganda effectively to the world.

2. Infrastructure and Hospitality Needs

- **Accommodation:** Uganda needs more quality hotels, lodges, and guest houses to serve both luxury and budget travelers.
- **Transport:** Better roads to national parks, reliable flights, and tourism-friendly airports are essential.
- **Amenities:** Safe water, good sanitation, internet access, signage, and tourism centers make visits more comfortable.

Governance Role: Encourage private investment, ensure infrastructure maintenance, and regulate standards.

3. Governance and Tourism Development

- **Policy:** Clear tourism policies attract investment and ensure sustainable practices.
- **Security:** Tourists must feel safe from crime, disease, and political instability.
- **Conservation:** Protecting parks, wildlife, and cultural sites ensures long-term viability.
- **Revenue Use:** Park entry fees and tourism taxes must benefit local communities as well as the nation.

4. Challenges in Tourism Governance

- Poor road networks and unreliable air links.
- Inadequate hotel facilities in some regions.
- Poaching, environmental degradation, and weak conservation enforcement.
- Corruption in tourism revenues and land allocation.
- Limited marketing compared to regional competitors like Kenya and Tanzania.

5. Opportunities for Uganda

- **Eco-Tourism:** Promote green lodges, community-led conservation, and sustainable practices.
- **Cultural Tourism:** Develop heritage centers, museums, and festivals.
- **Religious & Conference Tourism:** Expand hotels and convention centers to attract global events.
- **Regional Integration:** Tap into East Africa's shared tourism circuits.
- **Hospitality Training:** Equip Ugandans with world-class service skills to enhance the visitor experience.

Romans 12:13 — "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

LAKE VICTORIA AND THE NILE RIVER — UNTAPPED TOURISM POTENTIAL

Lake Victoria, the largest lake in Africa and the second-largest freshwater lake in the world, covers about 68,800 km², with 45% of it in Uganda. It is the source of the River Nile, the world's longest river. These two natural wonders should be among Uganda's strongest tourism

assets, yet their potential remains largely underdeveloped compared to Kenya's coastal tourism or Egypt's Nile cruises.

Governance and Tourism Opportunities

1. Natural and Cultural Assets

- Lake Victoria offers opportunities for sport fishing, boat cruises, water sports, bird watching, and island tourism (Ssese Islands, Kalangala).
- The Nile River in Jinja is famous for white-water rafting, kayaking, bungee jumping, and cultural heritage sites (e.g., Source of the Nile).

2. Governance Failures

- Pollution from sewage, plastics, and untreated industrial waste.
- Encroachment on shorelines, illegal sand mining, and deforestation.
- Poor infrastructure: limited hotels, poor roads to tourist islands, lack of modern marinas.
- Weak marketing compared to Kenya's coast or Egypt's Nile cruises.

3. Governance Successes and Initiatives

- Jinja is marketed as the "Adventure Capital of East Africa."
- Some private lodges and eco-resorts have been developed on Ssese Islands and along the Nile.
- Ongoing efforts to regulate fishing and protect water quality, though enforcement remains weak.

Economic and Social Potential

- Tourism on Lake Victoria and the Nile could generate thousands of jobs in hospitality, transport, guiding, and crafts.
- Water-based tourism could complement Uganda's wildlife safaris, diversifying attractions.
- Improved marinas, luxury cruises, and island resorts could attract high-value tourists and international conferences.

Isaiah 33:21 — "There the Lord will be our Mighty One. It will be like a place of broad rivers and streams..."

Lessons Learned

- Uganda must **invest in infrastructure** (roads, hotels, marinas, airports) to unlock water-based tourism.
- Strong environmental governance is critical to prevent pollution and degradation.
- Regional partnerships with Kenya and Tanzania could promote Lake Victoria as a shared tourism circuit.
- Hospitality standards and community involvement are essential for sustainability.

GORILLA TOURISM IN BWINDI IMPENETRABLE NATIONAL PARK

Uganda is home to about half of the world's remaining mountain gorillas, found in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park. These gorillas are a global attraction and have made Uganda one of the premier destinations for wildlife tourism in Africa.

- Since the 1990s, gorilla trekking has become a flagship of Uganda's tourism, drawing thousands of visitors annually. Gorilla permits in significant foreign exchange and

support conservation efforts. For a Ugandan citizen (East African Community citizen), a standard gorilla tracking permit costs UGX 300,000. For a foreigner, the permit costs US\$800 for non-residents, US\$700 for foreign residents in Uganda, and US\$500 for other African Citizens (not from EAC).

Governance and Gorilla Tourism

1. Conservation Governance

- The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) carefully regulates gorilla trekking, allowing only small groups of tourists daily.
- Strict rules protect gorillas from disease and human disruption.
- Communities around Bwindi benefit from revenue-sharing schemes.

2. Economic Impact

- Gorilla tourism generates over \$34 million annually in permit sales and related services.
- Local communities earn income through lodges, guides, crafts, and cultural performances.
- Jobs created: rangers, trackers, hotel staff, and service providers.

3. Challenges in Governance

- High permit prices limit access for regional/domestic tourists.
- Human-wildlife conflict (crop raiding by gorillas) strains community relations.
- Risks of corruption in tourism revenues and land use.
- Infrastructure (roads, lodges, healthcare) in Bwindi still lags behind.

Genesis 1:26 — “Let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth...”— reminding us that dominion is stewardship, not exploitation.

Lessons Learned

- Strong governance and conservation policies made gorilla tourism a global success.
- Community involvement is key — without revenue-sharing, locals may view gorillas as pests rather than assets.
- Tourism must balance conservation with accessibility and equity.
- Investments in hospitality (lodges, hotels, roads) are essential for sustaining tourism growth.

Proverbs 27:23 — “Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds.”

Conclusion: Tourism as Stewardship

Uganda’s natural and cultural treasures are a gift from God. Governance determines whether these treasures bring prosperity, employment, and pride — or are wasted, degraded, and undervalued. With sound governance, tourism can be one of Uganda’s strongest engines of sustainable development, while hospitality can reflect the heart of God in welcoming strangers.

PRAYER GUIDE: TOURISM, HOSPITALITY, AND GOVERNANCE IN UGANDA

1. Thanksgiving for God’s Creation



Psalm 104:24 — “How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all.”

Psalm 65:9 — “You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.”

Thank You, Lord, for Uganda’s breathtaking beauty, wildlife, and diverse cultures that draw people from around the world. Thank You, Lord, for blessing Uganda with Lake Victoria and the Nile, treasures that sustain life and hold immense potential.

2. Repentance for Mismanagement

Jeremiah 2:7 — “I brought you into a fertile land... but you defiled my land and made my inheritance detestable.”

Forgive us, Lord, for corruption, neglect, and poor stewardship that have damaged Uganda’s tourism potential.

3. Prayer for Infrastructure and Accommodation

Isaiah 54:2 — “Enlarge the place of your tent... lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.”

Isaiah 32:18 — “My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.”

Father, provide safe roads, reliable airports, good hotels, and amenities that welcome tourists with comfort and dignity. Lord, inspire investment in hotels, marinas, and safe transport systems that make lake and river tourism flourish.

4. Prayer for Conservation and Environmental Stewardship

Genesis 2:15 — “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”

Ezekiel 34:18 — “Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture? Must you also trample the rest of your pasture with your feet?”

Lord, protect Uganda’s wildlife, forests, and cultural heritage from destruction. Strengthen conservation governance. Forgive us for polluting our lakes and rivers. Help us govern and manage them with wisdom and respect.

5. Prayer for Security and Hospitality

Hebrews 13:2 — “Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers.”

Bless Uganda with peace and security so that visitors feel safe. Raise up a culture of hospitality among Ugandans.

6. Prayer for Local Communities

Jeremiah 29:7 — “Seek the peace and prosperity of the city... Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

May islanders, fishermen, communities near National Parks, and riverside communities benefit from tourism opportunities without being displaced or exploited.

7. Prayer for Global Recognition

Habakkuk 2:14 — “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”

Lord, let Uganda’s lakes and rivers shine as international attractions that glorify You and bless the nation.

8. Prayer for Economic Impact

Deuteronomy 28:12 — “The Lord will bless all the work of your hands.”

May tourism revenues be used justly — to build schools, hospitals, and communities. Let tourism bring prosperity to ordinary Ugandans.

Closing Prayer

Lord, we thank You for Uganda’s identity as the Pearl of Africa. We pray for wise governance, sound infrastructure, and righteous stewardship of our natural and cultural treasures. May Uganda’s tourism and hospitality sector glorify You by welcoming visitors, creating jobs, and sustaining communities. May our land reflect both Your beauty and Your justice.

Father, we lift up Lake Victoria and the Nile, waters You have entrusted to Uganda. Forgive us for polluting and neglecting them. Grant our leaders vision to develop tourism wisely and sustainably. May these waters bring life, jobs, and prosperity, while testifying to Your majesty. In Jesus’ name, Amen.