



Local experts for



Namibia self-drive.

Tour designer: Monika Ihms
Telephone: +27 214 260 032
Email: namibia@destinationservices.com

NAMIBIA | 12DAYS / 11NIGHTS

Route: from and to Windhoek

Type of tour: Culture, nature

TOUR OVERVIEW

During your journey, explore this beautiful country while visiting memorable places like Damaraland, Etosha National Park, Swakopmund and Sossusvlei. Typical African savannah is part of the scenery, but famous lands such as the Etosha National Park, a combination of saline desert, savannah and woodlands, will surprise you. You will have the opportunity to discover the beauty of the Sesriem Canyon, a natural canyon in the oldest desert in the world, the Namib Desert and the colours of Sossusvlei, a dune wonderland of pale apricot to vivid reds and oranges tints. Tour includes visit of most important cities - Windhoek, the largest city in the country, and Swakopmund, where the German Colonial character has been preserved since its foundation in 1892. Don't miss the Twyfelfontein and experience this incredible tour!

DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 | ARRIVAL WINDHOEK

Arrival at the Windhoek International Airport. Collect your vehicle (not included) and proceed to travel to Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. You can visit these old buildings, which lend a singular charm to the city, including the historic seat of government also known as the Tintenpalast, meaning 'palace of ink' in German. Next to the Tintenpalast, the Christuskirche with its graceful sphere provides the city with a striking landmark. The white-walled Alte Feste, which was once a fort and is now a museum, reflects the history of the country.

- **Overnight in Windhoek on a half-board basis.**

DAY 2 | NAMIB DESERT

After breakfast depart via the Khomas Hochland to the Namib Desert. Drive through beautiful mountain ranges with many photo opportunities along the way. The name Namib is of Nama origin and means 'vast place'. The Namib is thought to be the oldest desert in the world. Most of the desert wildlife is arthropods and other small animals that can live off of little water, although larger animals inhabit the northern regions. On the coast, the cold ocean water hosts populations of brown fur seals and shorebirds, which serve as prey for the Skeleton Coast's lions. Afternoon arrival and check-in at the hotel.

- **Overnight in Namib Desert on a half-board basis.**

DAY 3 | SOSSUSVLEI - SESRIEM

Early departure to the highest sand dunes in the world at Sossusvlei - the best photo opportunities are just after dawn. The last 5km to the dunes is thick sand, and shuttles are available for transfer (at extra cost). This is a dune wonderland, with towering dunes up to 300m high surrounding a huge, dried-up pan. Dunes extend as far as the eye can see and their rich tints vary from pale apricot to vivid reds and oranges.

During a good rainy season, the Tsauchab River flows into the pan and creates a heaven for water birds. Even during the dry season, oryx, springbok and ostriches can be seen feeding off the sparse vegetation along the water course. On the way back to the entrance gate to the park, you have the opportunity to visit Sesriem Canyon. At the entrance to Sossusvlei is the Sesriem Canyon, where centuries of erosion have incised a narrow gorge about 1km in length. At the foot of the gorge, which plunges down for 30m to 40m, are deep pools of water which become replenished after good rains. Sesriem derives its name from the time when early pioneers tied six lengths of rawhide thongs together to draw water from these pools. After this exciting morning, you have the afternoon to enjoy at leisure or at the swimming pool.

- **Overnight in Sesriem on a half-board basis.**

DAY 4 | SWAKOPMUND

After breakfast, continue northwest via Solitiare and Walvis Bay to reach Swakopmund, a coastal gem. Walvis Bay is Namibia's major harbour town, fast developing into a sought-after haven for spending a seaside holiday. Attractions are the lagoon with its prolific bird life - altogether some 80,000 wading birds including flamingos and rare white pelicans can be seen. A former enclave belonging to South Africa, Walvis Bay and the offshore islands were incorporated into the Republic of Namibia on March 1, 1994. The town has a well-developed and efficient port, while its fishing harbour is the hub of Namibia's fast-growing fishing industry.

- **Overnight in Swakopmund on a half-board basis.**

DAY 5 | SWAKOPMUND

A full day at leisure. There are many activities on offer in and around the town. For more information, visit the ATC office in Swakopmund. Swakopmund is much-loved by Namibians as a welcome respite from the inland heat. It is also popular amongst visitors because of its old-world charm and relaxed atmosphere.

- **Overnight in Swakopmund on a half-board basis.**

DAY 6 | DAMARALAND

After breakfast, continue north via Cape Cross and past the Brandberg to reach your next overnight destination in Damaraland. En route, visit the seal reserve at Cape Cross, where you will find some of the largest colonies of Cape fur seals along the coast of South Africa and Namibia. Early afternoon arrival at this exceptional destination.

- **Overnight in Damaraland on a half-board basis.**

DAY 7 | DAMARALAND

A full day available to partake in activities offered from the lodge. Visit the famous Twyfelfontein engravings, declared a World Heritage Site in recent years.

- **Overnight in Damaraland on a half-board basis.**

DAY 8 | ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

This morning continue in an easterly direction, via Khorixas and Outjo into the famous Etosha National Park. Arrival at Okaukuejo (situated within the park) in the early afternoon. Enjoy a self-drive game drive in the park, returning to camp before sunset. Before dinner, visit the floodlit waterhole – this has proven to be one of the most spectacular animal activity waterholes of the park.

- **Overnight at Etosha National Park on a half-board basis.**

DAY 9 | ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

After an early breakfast, travel through the Etosha National Park enjoying the game viewing opportunities, especially also at the various waterholes throughout the Park. It is seeing vast herds of game with this eerie “great white place of dry water” as a backdrop which makes the Etosha experience unique. A total of 114 mammal species are found in the park, including several rare and endangered, such as black rhino and black-faced impala. About 340 bird species dwell in the park, of which approximately one third are migratory, including the European bee-eater and several species of waders.

- **Overnight at Etosha National Park on a half-board basis.**

DAY 10 | ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Today is set aside to enjoy game drives from the lodge in 4x4 safari vehicles. Enjoy either a full or half-day safari, or time spent at the pool relaxing.

- **Overnight at Etosha National Park on a half-board basis.**

DAY 11 | ERINDI PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE

Today’s route takes you south via Tsumeb, Otavi and Otjiwarongo to Erindi Private Game Reserve. Check in upon arrival and enjoy a guided game drive in safari vehicles in later afternoon – Erindi is renowned for the lion, elephant and rhino sightings. With some luck you can witness these majestic animals on this private game reserve. Before and after dinner, enjoy the view from the sundowner deck over the waterhole. A lot of animals quench their thirst at this drinking place.

- **Overnight at Erindi Private Game Reserve on a bed-and-breakfast basis.**

DAY 12 | DEPARTURE WINDHOEK

Bid Erindi farewell and commence on the last stretch of your journey. Travel south via Okahandja to reach the capital Windhoek once again. Continue through to the Windhoek International Airport for your flight departure late evening.

END OF SERVICES

INCLUDED

ACCOMMODATION:

- 11 nights' accommodation

MEALS:

- 11 x breakfast and 10 x dinner

OTHERS:

- TIPS AND PORTERAGE - At airport and hotels
- TAX - 15% VAT, service fee and 2% tourism levy

NOT INCLUDED

- Tips - for meals that are not included
- Visa fees
- Meals and drinks - not listed
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Entrance fees and activities not included in the itinerary
- Flights