

**“BEST OF NAMIBIA FLYING CIRCUIT”**



**Highlights:**

Experience the enormous red dunes of Sossusvlei, the nutrient-filled coasts of Swakopmund, the starkly beautiful plains and river valleys of Damaraland and the wonderful wildlife of Etosha National Park.

Your exciting safari and adventure holiday is a flying tour featuring the main highlights of Northern and Central Namibia with the added benefit of seeing the spectacular scenery from the air in a light aircraft.

“Best of Namibia” is an active, exciting adventure, exploring key areas of this vast country including its dunes, deserts, plains and iconic wildlife. You will stay in exclusive accommodation in private reserves and concessions and have private access to the incredible dunes at Sossusvlei.

**Day 1**

You will be met off your flight at Windhoek International Airport and transferred to the Olive Grove guesthouse where you will stay for one night on a bed and breakfast basis in a luxury room.

View at <http://www.olivegrove-namibia.com/index.html>

**DAYS 2 & 3**

You will be collected from your Windhoek Hotel after breakfast and transferred Eros International Airport, close to the centre of town in Windhoek for a one-hour flight in a light aircraft to Sossusvlei.

You will be staying at Little Kulala Camp in the Kalula Wilderness Reserve for two nights. The 11 climate-controlled, thatched "kulalas merge impeccably into the timeless desert landscape, with exquisite fittings and fixtures, innovative bleached decks each with a private plunge pool. Each unit has a rooftop 'skybed' for romantic stargazing, with both indoor and outdoor showers.

Desert-adapted wildlife such as ostrich, springbok and gemsbok eke out an existence and are sparsely distributed here. Smaller creatures such as bat-eared fox and aardwolf can be seen at night in the cool desert air, and one bird, the aptly named dune lark, has its entire global distribution limited to the area, so dependent is it on the area's characteristic sands.

Early morning guided game drives to the spectacular towering dunes of Sossusvlei are through a private gate into the reserve. Sossusvlei is situated within the Namib Desert, the oldest desert in the world, which itself is part of the Namib Naukluft National Park that stretches 400km south of Walvis Bay and is sandwiched between the west coast and the escarpment that runs parallel more than 100km inland. Its huge red dunes and flat valley floors make up the archetypical view of the Namib that is world famous.



Guided drives and walks are also offered on the private Kulala Wilderness Reserve with incredible views, desert-adapted wildlife and plants. A balloon safari at extra cost offers a unique experience soaring silently above the desert before landing for a champagne breakfast.

View at [http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia\\_sossusvlei/little\\_kulala/](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia_sossusvlei/little_kulala/)

#### **DAYS 4 & 5 :**

Today we board our light aircraft flight over the spectacular Namib Naukluft National Park to Swakopmund and onwards to Northern Namibia and Damaraland.

Fly over the Namib Desert for an alternative view of the dunes from the air and then due west to Meob Bay on the Skeleton Coast. The desert and Skeleton Coast scenery is spectacular, where the dunes and the desert meet the Atlantic Ocean. We then head inland to Damaraland for two

nights. You have a choice here between Damaraland Camp in the Torra Conservancy or Desert Rhino Camp in the Palmwag Concession.

Torra Conservancy lies in northern Damaraland, where the landscape is characterised by hills interspersed with valleys and dry riverbeds that occasionally flow, sustaining riverine vegetation through the long dry seasons. Early morning fog provides precious water to the flora and fauna, all of which has adapted superbly to this harsh environment. Despite its aridity, the area supports a surprisingly high diversity of wildlife including a healthy number of desert-adapted elephant and good populations of Hartmann's mountain zebra, southern giraffe, gemsbok, springbok, with occasional cheetah and black rhino as well interesting flora like euphorbias, pachypodiums and shepherd's trees. Birding is excellent with Herero Chat and Benguela Long-billed Lark common finds. The conservancy is the result of a highly successful partnership with the local Torra community – that has become an inspiration for communities and conservationists throughout Africa.

Accommodation at Damaraland Camp consists of 10 adobe-styled, thatched units each raised on individual wooden decking – part of which extends out to form a large viewing deck with magnificent vistas. Recently refurbished, each tent has en-suite facilities a walk-in dressing area and built-in fan.

The spacious, thatched living area features a restaurant and bar, complete with fireplace. Evening meals at Damaraland Camp are often prepared over an open fire and served out in the open in an area near to the camp lit by an assortment of small lanterns. The swimming pool is conveniently sited next to the bar. An open campfire and outdoor 'boma' can be enjoyed during calm evenings, with superb stargazing in the crystal-clear night skies.

Activities at Damaraland Camp revolve around exploring the Haub River system, featuring guided nature drives, walks and mountain biking. Morning and afternoon drives in search for desert-adapted elephant are a great favourite. Gemsbok, greater kudu, springbok, and occasionally lion, cheetah, elephants and black rhino can be spotted. Interesting flora such as euphorbias and shepherd's trees can be viewed on the way to some of Africa's best known rock engravings, including the famous Twyfelfontein etchings.

View at

[http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia\\_kunene/damaraland\\_camp/introduction/](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia_kunene/damaraland_camp/introduction/)

The Palmwag Concession situated in northern Damaraland is made up of rolling, rocky hills and flat-topped mountains with scattered euphorbia, ancient welwitschia plants, scrubby vegetation and isolated clumps of trees. The conservancy supports the largest free-roaming population of desert-adapted black rhino in Africa as well as a healthy number of desert-adapted elephants. Thanks to the freshwater springs in the area, there is a surprising amount of life here: Hartmann's mountain zebra, giraffe, gemsbok, springbok and kudu, as well as lion, cheetah, leopard, and brown and spotted hyena. Birdlife is equally varied including endemics like Benguela Long-billed Lark, Dusky Sunbird and Bokmakierie. Palmwag holds the core of the rarely seen desert-adapted lion population of north-west Namibia. Cheetah and leopard also occur in this area.

Set in a wide valley sometimes flush with grass, accommodation at Desert Rhino Camp is in the form of 8 Meru-style canvas tents that sleep up to 16 guests. Raised from the ground on a wooden deck, each tent features an en-suite bathroom with a hand basin, flush toilet and shower. Beds are made up with crisp, white linen and have two dark wood bedside tables with wicker reading lamps. An extension of the deck functions as a front verandah where guests can relax in director's chairs to take in the magnificent vistas of the surrounding desert and Etendeka Mountains. Extra duvets are available for the sometimes frosty nights.

Activities at Desert Rhino Camp obviously include rhino tracking on foot or by vehicle. Other 4x4 outings are geared at exploring this vast, miraculous ecosystem with some of the most knowledgeable guides in Namibia.

View at

[http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia\\_kunene/desert\\_rhino\\_camp/introduction/](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/namibia_kunene/desert_rhino_camp/introduction/)



### **DAYS 6 & 7:**

Fly by light aircraft today from Damaraland to Ongava Game Reserve for a further two-night stay at the camp of your choice. Highlights are the game drives into Etosha National Park as well as night drives, nature walks and hides on the private Ongava Game Reserve.

Located on the southern boundary of Etosha National Park and forming a buffer to the Park lies Ongava Game Reserve, a prolific 30 000ha private concession. It is a haven to large concentrations of wildlife: notably lion, cheetah, springbok, gemsbok, wildebeest, Burchell's zebra, Hartmann's mountain zebra, waterbuck, red hartebeest, giraffe, eland and the largest population of the endemic black-faced impala outside of Etosha. The Reserve is also known for the successful reintroduction of white and black rhino. Bird life is prolific with 340 species seen, amongst them 10 of Namibia's 14 endemic bird species including White-tailed Shrike, Short-toed Rock Thrush, Hartlaub's Francolin, Rüppell's Parrot and raptors in abundance. Ongava also provides easy access to the prime game viewing areas of western Etosha, Namibia's premier wildlife destination.

### **DAY 8:** Windhoek

Depart Ongava by light air charter back to Windhoek where the safari ends at either Windhoek Eros or Windhoek International Airport.

**Special Note:**

It is highly recommended to break your journey in Swakopmund where you can see Dolphins, Whales, Turtles, Seals and flamingos (See Swakopmund Extension below)

It is also possible to extend your safari at any of the camps on the circuit.

**TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON SHARING ON A WINDHOEK TO WINDHOEK BASIS**

**7 th January 2012 to 14 th June 2012 US\$5397 £3598**

**15 th June 2012 to 31 st October 2012 US\$6714 £4476**

**1 st November 2012 to 19 th December 2012 US\$5397 £3598**

**20 th December 2012 to 10 th January 2013 US\$5872 £3914**

**Booking confirmed prior to 31 st December 2011 will be entitled to a discount of 5 per cent on the above prices**

**OPTIONAL SWAKOPMUND EXTENSION:****Day 4**

Today we transfer to the airstrip for our flight over the Namib National park to the Atlantic Coast and our destination which is the quirky and quaint town of Swakopmund.

Our accommodation for the next two nights is at the Hansa Hotel on a bed and breakfast basis in a standard room.

Forming part of Swakopmund's architectural culture is the grand three star Hansa Hotel, which dates back to 1905 and is said to be one of the oldest buildings in the town. The foyer of the hotel immediately engenders a classic atmosphere, which for many years has attracted guests and personalities from all over the world – crystal chandeliers, sweeping staircases, leather sofas and Persian carpets create the impression that this elegant old hotel has grown at the same pace as the town in which it is created. It is ideally situated in the centre of Swakopmund within easy walking distance of town and the beach. The luxury of the hotel, the excellent cuisine and the friendly service are well known and appreciated countrywide and overseas. The hotel offers 5 Family units, 2 Suites, 2 Executive Suites, and 49 Twin/Double rooms – all exquisitely and differently furnished.

View at <http://www.hansahotel.com.na/>

**Day 5**

We have a full day dolphin cruise and tour of Sandwich Bay.

This marine dune day gives you the ultimate combination of a leisure cruise on the Atlantic Ocean, a delicious lunch on the beach or in the dunes and a 4x4 ride in the breathtaking Sandwich Harbour area of the Namib Naukluft Park. The day starts with a marine cruise in the morning at 09h00. You get a chance to see flying pelicans, seals, the Walvis Bay Harbour, old boat wrecks, dolphins and – during season – even whales and turtles. Around 11h30, your skipper will drop you off at a deserted beach at the Jetty at Pelican Point, where your Sandwich Harbour 4x4 guide will meet you with a Land Rover. From here the Sandwich Harbour excursion to see the Kuiseb River Delta, flamingos, the salt pans and the wetlands just

north of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon begins.

If weather and tides allow, the drive goes right to the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon, one of Southern Africa's richest and unique wetlands. If vehicles cannot make it there due to tides, you will have the time to walk 4 – 5 kms. Alternatively, you will get a chance to see the Lagoon area from one of the many beautiful lookout spots. You will have plenty of time to take photos, when the big dunes in Sandwich Harbour are crossed. En route, a light meal with snacks and salads as well as oysters and sparkling wine are dished up. The oysters here are amongst the best in the world! On the return drive to Walvis Bay, more giant dunes are crossed, including the big roaring dunes. From here you will return to your hotel.

### **Day 6**

Today we transfer back to the airport and rejoin the tour and our flight to Damaraland.

**Extra cost per person on a Swakopmund to Swakopmund basis from US\$570 (£380)**

### **What's included:**

Internal Flights  
All road transfers  
Full Board at Safari Properties  
All beverages including locally branded alcoholic and soft drinks at Safari Properties  
Laundry at Little Kulala, Damaraland Camp and Ongava  
All scheduled game activities at Safari Properties  
Bed and breakfast at Olive Grove Guesthouse and Hansa Hotel (if extended)  
Departure tax at Windhoek Domestic Airport  
Departure Tax at Swakopmund Airport

### **What's not included:**

Visa fees (not required for EU Citizens in Namibia)  
Tips and gratuities for guides and camp staff  
Purchases of a personal nature  
Drinks at Hansa Hotel and Olive Grove Guesthouse  
Lunch and dinner at Hansa Hotel and Olive Grove Guesthouse

### **When to go**

Namibia is a year round destination, the cooler months from June to September are probably ideal but this safari works well at any time of year.

### **Who should go**

Namibia is a big and unique country and it is difficult to visit all the highlights in less than two weeks, the best of Namibia Flying Safari allows guests to see some of the most fascinating parts of Namibia in a limited time at a very reasonable price. The safari will suit clients looking for a taste of Namibia who have only a short time available. The safari will suit couples who don't want to self drive and who do not have time or the budget for a longer guided overland safari. The safari is also an attractive add on to a safari in Botswana, Zambia or South Africa.

## **We Say**

“Best of Namibia Flying Circuit” is a very high quality safari experience at a reasonable price. Magnificent Scenery viewed from the ground and the air and some unusual wildlife viewing and activities make this one of the best options in Namibia. A great add on to a longer trip with the opportunity to extend your stay at any of the camps included or before or after the circuit.

## **SAFARI CLUB PROMISE:**

Our consultants are dedicated to providing you, our clients, with the safari holiday of your dreams, we will always endeavor to offer you the best value safari and beach holiday in line with the time available and budget guidelines you have supplied.

The camps, lodges and hotels included in our trips are regularly vetted by our consultants to ensure the highest standards are maintained and that every safari and associated beach stay is a unique and authentic African experience.

Safari Club will never compromise the quality of our safaris by offering a knowingly inferior product in the interests of price.

**“Our Air Travel Organisers Licence, (ATOL 9991), is issued by the Civil Aviation Authority in the United Kingdom and provides you with the guarantee that your money is safe with us. We are fully bonded to give you the financial security you are entitled to.”**



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Safari Club Ltd • The Old Post Office • The Green • Wingrave • Buckinghamshire • HP22 4PD  
Tel: +44 845 0545 889 • Fax: +44 560 0752 031 • Web: [www.safari-club.co.uk](http://www.safari-club.co.uk)

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