

17 Day Namibia Overland Safari Itinerary

DAY 1: WINDHOEK

Our adventure in Namibia begins in the Capital city of Windhoek at 14h00 when everyone meets at our hotel for a short tour briefing. We then set off on an afternoon of driving through Windhoek and viewing the attractions of the city, including the local museum and church before setting off to enjoy the warm hospitality and an own expense dinner at the infamous restaurant “Joe’s Beerhouse”, or a similar restaurant. We spend the night in comfort at our hotel and prepare for the next day’s adventure.

DAY 2: WINDHOEK – K GALAGADI

This morning, we leave the city behind us and begin our winding journey south into the open plains of the vast Kalahari Desert. Our journey today takes us through remote farming towns seldom visited by travellers, where possible we will stop to engage with the local inhabitants. Our journey will take the majority of the day but there will be plenty of scenic beauty to keep us occupied. We will arrive at our camp in the Kgalagadi in the late afternoon.

DAY 3: K GALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK

After a sumptuous breakfast, we embark on our game drive through the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, a National Park spanning both South Africa and Botswana. Well known for its predator population, including cheetah and the massive Black Maned Lion, the Kgalagadi Park offers unique game viewing opportunities and spectacular birdlife. We will spend most of the day traversing the South African side of the park in search of animals. Our guide will take time to give us more information on the animals we encounter in the park and will explain how they survive in the desert conditions.

Tonight we camp amongst the Camel Thorn trees.

DAY 4: K GALAGADI – FISH RIVER CANYON

Rising early, we witness the sunrise over the red dunes before breakfast. Today we travel one of the most scenic Kalahari roads, crossing numerous high dunes which offer spectacular viewpoints. We make our way to Keetmanshoop where we have a short comfort break and then continue onto the Fish River Canyon, regarded as the second largest in the world. We spend some time taking in the views of the

canyon by visiting a couple of viewpoints before moving onto our stop for the night, Ai – Ais, the Hot Springs located in the depths of the canyon.

DAY 5: FISH RIVER CANYON – AUS

This morning we will enjoy a short walk at the base of the canyon before traveling on remote roads to the southernmost point of our journey - the mighty Orange River. Forming the border with South Africa, the Orange River creates a narrow band of green vegetation that winds its way through the towering rugged mountains of this seemingly burnt landscape.

We will enjoy a lunch stop and possibly even a swim in the river. This afternoon we travel north along the diamond mining area of the Sperrgebiet and make our way to the charming little town of Aus where we spend the next two nights camping.

DAY 6: AUS – LUDERITZ – KOLMASKOP – AUS

An early start, we make our way across the open desert plains toward the Atlantic Ocean. Our first stop today will be at the Ghost Town of Kolmanskop. Once the site of a prosperous diamond mine, the town is slowly being reclaimed by the shifting sands of the desert. We enjoy an entertaining tour and a walk around the town and through the old buildings that brings the colourful history to life. Then it's on to Luderitz, a small harbour town on one of the most inhospitable coasts imaginable. We will visit the cross planted here by Dias in 1487 and will spend some time strolling around town, enjoying the unique architecture. This afternoon we travel back into the desert and will stop on route to spend time with a colony of wild desert horses. Lunch today will be own expense.

DAY 7: NAMIB DESERT RESERVE

A relaxed start, we enjoy breakfast before we continue travelling north into the dry interior. Today we venture into the heart of the Namib to our privately owned game reserve, taking in its vast plains, red dunes, and towering mountains of stone. Our next two nights will be spent at the GREENFIRE DESERT CAMP, a remote camp nestled against a rock outcrop within a conservancy that forms part of the vast Namib Rand Nature Reserve. The reserve is home to a variety of desert adapted ecology and wildlife and we will enjoy an extensive walk as well as day and night game drives during our time here.

DAY 8: DESERT RESERVE

Awake to desert vistas that extend further than the eye can see. This protected wilderness has been conserved and is protected through the proceeds of tourism. All animals here exist in completely natural surroundings and are free to move unrestricted over the full extent of the 22,000 hectare reserve. Our guide will help us understand the unique desert fauna and flora. Today we start off with an informational and educational walk in this beautiful environment, looking for tracks and signs of animal's behaviour and survival strategies allowing them to exist in these harsh conditions.

There is time to relax during the heat of the day after which we do a desert drive in search of some desert adapted animals by covering a bit more distance with the open safari vehicle.

DAY 9: SOSSUSVLEI DUNES

Setting off early, we continue across the endless desert plains to the Sesriem Canyon and the awesome Sossusvlei dunes – reputedly the highest in the world. After exploring the canyon on foot, we will transfer into the heart of the dunes and will spend time climbing these spectacular mountains of sand before moving on to our campsite in the desert. On this day we take you to climb the dunes and explore the Sesriem Canyon, Sossusvlei and Deadvlei with a 4x4 transfer in and out of these attractions.

DAY 10 - 11: SWAKOPMUND

Crossing through the Namib Naukluft Park, we make our way to the coastal town of Walvis Bay to view the lagoon. Then it's on to Swakopmund where we spend two nights in the centrally located, comfortable GREENFIRE LODGE SWAKOPMUND. We explore this holiday town and its surrounds thoroughly and enjoy both our evening meals at a local nightspot (own expense). Swakopmund is a must-see for any visitor and offers guests a variety of adventure activities. Clients will have the opportunity to partake in quad biking, sand boarding and skydiving whilst here (own expense). For those that simply want to relax, the town offers a variety of restaurants and shops where one can sit and enjoy the town atmosphere.

DAY 12: SKELETON COAST – SPITZKOPPE

Today we head up along the barren Skeleton Coast, scene of many a shipwreck, to the seal colony at Cape Cross where thousands of Cape Fur Seals can be seen ashore. We will get within very close proximity to these wild animals.

We continue and travel through the desert to visit the towering granite peaks found at Spitzkoppe. After exploring the outcrops in the afternoon,

we set up camp and enjoy the play of the light during sunset from our seat in the mountain. We spend the night at the foot of the mountain.

DAY 13: TWYFELFONTEIN – PALMWAG

A busy day with numerous stops, we visit the Organ Pipes and the Ancient Rock Engravings at Twyfelfontein before entering Damaraland and crossing the Grootberg mountain pass to spend the night near the oasis of Palmwag. This is one of a few permanent waterholes used by the rare Desert Rhino, elephants, and many other desert adapted species. We hope to see these magnificent animals up close today.

DAY 14 - 15: ETOSHA NAT. PARK

Entering Etosha National Park today, arguably the highlight of the tour, we will spend two nights here within the park in search of the big game this park is so well known for. One evening will be spent at a floodlit waterhole watching the many animals that come down to drink. During these days, we will conduct extensive game drives, visiting all the little waterholes during the heat of the day and staying within the park the entire time. Each night we will stay in one of the rest camps of the park.

DAY 16: ETOSHA– WATERBERG

After a short morning game drive, we exit the park and travel down to the impressive Waterberg Plateau National Park. This plateau is ecologically diverse and has over 200 different bird species, some rare species of small antelope occur on the lower hills of the mountain. This afternoon, we will hike up the mountain and will enjoy the views of the Kalahari from the summit. We enjoy our last night of tour at the base.

DAY 17 WINDHOEK

An early morning, we pack up and begin our journey back to civilization. The drive to Windhoek will take approximately 5 hours and we intend to be back in the capital by 13h00 where the tour will officially come to an end. Lunch will be enjoyed at your own expense. Clients may book a post-tour night through Drifters. For those flying out this afternoon, please allow for check in time and at least an hour for the airport transfer.

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