Culture Tourism and Community Based Tourism

Community-based Tourism is an opportunity to experience the life of the local community. In many countries, tourism is organized and managed by the local communities in conjunction with Tour Operators. The benefits of community-based tourism are that they empower the local communities involved. 

The Kigali Hub

Kigali is the cultural heart of Rwanda. The Hub is a project spearheaded by the Rwandan National Cultural Fund, in partnership with many organisations, including the World Bank. It is a platform for the promotion of Rwandan culture and the celebration of the achievements of the country's creative artists. The Hub is a space where the public can come together to celebrate Rwanda's rich cultural heritage.

Traditional Music and Dance

Music has played an important role in social and cultural life of Rwanda, and has a strong tradition of storytelling, and dance. Rwandan music is a fusion of African, Western and Eastern influences, and is characterized by its use of call-and-response and duple meter. It is often performed in ensembles, with instruments such as the nyataghan (a double-sterned wooden xylophone) and the pito (a type of panpipe).

Handcrafts

Pottery Experience

Pottery is one of the oldest forms of art in Rwanda, and is an important part of the country's cultural heritage. The traditional pottery of Rwanda is known for its distinctive designs and patterns, which often depict important cultural symbols.

Imagina Art

A popular form using cow dung is and is usually produced by women. The cow dung is used to make a paste, which is then used to make the objects. These objects are then dried in the sun, and are used for a variety of purposes, such as cooking or storage.

Agaseke baskets

Traditionally the baskets are made from plantago tree fibers, with the stems being cut in a way that the leaves are attached to the stem. They are then woven together and placed in the basket.

Museums and Historical sites

Huge, the Cultural and Historical Centre

Huge is the cultural and historical centre of the country. It is located in the Kigali District and is managed by the National Institute of Museums of Rwanda. The museum is housed in a large building that was originally a palace for the King of Kigali.

Imbogo Art

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A wooden ‘bike’

This ingeniously crafted wooden bicycle is photographed and admired by tourists and Rwandans alike.

Southern Province

Mudance Coffee Cooperative

This cooperative is located in the city of Kigali, and is one of the largest coffee cooperatives in the country. They grow coffee on more than 1,000 hectares of land, and work with over 1,000 farmers.

Visit local markets and taste traditional dishes in Musee Village Wawks. After the market, you leaf to explore the local families and see the traditional crafts and local goods.

Rwanda Culture and Community Tourism

Culture Map

Crafts shops and villages around Kigali

Artists and craftspeople are spread throughout the country, and visitors can purchase their work at local markets, in art galleries, or at the Rwandan National Cultural Fund's craft shops.

Contemporary Music and Community Based Tourism

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