

ANIMAL WELFARE AND PROTECTION POLICY

Effective Date: [31st May 2020]

Updated on: [11th June 2023]

Avella Sights is committed to promoting and upholding high standards of animal welfare and protection in all aspects of our operations as a travel agency in Uganda. We recognize the importance of ethical and responsible tourism practices that ensure the well-being, conservation, and preservation of wildlife. This policy outlines our commitment to animal welfare and protection and provides guidelines for our staff, clients, and partners.

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. Compliance with Laws and Regulations:

Avella Sights will operate in full compliance with all relevant national and international laws, regulations, and conventions pertaining to animal welfare and protection in Uganda. We will continuously monitor and review these regulations to ensure ongoing compliance.

2. Respect for Wildlife:

We will ensure that all interactions with wildlife are conducted in a manner that respects their natural behaviors, habitats, and ecosystems. We will prioritize observation and non-invasive approaches that minimize disturbances to wildlife.

3. Responsible Wildlife Encounters:

Avella Sights will promote responsible wildlife encounters by following these guidelines:

- a. No direct physical contact or interaction with wildlife, except when necessary for their health or welfare, and under the supervision of trained professionals.
- b. No feeding or baiting of wildlife, as it can disrupt natural feeding patterns and create dependency.
- c. No chasing or harassing wildlife, or using wildlife for entertainment or any other purpose that may cause harm or distress.

4. Wildlife Conservation:

We will actively support wildlife conservation efforts and initiatives by:

- a. Promoting protected areas and national parks that prioritize the conservation of endangered species and their habitats.
- b. Encouraging our clients to support responsible wildlife conservation projects and initiatives through financial contributions or volunteer programs.

5. Selection of Ethical Partners:

Avella Sights will collaborate with partners, such as accommodations, tour operators, and local communities, who demonstrate a commitment to animal welfare and protection. We will work with those who promote responsible wildlife tourism and avoid any activities that exploit or harm animals.

6. Education and Awareness:

We will educate and raise awareness among our staff, clients, and partners about the importance of animal welfare and protection. This will include providing information on responsible wildlife tourism practices, wildlife conservation, and the impacts of unethical activities on wildlife populations.

7. Continuous Improvement:

Avella Sights is dedicated to continuously improving our animal welfare and protection practices. We will regularly review and update our policies, procedures, and training programs to reflect advancements in best practices and emerging research in the field.

8. Reporting and Addressing Concerns:

We encourage all staff members, clients, and partners to report any concerns or observations related to potential violations of our animal welfare and protection policy. Avella Sights will promptly investigate and address any reported issues, taking appropriate corrective measures as necessary.

Conclusion:

Avella Sights is committed to promoting and practicing responsible tourism that respects and protects the welfare of animals. Through this policy, we aim to foster a culture of compassion, conservation, and sustainability in our operations and inspire others to join us in safeguarding the rich biodiversity of Uganda's wildlife.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. E.', enclosed within a circular scribble.

[Authorized Representative]

[31st May 2020]