

Self-Drive Safari

20 Nights | 21 Days

Diverse Namibia – Lodge and Hotel Accommodation

Highlights: Windhoek, Kalahari Desert, Sossusvlei, Deadvlei & Sesriem, Namib Desert, Swakopmund, Twyfelfontein (Damaraland), Desert adapted Elephants, Epupa, Kunene, Etosha National Park, private Wildlife Reserve, beautiful landscapes, plenty of animals, hiking, meeting the San Bushmen, Himba and Ovambo tribes.

Inclusions:

20 x overnights
 20 x Breakfast
 2 x Lunch
 16 x Dinner
 21 x days 4x4 vehicle rental
 1 x Namibia Handbook
 Personal Meet & Greet in Windhoek

Price per person sharing:

Deluxe Tour: Approximately NAD 92,150.00
 Classic Tour: Approximately NAD 71,410.00

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 tailormade programme.

Tour Programme

Day	Tour Description
1	<p>Arrival in Windhoek at the Hosea Kutako International Airport. After completing your vehicle rental formalities your journey can commence with the drive through to Windhoek town (approximately 30 minutes drive) to your hotel.</p> <p>For your first and last evening in Windhoek we recommend that you book the desired restaurant in advance. We can gladly assist with recommendations as well as the table reservations.</p> <p>Optional Activities: Guided Katutura Township Tour, Sight-seeing in Windhoek (can also be undertaken in own arrangement).</p> <p>Overnight: Hotel in Windhoek (Bed & Breakfast)</p>
2	<p>After breakfast your Namibia safari can start with the drive south into the Kalahari Desert.</p> <p>Behind the Auas mountains, the vast expanse of the country opens up like a picture book. On the way you will discover large sociable weaver nests in ancient camelthorn acacias. As you approach the lodge, the endless dunes stretch linearly across the Kalahari Desert. Oryx, springbok and other smaller mammals avail themselves for wonderful animal motifs, in the backdrop of the red dune sands. The Kalahari (also Kgalagadi) is a thorn bush savannah, partially also a dry savannah, but is sometimes referred to as a desert because of the prevailing red sands.</p> <p>Upon arrival at the lodge, you will can spend some time to relax and unwind. Optional Activities on offer here are: An afternoon guided scenic drive in the red Kalahari dunes with a sundowner. 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>Overnight: Lodge in the Kalahari Desert (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
3	<p>Before breakfast you can opt to visit a traditional bushman village with a guide. Here you will get to know the way of life and some knowledge of the ancient San tribe.</p> <p>Thereafter you continue your journey into the Namib desert, where the next lodge is situated not far from the entrance gates of the Sesriem National Park.</p> <p>Overnight: Camp in the vicinity of Sossusvlei (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
4	<p>Just before sunrise this morning we recommend that you drive into the Sesriem Park, because a dune landscape in the morning light of the rising sun offers an unforgettable dramatic landscape, and 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, or "vleis", 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 rewarded with a fantastic view. Dune 45 is the most popular dune to climb here. Upon your return, you can also pay the smaller Sesriem Canyon a visit.</p> <p>Overnight: Camp in the vicinity of Sossusvlei (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>

5	<p>Continue your journey via Solitaire and through the enchanting landscapes of the Namib Desert today. The first thing that strikes the visitor when entering Solitaire is the many old timer car wrecks which are picturesquely draped along the roadside. As you continue from here, the gravel plains of the Namib spread out before you. Here and there a mountain can be seen on the flickering horizon. Today's drive is not too far, as the next lodge is located halfway between Sesriem and Swakopmund, in the middle of the Namib Desert. Here you can relax and also go hiking in the area, as there are a number of hiking trails here.</p> <p>Overnight: Lodge in the Namib Desert (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
6	<p>After breakfast you drive via Walvis Bay to Swakopmund. The long winding gravel roads are occasionally decorated by small dust plumes. You are surrounded by breath-taking views and the most beautiful landscapes of the Namib desert. You drive takes you through granitic sculptured landscapes, ancient erosion valleys and crosses not only dry rivers, but also the Tropic of Capricorn. Midday arrival in the coastal town of Swakopmund.</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>Overnight: Hotel in Swakopmund (Bed & Breakfast)</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.</p> <p>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>Overnight: Hotel in Swakopmund (Bed & Breakfast)</p>
8	<p>Continue north today 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 famous 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>Overnight: Lodge in the Twyfelfontein area (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
9	<p>After breakfast, drive further north into the Kunene region.</p> <p>You will see some of the most overwhelming landscapes in Namibia. The vistas are very rocky and mountainous and one can see many conical shaped hills. Many wildlife species live in this area, including desert elephants, rhinos and giraffes. The local Himba and Herero tribes traditionally live as hunters and gatherers, or as cattle breeders. The location of your accommodation offers a fantastic view of the surrounding mountain landscapes.</p> <p>Overnight: Lodge in Opuwo (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
10	<p>This morning the journey continues to the 1,207 km long Kunene River, which has water all year round. In fact, it seems like an endpoint to the northern Namibian world. The Kunene River, heading west from Ruacana, forms the natural border between Angola and Namibia before reaching the Atlantic Ocean where it forms a delta which is up to 30 kilometres wide.</p> <p>Until the Tertiary Age, approximately 66 million years ago, the Kunene flowed into today's Etosha Pan, which at that time formed an inland delta, similar to the Okavango Delta. Arrival at the camp in Epupa is around noon. The afternoon can be spent at leisure.</p> <p>Overnight: Camp at the Epupa Falls (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
11	<p>This morning we recommend that you consider a visit to a traditional Himba village. Learn about the customs and way of life of one of Africa's last nomadic tribes. The Himba are a proud people who have adapted minimally, and only to the extent necessary, to Western civilization. Another optional activity here would be a late afternoon sundowner drive up a hill overlooking the Epupa Falls. The sunset activity can also be undertaken with a local guide who will take you to the viewpoint via a scenic walk.</p> <p>Overnight: Camp at the Epupa Falls (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)</p>
12	<p>This morning you continue your journey along the enchanting landscapes of the Kunene River, taking you past small rural villages to the vicinity of Ruacana. Here you can enjoy an overnight stay at a lodge situated directly on the banks of the Kunene river.</p>

	Overnight: Lodge near Ruacana (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)
13	Today you have the opportunity to really explore the surrounding area and optionally you can partake in one of the lodge activities, for instance White Water Rafting, Canoeing, or even a relaxing sundowner boat cruise on the Kunene river. Overnight: Lodge near Ruacana (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Übernachtung Frühstück)
14	After breakfast you depart from the Kunene area and the drive continues into the Ovamboland. The border from Angola is just about 70 km away. Around noon you arrive in the town of Ondangwa, where you will overnight in a traditional village today. During the afternoon you can optionally partake in a tour of this village homestead, where you can get to know more about the traditional way of life of the Ovambo culture, and also enjoy some of their local dishes. Overnight: Village Homestead near Ondangwa (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)
15	After breakfast your journey continues further south to the world famous Etosha National Park. You enter the park through the northern King Nehale gate. You can enjoy the game drive while stopping at the various waterholes en route to the Von Lindequist gate. Before sunset you leave the park and travel a short distance to the next camp. 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. 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. Overnight: Bush Camp outside of the Etosha National Park (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)
16	Today you can spend the entire day exploring the park and the various waterholes in the eastern region. Each individual waterhole has a unique character. For example, the Okondeka waterhole is one of the best for spotting lions. Very often this predator can be seen here with prey. The waterhole is a natural spring and is located just north of Okaukuejo, on the western edge of the pan. Just before sunset you return to your camp outside of the park. Overnight: Bush Camp outside of the Etosha National Park (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)
17	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 might perhaps spot a leopard in the tree relaxing after its nightly hunt. During the afternoon you return to your lodge outside of the park. Overnight: Bush Camp outside of the Etosha National Park (Dinner, Bed & Breakfast)
18	Today you drive through the park to the central region, while stopping at the various waterholes to spot animals. During the early afternoon you arrive at the camp inside of the park, where you can enjoy one overnight. Overnight: Camp in the Etosha National Park (Bed & Breakfast)
19	Your journey takes you further south today via Outjo to a private game reserve just outside of the town of Omaruru. Here on this 71 000 Hectar private game reserve you can enjoy another opportunity to see game up close in its natural habitat. You can expect to see hippos at a waterhole here. Optionally you can book an afternoon game drive with the lodge directly, to spot lions, leopards, elephants and many other animals. Overnight: Lodge in a private game reserve near Omaruru (Fullboard)
20	Today you should consider booking game drives with the lodge directly to see the African wildlife up close, and providing the perfect ending to your Namibia safari. Overnight: Lodge in a private game reserve near Omaruru (Fullboard)
21	Today you start your return journey to Windhoek. On the way to the capital, it is worthwhile stopping at Namibia's largest wood carving market in Okahandja (time permitting), where you can purchase hand-carved souvenirs, basketry or jewellery. Then you continue to Windhoek, to the Hosea Kutako International Airport, where you return your rented vehicle, prior to checking-in for your return flight home.