

Umusabi Village & National Art Gallery

Starting out at Inzora Rooftop Café (open from 8:30 am on weekdays and 10 am on weekends) you can enjoy a healthy breakfast and peruse the adjoining bookshop which offers a wide collection of fiction, poetry, and books on Rwandan history and culture.

From Inzora, head West out of town towards the airport. Once you reach the airport, keep going. About half an hour out of Kigali you will see signs for Umusabi Village.



This is Rwanda's first wildlife sanctuary, originally founded to rescue African crowned cranes that were being kept as pets in people's homes. Keeping these cranes is now illegal, and the sanctuary helps to heal and rehabilitate many that have been captured, releasing them back into the wild.



The sanctuary has recently added a butterfly garden and medicinal herb garden. It is a popular destination for bird watching and for guided walks where you can learn more about the Rwandan wetlands and conservation efforts.

The sanctuary is open 8 am – 5 pm every day with last entrance at 4 pm. Entrance is 3,000 francs for Rwandans and children, 10,000 for foreign residents and 15,000 for international visitors.

After visiting the sanctuary you can swing past the National Art Museum, which has an interesting history. It was formerly known as Habyarimana's Palace, where the former president of Rwanda lived and died. On 6 April 1994, he died in a plane crash along with the then president of Burundi. The crash signalled the start of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi and the wreckage can still be seen at the bottom of the garden.



When you're ready to leave, you can head home via KFC, Kigali's only international fast-food chain, or you could continue on to SoleLuna, the oldest Italian pizzeria in Kigali. Good food, nice atmosphere, closed on Mondays.