



NAMIBIA



INTRODUCTION:

Namibia is a vast country with a surface area of 824 268 km², it is about four times the size of the United Kingdom and 27 times the size of Belgium. Blessed with bountiful sunshine, an abundance of wildlife and an intriguing variety of flora and fauna. Attributes that make it a country to which visitors return again and again are the friendliness and cultural diversity of its people, and above all, the pristine quality and extraordinary beauty of its landscape. The country derives its name from the Namib Desert, a unique geological feature renowned for the unusual and haunting quality of its landscape. Far from being lifeless and barren, this narrow strip of moist coastal desert features an unusual variety of desert-adapted flora and fauna. The country can be divided into four distinct topographical regions. Of these the most definitive is possibly the Namib Desert, which consists of a 50 km – 140 km wide coastal plain extending along the entire coastline, interspersed with dune belts, dry riverbeds and deeply eroded canyons. The central plateau, which runs from north to south, has an average altitude of between 1,000 m and 2,000 m. This plateau gradually falls away towards the east, where a sandy strip of land merges into the level expanse of the Kalahari Desert. Dense, bush covered plains to the north-east of the Etosha Pan included the high-rainfall areas of Kavango and Caprivi, typified by woodland savannah and riverine vegetation. With a dry climate, typical of a semi-desert country, droughts are a regular occurrence. Average day temperatures in the summer vary from 20°C - 34°C and average night temperatures in the winter from 0°C - 10°C. The Benguela Current is also the prime determinant of the climate of the Namib, as it reduces rainfall and causes the omnipresent fog typical of the coast.

INCLUDED IN PACKAGE:

<i>Destinations:</i>	<i>Windhoek, Sossusvlei, Swakopmund, Damaraland, Etosha National Park & Erindi Game Reserve</i>
<i>Dates:</i>	<i>to be advised on request</i>
<i>Duration:</i>	<i>12 Days / 11 Nights</i>
<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>En suite accommodation at the following: River Crossing Lodge, Sossusvlei Lodge, Atlantic Villa Guest House, Twyfelfontein Country Lodge, Taleni Etosha Village, Halali Resort & Old Traders Lodge</i>
<i>Transfers:</i>	<i>All road transfers</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Meals as listed in itinerary</i>

EXCLUDED FROM PACKAGE:

- *All International and/or Domestic flights*



- *Gratuities*
- *Optional activities*
- *Travel insurance*
- *Laundry*
- *Beverages*
- *Items not specified*

TOUR PROGRAMME

Day 1:

Hosea Kutako International Airport - River Crossing Lodge (Windhoek)

Upon arrival at Hosea Kutako International Airport you will be met by a representative from SafariWise and then be transferred to River Crossing. River Crossing Lodge is situated just east of Namibia's capital city Windhoek, nestled amongst the foothills of the Auas Mountains. This location makes it an ideal first or final destination on any visit to Namibia, especially if your onward journey departs from the main international airport. Also, as it is a mere 5 minutes drive from the city centre, it is not too far from the main shopping, medical and banking facilities. The German architecture at River Crossing Lodge resembles a farm style of yesteryear, complete with corrugated roofs, wide balconies decorated with impressive pots of geraniums, all on an unspoiled game estate.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>River Crossing</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Afternoon at leisure</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>Game drives</i>

Day 2:

River Crossing Lodge – Sossusvlei Lodge (Sossusvlei Area)

After breakfast at we drive to Sossusvlei. Sossusvlei Lodge is situated adjacent to Sesriem, on a 44,000ha private reserve just outside the entrances to both the Namib Naukluft Park and the dunes at Sossusvlei. This setting makes it the ideal destination for visitors wanting to explore this section of the Namib Desert, without having the longer early morning drive, associated with accommodation located further away. Airstrip transfers to and from the lodge are available for guests of Sossusvlei Lodge.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>Sossusvlei Lodge</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Scenic drive through the south to Sossusvlei Lodge</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>There is a wide variety of activities to enjoy in the area including Sossusvlei excursions, desert scenic flights, bush dinners, nature drives, sundowners, guided sunset walks, hot-air balloon flights and eco-quad biking.</i>

Day 3:

Sossusvlei Lodge (Sossusvlei Area)

This morning starts before sunrise. We drive to Sossusvlei in time to see the beautiful Namib sunrise. The Sossusvlei, Namibia's famous highlight in the heart of the Namib Desert, is a huge clay pan, enclosed by giant sand dunes. Some of the spectacular hills of sand are, at a height of 300 meters, the highest in the world. Only after a heavy rainfall, which is a rare event in this area, does the vlei fill with water. As the clay layers hardly allow any



water infiltration, a turquoise lake will remain for quite some time. After lunch we visit the Sesriem Canyon, one of the amazing features of the Namib. Here the Tsauchab River has carved a gorge - up to 30 meters deep and about 1 km long - into the conglomerate gravels deposited some 15 - 18 million years ago during a wetter phase in the history of the Namib. From the parking area a track leads to the canyon floor and a walk into Sesriem is like descending through the layers of time.

Accommodation: Sossusvlei Lodge
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Sossusvlei & Sesriem excursion
Optional activities: There is a wide variety of activities to enjoy in the area including Sossusvlei excursions, desert scenic flights, bush dinners, nature drives, sundowners, guided sunset walks, hot-air balloon flights and eco-quad biking.

Day 4:

Sossusvlei Lodge – Atlantic Villa (Swakopmund Area)

After breakfast we drive to the coastal town of Swakopmund. As we travel towards the Atlantic Coast we see the scenery change from sand dunes to dark craggy canyons and then to flat gravel plains. Enjoy a picnic lunch en-route. Swakopmund is situated on the coast and surrounded by desert. It offers a wide variety of attractions in an atmosphere unique in its appeal. The influence of German architecture, dating back to the turn of the last century, can be seen. We will be staying at the Atlantic Villa. This beautiful Villa is situated on the outskirts of Swakopmund and is uniquely situated overlooking both the Atlantic Ocean and the Namib Desert; situated approximately 6 km from the city centre. The magnificent Atlantic Villa has breathtaking views and is only a short walk from the Atlantic Ocean. This upmarket guesthouse caters to even the most sophisticated requirements where our guests are assured of our undivided attention.

Accommodation: Atlantic Villa
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch
Included activities: Scenic drive to the town of Swakopmund
Optional activities: Quad biking, sand boarding, boat fishing, ballooning & scenic flights over the Skeleton Coast

Day 5:

Atlantic Villa (Swakopmund Area)

Spend the day exploring Swakopmund. We have included a choice between two activities, a dolphin cruise or Tommy's living desert tour.

Accommodation: Atlantic Villa
Meals: Breakfast
Included activities: Dolphin cruise or Tommy's Living Desert tour
Optional activities: Quad biking, sand boarding, boat fishing, ballooning & scenic flights over the Skeleton Coast

The Living Desert Tour:

Originally developed by Tommy himself, is a unique 4x4-adventure drive through the dunes outside Swakopmund, Namibia. Just the drive in the dunes is an amazing experience, but Tommy will show us a lot more than sand. The tour takes us from the vegetated, life-rich eastern side of the dunes, right through the dunes to the Atlantic Ocean on the western side of the dune belt. Tommy introduces us to some of the fascinating, hidden life in this apparently



barren landscape that is part of the Namib Desert. Here we can find creatures endemic to the Namib: the sidewinder (*Peringuey's Adder*), the Palmato Gecko with its transparent skin and beautiful colours - we dig into the dune side to find this nocturnal desert-dweller. We track the large Namaqua chameleon and watch it enjoy brunch. Then it is a dash to catch the swift sand-diving lizard. We find out how the area's plants and small animals survive the harsh climate and how they obtain water for life. We also track a FitzSimon's Burrowing skink across the dune face, in hopes of catching this legless lizard. Along the way Tommy will explain the variety of dune colours. At the end of the tour, weather permitting, we experience a 'roaring' dune. Other characters to be found in the dune belt are the 'dancing' White Lady spider; the *Parabuthus Villosus* black scorpion; the occasional horned adder or sand-snake; desert wasps, fish-moths, crickets and several beetle species, and many more. A Living Desert Tour with the enthusiastic Tommy is educational, fun and an unforgettable experience. We see the desert and dunes with new eyes. The photographic opportunities are endless too: make sure those batteries are charged before we leave!

This half-day tour leaves at 8am in the morning, and returns at approximately 1pm. Tommy also offers an optional night activity: The Living Desert Night Walk takes us on a captivating three hour outing into the dunes with fluorescent lamps. We will see the nocturnal creatures moving around, and Tommy will track the more reclusive living things too.

Dolphin Cruise

The ski boats depart from the Tanker Jetty at the Walvis Bay Harbour. We go along the coast to the Bird Island and foreign boats and then cross to Pelican Point. Friendly seals come join us on the boat to be fed, while dolphins swim around enjoying the fun. Fresh oysters, snacks, champagne, beer and soft drinks are served at the seal colony before we return to Walvis Bay via the Lagoon.

Day 6:

Atlantic Villa – Twyfelfontein Country Lodge (Damaraland Area)

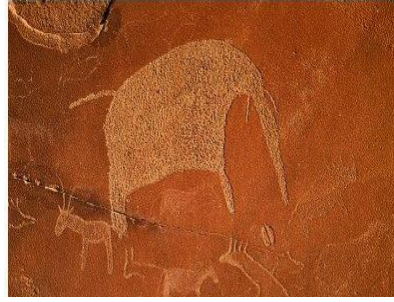
The Twyfelfontein area, being a very vulnerable and delicate ecosystem, is renowned for some of the best examples of Bushman paintings and rock engravings in Southern Africa and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Interesting rock formations and the remainder of prehistoric volcanic action can be seen among the most prominent geographic features including the Organ Pipes, Burnt Mountain, Doros Crater and the Petrified Forest. The fauna and flora of Damaraland is typical of the Pro-Namib region and plant species include the magnificent Welwitschia, Moringa and a variety of the Commiphora species. The Desert adapted elephant, rhino, giraffe, springbok, zebra, oryx and ostrich include some of the wildlife which can be found living in total harmony with the community.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>Twyfelfontein Country Lodge</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Scenic drive through Damaraland to Twyfelfontein</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>N.A.</i>

Day 7:

Twyfelfontein Country Lodge (Damaraland Area)

Explore Damaraland. The slopes above Twyfelfontein are littered with large rock slabs, with the largest concentration of rock engravings in Africa. The engravings are mostly of animals, but there are also human footprints, animal spoor and some abstract motifs. We also visit the Organ Pipes, which are exposed in a gorge; roughly 100m long and reach a maximum height of 5m. We go in search for the Desert adapted elephant.



Accommodation: Twyfelfontein Country Lodge
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Excursion to the rock paintings, Organ pipes & Burnt Mountain, along the way we search for a sighting of the Desert adapted elephant
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 8:

Twyfelfontein Country Lodge – Taleni Etosha Village (Etosha South Area)

After breakfast we travel to Taleni Etosha village. The name Taleni means 'view' or 'vision'. Taleni Africa has the vision of combining affordability with comfort and style in a private and protected reserve directly adjacent to one of Namibia's highlights. The days when cattle still grazed the grounds around Etosha are long gone. The mountains where the calves went missing, 'Ondundozonananandana', remain as silent witnesses. Today the land is preserved prime destination for nature lovers.

Accommodation: Taleni Etosha Village
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Game drives into Etosha National Park
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 9:

Taleni Etosha Village – Halali Resort (Etosha National Park)

Strategically located halfway between Okaukuejo and Namutoni, Halali is situated at the base of a dolomite hill, amongst shady Mopane trees, and provides an ambiance of tranquillity and space. It is surrounded by some popular waterholes in the park. A floodlit waterhole which is viewed from an elevated vantage point within the camp provides exceptional wildlife viewing throughout the day and into the night.

Accommodation: Halali Resort
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Game drives and game viewing at floodlit waterholes
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 10:

Halali Resort (Etosha National Park)

Game drives in the park.

Accommodation: Halali Resort
Meals: Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Game drives and game viewing at floodlit waterholes
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 11:

Halali Resort – Old Traders Lodge (Erindi Game Reserve)

Namibia has its fascinating desert, its own canyon, the Etosha pan and endless savannah, but on a vast mountainous plain lie Erindi, translated as "The Place of Water" in local Herero, with more than 15 000 head of game teeming over an unbelievably large game reserve, where even rare and endangered species are being conserved and managed in a manner that allows man to experience what it was once like to live in undisturbed Africa. The experience is set on 71 000 ha of pristine wilderness with varied landscapes in a malaria-free area, from mountains



to savannah to open grassland right in the heart of Namibia: Erindi Private Game Reserve is situated in the triangle between Okahandja, Otjiwarongo and Omaruru. The pure tranquillity, abundant wildlife and distant horizons with awesome sunsets will sweep us off our feet. Old Traders Lodge provides the accommodation at Erindi Private Game Reserve. This impressive lodge comprises the main dining room and viewing deck as well as 35 well appointed suites including 5 deluxe suites. Three of the five deluxe suites face the water hole. The spacious suites include; comfortable double or twin single beds with crisp linen and warm blankets, remote controlled air-conditioning, en-suite bathroom with bath and shower, in-room safe, in-room study desk, satellite TV, hairdryers, fridges and kettles.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>Old Traders Lodge</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Breakfast / Picnic lunch / Dinner</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Afternoon game drive - A short excursion takes a sundowner location. Intense golden hues make the evening surreal as we sip drinks and enjoy light snacks. The light softens after a magnificent sunset, as the sun dips behind the horizon, the air cools, day transforms to night. Animals leave the safety of their daytime shelters. The numerous nocturnal hunters, including lion and genet pick up scent trailing the night air. Evening excursion also bring incredible viewing of little creatures such as striped polecat, African wild cat, bat eared foxes, porcupine and pangolin, brown hyena, spotted hyena and jackal.</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>N.A.</i>

Day 12:
Old Traders Lodge (Erindi Game Reserve) – Windhoek International Airport

The day begins before first light. We meet at the main lodge where the kitchen prepares hot brewed coffee, tea, muffins. We depart in the Land Rovers, the air crisp and the morning alive with the sounds of the bush. The rangers have an intimate knowledge of the environment, reading signs of last night’s activity they take us into their world. It’s not long before we pick up the spoor of a predator left not long before as the first rays of sun pierce the mountains in the distance. Communicating by radio, the vehicles share information on sightings giving us a greater chance of experiencing as much as possible. After the game drive we depart to Windhoek to be in time for your flight. We visit the Okahandja craft market on our way to Windhoek.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>N.A.</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Morning game drive, then en-route to Windhoek we visit the Okahandja craft market.</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>N.A.</i>



Quoted price:

Days 1 – 12

on request

Notes:

- a) The costing for the Tour Programme is based on a minimum of six (6) guests.
- b) This is a quotation and is valid for 30 days only.
- c) No reservations have been made and all accommodation, flights and transport are subject to availability.
- d) Should any of the accommodation mentioned not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable venue, which might affect the final quoted price.
- e) Quoted price is also subject to availability, fuel/gas price and possibly exchange rate fluctuations.
- f) 20% non-refundable deposit is required on confirmation of safari.
- g) Full payment is required sixty (60) days prior to arrival.

Please consult our webpage, www.safariwise.com.na for the Terms & Conditions.

Please call on the office of SafariWise™ for bookings and/or enquiries:

SafariWise™
PO Box 2796
SWAKOPMUND
Namibia

2 Phillip Street
SWAKOPMUND
Namibia

TASA Member No.: S19
NTB Reg. No.: TSO00076

Tel +264 64 405 220
Fax +264 64 405 220
Mobile +264 81 124 9391 (Neil)
Mobile +264 81 129 9391 (Berdene)
Skype macleodsrossmund

neil@safariwise.com.na
berdene@safariwise.com.na
info@safariwise.com.na

© SafariWise