Uganda – Traveling Day 1

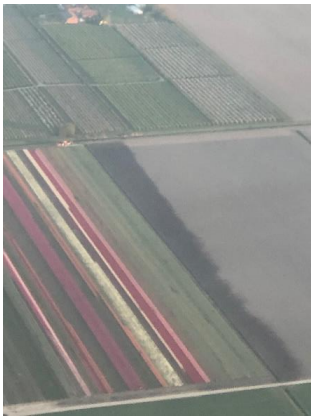
A very good friend of ours had asked us some time ago if, for her 60th Birthday, we would consider a trip to Africa. Of course, we said "yes". What else do you say to your good friend when they want to share a once in a lifetime trip for a once in a lifetime adventure to celebrate a once in a lifetime event? Obviously, we had some conditions…It had to be affordable, it had to be when we could find someone to watch the gallery, or it had to be when we were closed (mid-January to mid-July).

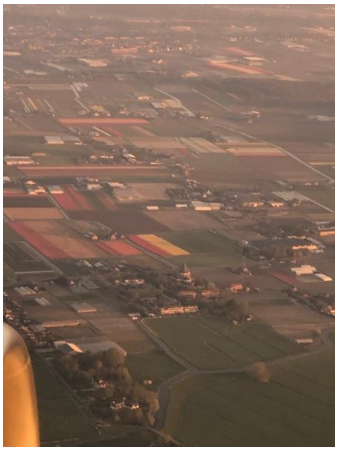
She found a reasonably priced tour for 11 days in Uganda, and another gift of a friend, Ardy, said she would cover the gallery for us. So we started looking at what we would need to take on the trip. This particular trip was organized by Green EDventures (owned and operated by Tara Short), in conjunction with Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW), an organization that offers workshops in 36 states (PA is not one of them) and 6 Canadian Provinces for women to learn outdoor skills in a safe, supportive environment.

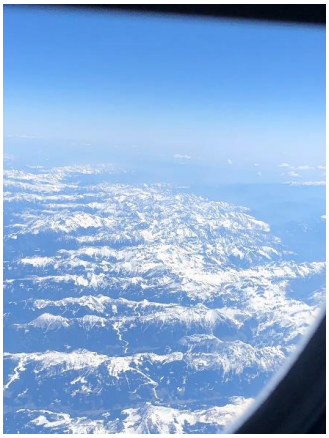
We received specific luggage requirements – 1-75 liter soft sided duffle bag and a backpack along with a smaller day pack – and a packing list with fairly specific details on what we should pack (including a "roadside bathroom kit" that we would carry with us every day.

We met our friends in Amsterdam – it was amazing to see all the tulips in bloom as we arrived – and continued the rest of the way with them.

Not great pictures from the plane, but you get the idea. We saw the Alps flying from Amsterdam to Entebbe.







When we arrived in Entebbe International Airport, Uganda, we met the other 11 tour goers, Tara and a couple of our drivers. Tara contracted with a local tour company, Journeys Uganda, which provided 3 tour guides / drivers. These gentlemen were very knowledgeable about the country, animals, birds, history, etc. There wasn't a question we couldn't ask and the entire trip was a very educational adventure, hence the EDventure in the company name.

We arrive rather late and breakfast was at 6:30, with a departure time for our first EDventure at 7:30. Our iPhones, etc. did not re-set, so we were a little late to breakfast (our friends came and got us, so we didn't miss out). It was raining that first morning so when it stopped, around 10:00 AM, we went to some local markets. They have some incredible artists in this area, making everything from clothing and trinkets to wire sculptures and paintings on canvas.

Next installment – Hunt for the SHOEBILL STORK.