



Journeys of a lifetime

EXPERIENCE NAMIBIA



INTRODUCTION:

This guided eighteen night safari visits many of the highlights of one of Africa's most unusual and interesting countries taking sufficient time to explore each region as we go.

We travel through the Kalahari Desert southwards stopping overnight on route to Fish River Canyon one of the world largest and deepest canyons

Our next highlight is Luderitz a charming town on the Atlantic Coast where the German colonial influence is very apparent. Our stay here includes a visit the abandoned ghost town of Kolmanskop which is being slowly reclaimed by the desert.

Our next point of interest is the colossal red dunes at Sossusvlei the highest dunes in the world which feature in every coffee table book about this fascinating country.

From Soussusvlei we head back towards the coast and the seaside town of Swakopmund. Here we will be able to enjoy a morning boat trip on Walvis Bay lagoon where we may see dolphins and if lucky the whales after which this bay was named. The birdlife is also excellent and includes flamingos.

We continue our journey north via the Cape Cross seal colony and along the southern section of the mysterious Skeleton Coast. We then turn inland across the desert and up into the highlands of

Damaraland.

Damaraland is another part of Namibia with spectacular landscapes and is famous for its desert adapted fauna including elephant and black rhino which we will be able to track in open 4x4 vehicles.

Next we travel to Etosha National Park, Namibia's premier wildlife destination. We have plenty of time to find the many species that inhabit this park and will cross the park from West to East.

The final stage of our Namibia experience is a visit to the world famous Africat Foundation at Okonjima where problem and injured big cats are rehabilitated before being returned to the wild.

Day 1:

You will be met off your international flight by your safari guide and transferred to Windhoek where you are booked in tonight at Elegant Guesthouse on a bed and breakfast basis.

Once you have checked in to the guesthouse you will be taken on a city tour. Windhoek is a city of many contrasts. Modern skyscrapers blend with historic buildings dating from the turn of the century. Several buildings from the German colonial era have been preserved and restored to their former glory. The sights you will see on your tour include the Ride Memorial, the Old Fort, the Parliament Building (also known as the "Ink Place"), the Lutheran Church, the Railway Station and many more.

View at <http://www.the-elegant-collection.com/>

Day 2:

After breakfast we depart from Windhoek and drive via Rehoboth, the centre of Namibia's Baster community into the red dunes of the Kalahari Desert to the Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch. Late afternoon, participate in a guided game drive to learn about the flora and fauna of the Kalahari Desert.

View at <http://www.bagatelle-kalahari-gameranch.com/>

Day 3:

A full day's journey takes you south through desert-dominated landscapes to a picturesque Quiver Tree Forest. This prehistoric tree reaches skyward with graphically forked branches; their trunks peel and form intricate patterns as the tree matures. We will also visit Giant's Playground an impressive jumble of massive boulders; a virtual maze where time can be spent wandering through the extensive rocky labyrinth. You will continue on to Keetmanshoop and thereafter continue via the Naute Dam, to the Fish River Canyon, which is the second largest river canyon in the world.

Our accommodation for the next two nights is at Canon Lodge.

View at <http://www.canonlodge.com/>

Day 4:

We have the full day to explore the Fish River Canyon and surrounding area from various vantage points along the rim.

Day 5:

The next leg of the journey takes us via the small historic village of Aus and through the vast barren expanse of the Prohibited Diamond Area, to Lüderitz. Lüderitz is renowned for its old-world charm and distinctly German colonial architecture. Set around the bay, with their original gables, winding stairwells, verandas, turrets and bay- and bow windows still intact, these buildings have a unique character.

We will be staying for the next two nights at the Nest Hotel on a bed and breakfast basis

View at <http://www.nesthotel.com/>

Day 6:

After breakfast we visit Kolmanskop, a ghost town that was abandoned over 40 years ago and which gives a fascinating insight into the area's great diamond boom. A few of the buildings have been restored, but many are left exactly as they were, and now the surrounding dunes are gradually burying them. Return to Lüderitz. After a short sightseeing tour of Lüderitz, we take an afternoon excursion to the Diaz cross where the daring Portuguese sailors erected a stone pillar in the 1480's.

Day 7:

The journey leads once more through the Diamond Prohibited Area via Aus and Helmeringhausen to Farm Namtib. Experience the daily life of a farmer in the south.

Tonight you will be staying at Farm Namtib on a full board basis.

View at <http://www.namtib.net/>

Day 8:

Today we travel through some of Namibia's most spectacular landscapes. Vast expanses of yellow savannah are dotted with bushes and solitary camelthorn trees. Distant mountain ranges take on different nuances of purple and blue as the day progresses. On our journey we will visit the Duwisib Castle, which was built by Baron von Wolff for his American wife Jayta in 1909. The furnishings and paintings were imported from Germany.

Our destination is The Desert Homestead & Horestrails, situated south of the Sesriem gate at Sossusvlei where we will be staying for the next two nights on a full board basis.

View at <http://www.deserthomestead-namibia.com/>

Day 9:

Today we will visit the spectacular Sossusvlei, a clay pan surrounded by some of the highest sand dunes in the world and the Sesriem Canyon.

Day 10:

Our route now takes us north via the Kuiseb Canyon to Swakopmund. Highlights en route include a drive to the "Moon Landscape" and we will also see the ancient desert plant, "Welwitschia mirabilis". Swakopmund is a quaint town with an old-world charm and relaxed atmosphere hedged by desert and sea and enhanced by lush green lawns and palm trees.

We will be staying for the next two nights at Central Guesthouse on a Bed and Breakfast basis.

View at <http://www.guesthouseswakopmund.com/net/>



Day 11:

Morning dolphin cruise on the Walvis Bay Lagoon where we may see seals, dolphins, whales, flamingos, pelicans and other marine and birdlife. The afternoon is at your leisure.

Day 12:

Today we head North from Swakopmund along the Atlantic Coast we will visit the lichen fields near Wlotzka's Baken before continuing to Henties Bay, a small holiday resort. Onwards to the seal colony at Cape Cross. After visiting the seals, the journey continues via Ugabmund to the southern Skeleton Coast Park famous for the shipwrecks that are found along this treacherous coast. We leave the Skeleton Coast Park in the early afternoon via Springbokwasser and experience the harsh transition from the Namib Desert to the Damaraland highlands with its impressive landscapes and rugged valleys as we head East to our next destination. Our stay for the next two nights will be at Grootberg Lodge on a full board basis.

View at <http://www.grootberg.com/>



Day 13:

Enjoy a full day tour in open 4 x 4 game-viewing vehicles into the private concession area of the lodge. We will track desert adapted elephant and the highly endangered black rhino as well as other game with our highly skilled guides.

**Day 14:**

We travel via the Grootberg Pass to Kamanjab and further on the tarred road to the Etosha National Park arriving in the afternoon at Okaukuejo Restcamp. The National Parks restcamp is comfortable and fairly large however it is located in a very game rich area of the park. An evening spent sitting by the camp's floodlit waterhole can provide an ever changing tableau of spectacular game viewing as animals from miles around visit the waterhole to drink.

At the heart of this National Park is the Etosha Pan, a vast dry shallow depression. Perennial springs feed the waterholes along the southern verge, which attract a myriad of animal species.

We will be accommodated in a bungalow at the restcamp on a full board basis for one night.

Day 15 and 16:

Our next two days are spent exploring Etosha, we will spend the day game driving within the park and visit the numerous waterholes that attract a large diversity of animal and bird species both large and small.

Our accommodation for the next two nights is in a bungalow at the Mushara Bush Camp on a full board basis.

View aty <http://www.musharabushcamp.com/>

Day 17

We begin our journey South to the Okonjima Lodge, home of the world famous Africat Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation and protection of Namibian

wild cats, in particular leopard and cheetah. Enjoy the opportunity to admire and photograph these predators and to learn about the vital work undertaken by Africat to conserve these species and educate the Namibian people in conservation.

We will be staying for one night at Okonjima Main Camp on a full board basis.

View at <http://www.okonjima.com/>

Day 18

This is the final part of our journey via Okahandja to Windhoek. Okahandja is an important centre for woodcarvers from the north. They practice their ancient skills at the Woodcarvers Market next to the main road. This is a good place to pick a last souvenir.

Your safari finishes at the International Airport or your Windhoek hotel.

TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON ON A WINDHOEK TO WINDHOEK BASIS BASED ON FOUR TRAVELLERS

1 st January 2012 to 30 th June 2012 ZAR39742 (£3612)

1 st July 2012 to 31 st October 2012 ZAR41371 (£3760)

Special Note:

Accommodation shown is subject to availability we reserve the right to change accommodation to equivalent standard properties if necessary.

What's included:

All transfers to and from the International Airports and local airstrips

Transport for the above itinerary

Accommodation on a shared basis

Meals as per itinerary

Activities, tours and park fees as per itinerary

Mineral Water in your vehicle

What's not included:

Visa fees if applicable

Tips and gratuities for guides and camp staff

Purchases of a personal nature

Laundry

Additional activities not included in itinerary

International Flights

Insurance and Medical Cover

Wildlife Sightings

Africa's wildlife is free ranging and moves according to seasonal availability of food and water therefore no sighting is guaranteed. The following species can be found in the areas visited on this safari and guests can expect to see many of them.

Elephant, Giraffe, Black Rhino, White Rhino, Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Spotted Hyena, Brown Hyena, Jackal, African Wildcat, Serval, Caracal, Civet, baboon, Vervet Monkey, Bush Baby, Genet, Mongoose, Porcupine, Aardvark, Pangolin, Wart Hog, Bush Pig, Zebra, Impala, Bushbuck, Black Faced Impala, Eland, Damaraland Dik Dik Duiker, Steenbok, Gemsbok, Greater Kudu, , Monitor Lizard, Ostrich, Bat Eared Fox, Cape Fur Seal, Dolphin. Also many bird and reptile species.

When to go:

A holiday in Namibia can be taken at any time however between October and March the weather in some areas can be very hot. The optimum time to visit is probably between April and October.

Who should go:

Namibia is a very large country where the principal places of interest are widely dispersed; as a result it is difficult to see the whole country in a short holiday. This fully guided Safari has been designed to suit first time visitors to Namibia who would like to explore many of the major attractions of this fascinating country and who have plenty of time available. The safari works best for groups of four persons or more, which could be families or groups of friends. Smaller numbers can be accommodated at a surcharge.

We Say:

“Experience Namibia” is a really good value safari with good accommodation at a great price visiting many of the major highlights of both Southern and Northern Namibia. A good choice for small groups who are not limited by time and whose wide ranging travel interests include culture, spectacular coastal and desert scenery, colonial history, conservation and wildlife. This tailor made itinerary can be adapted, lengthened or shortened to suit specific interests of the group.

SAFARI CLUB PROMISE:

Our consultants are dedicated to providing you, our clients, with the safari holiday of your dreams, we will always endeavour 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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