

# Combination: Fly In & Self-Drive Namibia Safari

## 17 Nights | 18 Days – Carefully chosen Lodge & Hotel Accommodation

**Highlights:** Windhoek, Kalahari Desert, Fish River Canyon, Sossusvlei & Sesriem Canyon + Deadvlei (Unesco World Heritage Site), Swakopmund, Damaraland, Desert Adapted Elephants, Etosha National Park – Experience the abundance of wildlife in their natural habitat, variety of landscapes and geological features, and the opportunity to meet the San bushmen. Exclusive

### **Inclusions:**

- 17 x Overnights
- 17 x Breakfast
- 15 x Dinner
- 1 x Activity
- 13 Days 4x4 Vehicle Rental, including one-way delivery fee to Swakopmund
- Comprehensive Travel Documentation Pack
- 1 x Namibia Handbook
- Filled Cooler Bag

### **Exclusions:**

- Park Entrance fees or park permits at National Parks
- Optional Activities
- Personal expenses e.g. telephone, drinks, meals not mentioned, souvenirs, tips & gratuities
- Petrol for rental car and extras e.g. contract fee, driver sign up fee
- Travel Insurance or Visa Fees
- International Flights

**Price per person sharing based on 4 persons travelling:** Approximately NAD 124,810.00

**Price per person sharing based on 2 persons travelling:** Approximately NAD 249,620.00

*This Tour Programme is an itinerary suggestion which is meant to serve as an example, and depending on personal preference, timeframe as well as individual budget, we can prepare an individual tailor-made programme.*

### **Tour Programme**

Day	Tour Description
1	<p>Arrival in Windhoek at the Hosea Kutako International Airport.</p> <p>Your pilot will meet you in the Arrivals Hall and escort you through your private charter plane (Cessna 210 or similar). Kindly note that 10kg luggage (packed in soft bags) is allowed per person for the fly-in safari portion. If needed, a Trip Tours representative can collect the remaining luggage at the airport, prior to you departing on your fly in Safari. Your luggage will be safely delivered to you in Swakopmund, when you arrive here after the fly-in portion of your Namibia safari.</p> <p>Your private charter fly-in safari can now commence. You fly to the small town of Mariental (flight time is approx. 01:05 hours). A representative of the lodge will welcome you at Mariental Airport. Subsequent vehicle transfer to the lodge, (approx. 45 minutes) which is situated in the red dunes of the Kalahari Desert. You can spend the afternoon at leisure, or opt to book an afternoon sundowner tour into the Kalahari directly with the lodge (optional). This activity is offered in an open and comfortable off-road vehicle. The guide will share his knowledge and passion for this area. This is a tour to get to know the Kalahari with its unforgettable landscapes, fauna and flora. Alternatively, you can also explore the Kalahari on foot, a map for walking trails is available at the reception.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the Kalahari Desert (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
2	<p>This morning you can spend the time at leisure, or optionally you can go on a guided bushman tour with the lodge before breakfast. You check out from the lodge at around 10:00 am, and the flight circuit continues from Mariental to the Fish River Canyon today. After arrival and transfer from the airstrip to the lodge you can spend the remaining afternoon at leisure, or chose to go on a sundowner tour with the lodge, or hike along the rim of the Canyon.</p> <p>At 650 kilometres the Fish River is the longest river in Namibia. A very, very long time ago, the Fish River left the Naukluft mountains attempting to find its way to the Orange River, in the south of the country. But mountains blocked its flow and so the largest canyon in Africa was formed. It took 120 million years of meticulous work for the creation of the Fish River Canyon. It is a vast labyrinth, in which temperatures of 50 degrees in the summer months are considered quite normal.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge on the rim of the Fish River Canyon (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
3	<p>Today you will join a lodge tour which will take you deep into the Fish River Canyon. This is a day tour including a light lunch. The car winds its way through the different layers of the massive canyon. 650 million years ago you would have been standing at the bottom of a sea, here. If you look down to a depth of 550m, you get the feeling that you are standing on the edge of eternity. Few places in the world reveal the layers of the earth as dramatically as the Fish River Canyon.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge on the rim of the Fish River Canyon (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast &amp; Canyon Drive)</b></p>

4	<p>Today, after a leisurely breakfast, you will take off and fly to the coastal town of Lüderitz, here the plane will refuel. Thereafter onward flight to the Sossusvlei area, where you will spend the next two nights. Optionally, you can book a sundowner nature drive in the Namib Desert directly with the lodge.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the vicinity of Sossusvlei (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
5	<p>Today we recommend that you join a lodge tour to explore the Sossusvlei sites (optional). The vehicles leave early in the morning, because a dune landscape in the morning light of the rising sun offers an unforgettable dramatic landscape, and ample photographic opportunities. For many years, the sporadically flowing water of the Tsauchab dry river, has been fighting its way through the ever-expanding dune landscape of the Namib Desert. However, this river will never be able to reach the sea, but instead it seeps away in natural dams made by the surrounding dunes. The Sossusvlei for instance, is surrounded by some of the highest dunes in the world, which can drain the last strength out of your legs, when you climb them. But once at the top, you will be amply rewarded with a fantastic view. Dune 45 is the most popular dune to climb here.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the vicinity of Sossusvlei (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
6	<p>The fly-in safari now takes you further northward over the endless landscapes of the Namib desert to the coastal town of Swakopmund. Upon arrival at Swakopmund Airport your rental car is handed to you, and your self-drive portion starts with the drive to your hotel. The rest of the day can be spent at leisure and you can explore the town on foot.</p> <p>Optional activities: quad biking, camel rides, visit to the museum, aquarium, crystal gallery, horseback safari, and scenic flights over the Skeleton Coast or Sossusvlei.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Hotel in Swakopmund (Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
7	<p>This morning you can consider to optionally partake in a variety of activities on offer here. We recommend either a catamaran Marine Cruise on the Walvis Bay Lagoon, or a half-day Living Desert Tour.</p> <p>Catamaran Marine Cruise: Between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund, on the rough Atlantic coast, you will experience the unique nature and wildlife of the Walvis Bay lagoon on board a spacious and comfortable catamaran. The four-hour cruise goes from the harbour port via the Walvis Bayer oyster banks to Pelican Point, which is home to a large colony of fur seals. The tour offers many highlights. Among other things, pelicans are hand-fed in flight. You will learn a lot of interesting things about these and other marine animals. At the end of the cruise you are offered snack platters with fresh oysters and sparkling wine.</p> <p>The Desert Tour, also called the Living Desert Tour, is a unique experience in 4x4 vehicles intended to introduce the visitor to the impressive beauty of the Namib Desert and to showcase life in the desert. The coastal dune belt, which may appear barren and lifeless to some, is home to a fascinating variety of small animals that have adapted to the desert. They survive thanks to the fog that regularly rolls in from the cold Atlantic Ocean. Admire the "Dancing White Lady", a spider that cartwheels down the dunes at 44 revolutions per second to escape any enemy. Admire the transparent desert gecko with webbed feet that look like snowshoes. Learn about the different bugs and insects and how these manage to survive in the desert. A unique opportunity to experience the desert up close.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Hotel in Swakopmund (Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
8	<p>Continue further north today and self-drive via the salt road towards Henties Bay, and onwards via Uis into the picturesque Damaraland.</p> <p>Both regions in the northwest are characterized by lonely stretches and barren desert landscapes, which are repeatedly interrupted by green oases and are home to the elusive desert adapted elephants.</p> <p>You will reach the lodge in the early afternoon. The Damaraland offers a wealth of geological and archaeological highlights. The area is named after the Damara people and is home to Namibia's highest mountain, the Brandberg, and Twyfelfontein, where some of the best preserved San rock engravings can be found. This is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the Twyfelfontein area (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
9	<p>During the morning you can choose to book a tour to find the elusive Desert Elephants with the lodge directly. They have adapted to their dry, semi-desert environment by having a smaller body mass with proportionally longer legs and seemingly larger feet than other elephants. They survive by eating moisture-laden vegetation growing in ephemeral riverbeds and with their ability to go several days without drinking water. Sometimes they must travel long distances to reach a water source.</p> <p>For the afternoon we recommend that you visit the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein. Renowned for featuring some of the most exceptional Bushman rock engravings in southern Africa, the Twyfelfontein area also features intriguing rock formations and remnants of prehistoric volcanic activity, such as the Organ Pipes, Burnt Mountain, and the Petrified Forest.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge on the Twyfelfontein area (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
10	<p>This morning after a leisurely breakfast you continue your journey northward to the Grootberg Plateau, where you will spend the next two nights in this pristine landscape. Optionally you can undertake a guided walk on the plateau or sundowner drive to explore this scenic area.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge on the Grootberg Plateau (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
11	<p>Optional Activities: In the Grootberg Conservancy there are numerous walking trails which you can explore on a guided hike. Alternatively, you can also book a Rhino Tracking Activity, or, if you have not done so yet, a tour to see the desert elephants, is highly recommended here.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge on the Grootberg Plateau (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>

<b>12</b>	<p>Today after breakfast your journey takes you further north-east, in the immediate vicinity of the world famous Etosha National Park. Your lodge is situated in a private game reserve with scenic views onto the surrounding savannah landscapes. Time permitting, we recommend that you book an afternoon game drive on this reserve, which has an abundance of wildlife.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the vicinity of the Etosha National Park (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>13</b>	<p>After breakfast and check out, you drive through the park in an easterly direction and have the opportunity to stop at the various waterholes en-route while driving to the north eastern side of the park. Before sunset you reach the eastern gate, the Von Lindequist gate, where you leave the park and continue to drive a short distance, until you reach your lodge.</p> <p>At 130 km long and 50 km wide, the Etosha Pan is by far the largest pan in Africa and is also the park's most distinctive feature. The total pan area measures about 4800 square kilometres, which is roughly about quarter of the total area of Etosha National Park.</p> <p>The park hosts around 114 mammal species, 340 bird species, 110 reptile species, 16 amphibian species, and 1 species of fish (up to 49 during floods). Etosha National Park holds the prestigious title of being the single most important guardian of the black rhino globally, offering unparalleled opportunities for spectacular game viewing.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge outside the Etosha National Park, eastern side (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>14</b>	<p>Today you have another opportunity to drive to various waterholes situated on the eastern side in the park. Get an early start so as to enter the park as soon as the gates open. At certain waterholes you can perhaps spot a leopard in the tree relaxing after its nightly hunt.</p> <p>The Etosha National Park has a biodiversity that can hardly be surpassed. A variety of animals gather at the various waterholes, which offers spectacular opportunities for game viewing. Each individual waterhole has a unique and distinct character. During the late afternoon you return to your lodge situated just outside of the park.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge outside the Etosha National Park, eastern side (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>15</b>	<p>On the way to the Waterberg today, we recommend a small detour to see the Hoba meteorite. This is probably the largest meteorite (over 50 tons) of its kind in the world, and for that reason alone it is worthwhile seeing. Thereafter continue via the town of Otjiwarongo to the historic and scenic Waterberg area.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the Waterberg area (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>16</b>	<p>Today you have the opportunity to explore the Waterberg Plateau Park in own arrangement, or to optionally partake in one of the guided lodge activities. We recommend a Rhino Drive activity on the private reserve of the lodge.</p> <p>The flat Waterberg mountain top, which measures 20 km wide and 50 km long, is largely made up of porous sandstone. Precipitation seeps through the permeable rock and then hits an impenetrable layer of clay below.</p> <p>Mainly due to a resettlement project in this area, there are now also two rhino species occurring here, namely white and black rhino. The Waterberg area also boasts as the being only proven area where healthy groups of African buffalo, sable, roan and lyre antelope, as well as leopards and cheetahs, can be found.</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge in the Waterberg area (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>17</b>	<p>Today's drive takes you back via Otjiwarongo and a little further to a private game reserve that, among other things, is wholeheartedly committed to the welfare of the large African cats. Here you can choose to partake in a leopard tracking activity in the afternoon, but other activities are also on offer here (optional).</p> <p><b>Overnight: Lodge near Otjiwarongo (Dinner, Bed &amp; Breakfast)</b></p>
<b>18</b>	<p>Today you start your return journey to Windhoek. Time permitting, you have opportunity to purchase some last souvenirs in Windhoek, if you wish. Recommended shops are Bushmen Art Souvenirs, Ernst Holz, and also the Craft Centre in the centre of town, to mention but a few.</p> <p>Then continue to Windhoek International Airport, where you return your rented vehicle prior to checking in for your return flight home.</p>