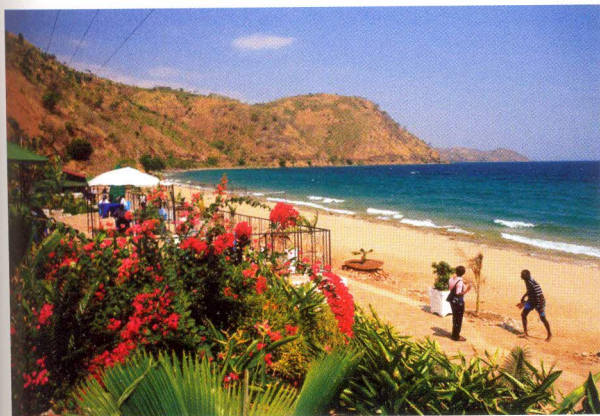


BURUNDI

THE BEST of THE BEST TOURIST DESTINATIONS



Burundi, a member state of the East African Community including Burundi, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda has enormous tourism potentials internationally recognized. It is for this reason that Burundi won in 2011 at the International Tourism Fair in Berlin, Germany, the price of the Best African Exhibitor. In 2012, still at the International Tourism Fair in Berlin, Germany, it received the award for the Best African Exhibitor, the award of the best exhibitor at the world level (Best of the Best), the prize awarded to the top three African women who have contributed to the promotion of tourism and the price of first participation at the fair in Moscow at the Moscow Travel Fair Intourmarket. During the year 2013, Burundi has also won the award for the Best African Exhibitor at the International Tourism Fair in Berlin, Germany. Why does Burundi always win these awards in Africa and in the World? This is undoubtedly due to its huge tourism potentials in several areas. Burundi has a variety of landscapes which is one of the tourist attractions among its many charms. Its physical beauty and cultural richness endow it with a multitude of names: "Heart of Africa", "African Switzerland", "Land of Thousands of Hills", "Land of Milk and Honey", "Country of the drum," "Country of legendary hospitality."

Among the tourism potentials of Burundi, it should be mentioned by way of illustration: many tourist sites and monuments such as the living museum of Bujumbura (Musée Vivant de Bujumbura) which is a green space in the center of the city including a zoo where there are animal species such as crocodiles, chimpanzees, snakes, etc; the memorial meeting in 1871 on the shores of Lake Tanganyika of two explorers David Livingstone and Henry Morton Stanley (13 km South of Bujumbura); the Rusizi Nature Reserve (North -Western Bujumbura) where there are hippopotamus and crocodiles, Kibira National Park



which is the leading biodiversity reserve, Kigwena Forest Reserve which is the only sample of the mesophilic forest of the Guinean coast (75 km from Bujumbura) where there are a lot of chimpanzees, Ruvubu National Park (Centre-North-East of the country) where you can see herds of buffaloes, the Southernmost Source of the Nile in Rutovu (115 km Bujumbura, south-eastern of the country), Lakes of birds in Kirundo (Northern province of the country, about 200 km from Bujumbura), the highest mountains: Heha (2670m), Teza (2666m) Gikizi (2145m) and Twinyoni (2659m), the Rift of Germans at Nkoma (East), Karera Falls in Rutana (East), royal domains and tombs (North-Centre -West of the country), thermal waters, the site of Kiganda where was signed the historic treaty in 1908 between the King Mwezi Gisabo and Germans, the National ethnographic

Museum of Gitega, the sanctuary of the sacred drums of Gishora in Gitega province, Lake Tanganyika, the second deepest lake in the world after Lake Baikal and one of the richest freshwater ecosystems in the world etc.. The National Tourism Office in Burundi is available for tourists to provide necessary information on the various possibilities of accommodation, catering, communication, leisure information around Bujumbura and within the countryside. Based in Bujumbura, the capital of the country, it provides information on tourism in Burundi and has an attentive and responsible personal for guiding tourists. For more information on tourism in Burundi, please visit the following site: www.burunditourism.com.

The Government of Burundi congratulates the African Union on its 50th Jubilee Anniversary. The Government of Burundi recognizes the institution to have helped African countries promoting democracy, cooperation and economic integration. Indeed, Burundi wishes the African Union to continue making steps forward in its missions, especially that of peacekeeping all over the African Continent.

