

THE ULTIMATE NAMIBIAN 13 DAY LUXURY

12 nights /13 days



Tour direction: Windhoek to Windhoek – We have 2 scheduled departures a month – please contact us for more information. Combination Top End lodges, Hotel and fully serviced Meru Style camping in private concession areas.

ITINERARY :

Days 1 & 2: Sossusvlei

From Windhoek, travel by vehicle approximately 380km to our lodge, enjoying awe-inspiring views of the mountains and the desert floor – on a clear day you can see the fog banks of the Skeleton Coast. En route, we enjoy a lunch close to the Khomas Hochland escarpment, reaching onto sweeping vistas below.

One of the most enduring impressions of this area is the early morning light on the sea of vivid orange dunes of Sossusvlei, some as high as 300 metres. Afternoon activities include nature walks, drives to scenic viewpoints and marvelling at the unique Namib fauna and flora.

Days 3 & 4: Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund (Acc TBC)

Travel 280km by road north-west via the Kuiseb Canyon with its dark, craggy canyons and via a moon-like landscape of flat gravel plains (with stops along the way that include viewing the extraordinary Welwitschia plants). We arrive at the grand Hansa Hotel in Swakopmund in the late afternoon.

On our second day we explore the ice-blue Atlantic coast, from the port towns of Walvis Bay and Swakopmund to its incredible marine mammals. A private boat cruise at Walvis Bay and down the coast to Sandwich Harbour (weather permitting) provides a unique chance to see the diverse pelagic (ocean-going) birdlife, Cape fur seals and rare Heaviside's dolphins up close. This activity is rounded off with a private seafood lunch, before returning to the hotel in the afternoon. The remainder of the afternoon is at before meeting in the evening for dinner.

The grand three-star Hansa Hotel forms part of Swakopmund's architectural culture and dates back to 1905; it is said to be one of the oldest buildings in the town. It is ideally situated in the centre of Swakopmund within easy walking distance of town and the beach. The luxury of the hotel, its excellent cuisine and friendly service are well known and appreciated countrywide and overseas.

Day 5: Doro Nawas Camp, Damaraland (Acc TBC)

Travel approximately 280km, partly up the legendary Skeleton Coast (named for the numerous shipwrecks the treacherous shores have claimed over the years) to the Cape Cross seal colony with thousands of Cape fur seals. (We'll visit Cape Cross only if we have not seen large populations of seals on the boat cruise from Walvis Bay.) From here we drive the back roads through the game productive Ugab riverbed, travelling north past the Brandberg Mountain – the second largest monolith on earth – to Damaraland. This all-day excursion with lunch en route ends with our arrival at Doro Nawas.

Damaraland is a land of stark desert beauty. Early morning mists, generated by the clash between the icy Atlantic Ocean and the warm desert air of the Skeleton Coast, drift inland along the canyons, providing sustenance to the flora and fauna of the region. Rare succulent plants abound in this harsh countryside. Our activities include explorations on foot, by mountain bike or 4x4 vehicles, viewing springbok, gemsbok and ostrich, and tracking the unique desert-adapted elephant..

Days 6 & 7: , Damaraland (Acc TBC)

We depart Damaraland Camp and drive into the Huab riverbed to search for desert-adapted elephants, before heading north to the mountainous and rocky paradise of the massive Palmwag Concession.

Palmwag is situated in the enormous private Palmwag Reserve in north-west Namibia, between Etosha and the Skeleton Coast – few places on the planet can offer this level of privacy and wilderness experience.

This reserve has a number of freshwater springs that support healthy populations of animals including desert-adapted back rhino and elephant as well as large populations of the rare Hartmann's mountain zebra, giraffe, gemsbok, springbok and kudu. The predator population is the largest outside of the Etosha National Park including lion, cheetah, leopard, and brown and spotted hyaena. Bird life is prolific and diverse featuring most of Namibia's endemics. Welwitschia plants (ancient and highly unusual succulents) dot the plain in front of the camp. The speciality of the area is its growing population of the rare desert-adapted black rhino (the largest concentration in the world outside a national park), which are monitored and protected by the Save the Rhino Trust.

On the second day, the highlight is rhino tracking on foot or by vehicle; other activities include day and night nature drives.

Days 8 & 9: Ongava Tented Camp, Etosha National Park (TBC)

We depart Palmwag eastward on an extended combination wildlife viewing (first part of the drive) and transfer drive of approximately 350km to Etosha National Park, where we experience the pinnacle of game viewing – but accommodated in the privacy of an exclusive bush camp situated on an extensive private game reserve, Ongava, just on the outside of Etosha.

Activities include day and night drives, walks and hides. Within Etosha we visit numerous perennial springs and pans, encountering a myriad of differing species.

Ongava Tented Camp comprises 10 large comfortable walk-in tents, each with en-suite facilities, including flush toilet and a hot shower. All meals are enjoyed in the thatched dining area that overlooks an active waterhole. There is a small pool in which to cool off as well.

Days 10, 11 & 12: Skeleton Coast Research Camp, Skeleton Coast National Park

Enjoy a breathtaking scenic flight over dramatic desert landscapes to the exclusive Skeleton Coast Research Camp situated in a private concession in the Skeleton Coast Park.

This is one of the most inhospitable but hauntingly beautiful places on the planet: desolate and uninhabited. It has everything, from roaring sand dunes, windswept plains, towering canyons and saltpans to seal colonies and shipwrecks. Full-day explorations in 4x4 Land Rovers will take all these in, picnicking on the way. Included are cultural visits to the remote villages of the Himba people.

Skeleton Coast Research Camp comprises 5 Meru-style tents nestled between granite rocks. Surrounded by pure wilderness, this camp is truly remote and the perfect setting for a serviced style of camping. The camp is outfitted with necessary comforts and equipment, essential elements to the old and relaxed manner of early explorers.

Day 13: Charter flight to Windhoek

Say farewell to the adventure as we return by air charter to Windhoek, arriving at approximately 4pm late afternoon.

NOTES:

Please see all attachments of this tour for an overview of what to expect.

1. This tour operates with a minimum of 2 confirmed guests and operates with a maximum of 8 guests.
2. We will gladly arrange tailor-made departures, subject to the availability of space.
3. Guests need to arrive in Windhoek no later than 09h00 on the day of departure. If guests arrive after this time, they will need to be chartered to their first camp, at an extra cost. The safari also ends in Windhoek on the last day at approximately 15h00. Please ensure international flight connections or forward tour connections are liaised with us.
4. **Should all other bookings on an Exploration cancel to one guest, we will convert the booking to an FIT package at an increased price.**
6. **This Safari includes:** accommodation on a per person sharing basis, all meals from lunch on Day 1, drinks (except premium brands) while at Kulala Wilderness Camp; Damaraland Camp; Desert Rhino Camp; Ongava Tented Camp & Skeleton Coast

Research Camp, national park fees, laundry (except at Hansa Hotel and Damaraland Camp), activities and all internal charters as specified in the detailed itinerary.

7. Packages exclude: flights (other than specified in the detailed safari itinerary), visas, compulsory insurance, all relevant entry and departure government taxes, all drinks while in Swakopmund (Hansa Hotel or The Stiltz), all personal purchases (including curios, premium brand liquors, telephone calls etc.), gratuities, optional extra activities, pre and post safari tours and meals or accommodation before or after the safari.

8. Age Limits – Children from the age of 12 are welcome on all scheduled departures. For parties with children under 12, a private tailor-made safari will be quoted for on request. For guests over the age of 75, a certified medical certificate of full health must be submitted on booking confirmation.

9. Please note that the Safari includes long road transfers on gravel roads which may cause discomfort for guests with back or kidney problems. Please consult your doctor for advice if this is the case.

10. Beyond Reach reserves the right, due to situations beyond our control, to substitute a lodge or location with another of comparable quality at no additional cost.

11. **These explorations are limited to a 12kg luggage allowance per person.**

12. **If a guest is willing to share and we can match guests of the same gender, the single supplement will not be charged. However, if there is no suitable match, the single supplement surcharge will apply**