



7 Day Namibia Tour & Safari 2020





In Africa Tours

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Sossusvlei - Swakopmund - Ongava Private Game Reserve

7 Days / 6 Nights

2 Persons

Reference: 7 Day Namibia Tour & Safari

Date of Issue: 09 December 2019



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

This is a fully guided tour of Namibia, covering some of the highlights including Sossusvlei, Swakopmund and the world famous Etosha Pans.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Le Mirage Resort & Spa	Sossusvlei	D,B&B	1x Twin Room	2 Nights
Strand Hotel Swakopmund	Swakopmund	B&B	1x Twin Room	2 Nights
Ongava Lodge	Ongava Private Game Reserve	D,B&B	1x Twin Room	2 Nights

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

D,B&B: Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Price

01 Dec 2019 - 30 Jun 2020

ZAR 62 200 .00 per person sharing (x 2 Adults)

01 Jul - 31 Oct 2020

ZAR 68 600 .00 per person sharing (x 2 Adults)

Included

- Accommodation and meals as specified (all meals included, except while in Swakopmund)
- Services of a qualified English speaking tour guide, including guides accommodation and meals throughout the tour
- Fuel & Transportation in an air-conditioned vehicle as specified
- Bottled water on board of vehicle - while in transit only
- Activities / Excursions as described in the itinerary
- Entrance & Admission Fees where applicable
- Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance
- Namibian Bed Levy
- 15% VAT (Value Added Tax)

Flights:

Johannesburg - Windhoek - Johannesburg return incl. taxes (Air Namibia)

Excluded

- Additional meals as specified
- Excursions / Activities which are not specified as included in the above itinerary
- Beverages (alcoholic and non alcoholic, in restaurants, hotels etc)
- Items of personal nature i.e. telephone calls, bar bills, laundry etc.
- Gratuities, tips, portorage
- Personal Travel & Luggage insurance
- Visas, airport taxes, airport fees.
- All flights
- Anything else not specified as included

Day 1: Le Mirage Resort & Spa, Sossusvlei

Sossusvlei

Located in the scenic Namib-Naukluft National Park, Sossusvlei is where you will find the iconic red sand dunes of the Namib. The clear blue skies contrast with the giant red dunes to make this one of the most scenic natural wonders of Africa and a photographer's heaven. This awe-inspiring destination is possibly Namibia's premier attraction, with its unique dunes rising to almost 400 metres-some of the highest in the world. These iconic dunes come alive in morning and evening light and draw photography enthusiasts from around the globe. Sossusvlei is home to a variety of desert wildlife including oryx, springbok, ostrich and a variety of reptiles. Visitors can climb 'Big Daddy', one of Sossusvlei's tallest dunes; explore Deadvlei, a white, salt, claypan dotted with ancient trees; or for the more extravagant, scenic flights and hot air ballooning are on offer, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime champagne breakfast amidst these majestic dunes.

Day Itinerary

On arrival at the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, you will board your early morning flight to the Windhoek International Airport in Namibia. On arrival in Windhoek (**your flight must arrive in the early morning, before 10h00**), you will be met in the arrivals hall, and will then head south to the Namib Desert – considered to be the oldest desert in the world! You will travel through Windhoek, Namibia's capital city. Here you will spend (2) nights on dinner, bed & breakfast basis at the **Le Mirage Resort & Spa**. Lunch will be included en route.

Overnight: Le Mirage Resort & Spa [View iBrochure](#)

Le Mirage Resort & Spa, a unique construction in the Namib desert, is situated at 21 km from the Sesriem gate to Sossusvlei. This makes it one of the lodges closest to the Sossusvlei and the ideal place to stay when you want to visit the highest dunes in the world!

Guests are accommodated in 8 Camelthorn rooms and 19 Oasis rooms with en-suite facilities, air-conditioning, safe, mini bar and coffee & tea facilities. The lodge is accommodated in a large castle sheltering guests against the harsh desert climate. The spacious restaurant serves a fusion cuisine of European and Namibian dishes.

A highlight at the resort is the Mystique Spa, wellness centre which specializes in massages, pedicures, manicures, aroma massages and de-stress treatments. In the large courtyard guests can retreat to the swimming pool sheltered from the desert in an oasis of palm trees. On offer are quad bike tours, nature drives on the private domain and nature drives to Sossusvlei, scenic flights and hot air ballooning. The lodge offers guests a luxury home after a day in the desert.



Windhoek

Situated in Central Namibia, the cosmopolitan city of Windhoek serves as the capital of the country. It is home to an international airport and a plethora of restaurants, shops, entertainment venues and accommodation options. The city is clean, safe and well-organised, with a colonial legacy that is reflected in its many German eateries and shops, and the widespread use of the German language. Windhoek has an interesting mix of historical architecture and modern buildings, many of which are worth a look, including the Alte Feste an old fort, the 1896 Christuskirche Christ Church, and the more contemporary Supreme Court.

Namib-Naukluft National Park

Stretching almost 50000 square kilometres across the red-orange sands of the Namib Desert over the Naukluft Mountains to the east, the Namib-Naukluft National Park is Africa's biggest wildlife reserve and the fourth largest in the world. Despite the unforgiving conditions, it is inhabited by a plethora of desert-adapted animals, including reptiles, buck, hyenas, jackals, insects and a variety of bird species. One of the main attractions of the park are the ancient dunes of Sossusvlei, home to some of the tallest dunes in the world rising over 300 metres from the desert floor. This magnificent landscape features, rolling dunes, rugged moonscapes, lagoons, wetlands and mudflats. Visitors can look forward to a number of impressive sights including: the picture-perfect Dune 45, standing 170 metres high; the Welwitschia Plains, otherworldly lunar terrain dotted with the endemic plants; and the Dead Vlei, a photographers dream.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Excluded

Bar accounts

Day 2: Le Mirage Resort & Spa, Sossusvlei

Day Itinerary

Early this morning, your tour guide will conduct an excursion to the Sand Dunes of Sossusvlei. You will also visit Sesriem Canyon. Lunch will be included today.

Sesriem Canyon

Sesriem Canyon, a deep chasm carved through the rocks by water, is a striking natural feature of the area that is best explored on foot. Stony walls rise up sharply on both sides of the canyon, while birds roost in its crags and lizards dart along the ledges. The canyon's name was coined when early settlers used it as a water source, using six lengths of leather ('ses riem – six thongs) tied together to lower buckets into the water at the base of canyon.

Sossusvlei

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extravagant, scenic flights and hot air ballooning are on offer, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime champagne breakfast amidst these majestic dunes.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Excluded

Bar accounts.

Day 3: Strand Hotel Swakopmund, Swakopmund

Swakopmund

Set along Namibia's spectacularly scenic coast, the seaside town of Swakopmund is known for its wide-open avenues, colonial architecture, and its surrounding otherworldly desert terrain. Founded in 1892 as the main harbour for German South West Africa, Swakopmund is often described as being more German than Germany. Now a seaside resort town, Swakopmund is the capital of the Skeleton Coast tourism area and has plenty to keep visitors happy. The quirky mix of German and Namibian influences, adventure options, laid-back atmosphere and cool sea breeze make it a very popular Namibian destination. Visitors can look forward to a number of exciting activities including: quad biking, horse riding, paragliding, fishing, sightseeing and fascinating desert tours.

Day Itinerary

Departing from the Central Namib Region today's route continues in a Northerly direction along the Eastern boundary of the Namib Naukluft Park passing through the small settlement of Solitaire on route to the Gaub and Kuiseb Canyons. Continue across the "gravel plains" of the Namib Desert towards Namibia's premier coastal resort town, Swakopmund. On the way, visit the erosional feature of the "Moon Valley" and Namibia's ancient plant species, the "Welwitschia mirabilis". Arrive late afternoon at the **Strand Hotel**, where you will spend (2) nights on a bed and breakfast basis. A packed / picnic lunch is included en route. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel or at a local restaurant and will be for the clients own account.

Overnight: Strand Hotel Swakopmund [View iBrochure](#)

With its extensive, unique and creatively entertaining Restaurants, Bars, Deli, Lobby-Lounge, Sea Facing Terraces, Beach Kiosk and state of the art Conference & Banqueting Center, all set on the Mole, a historic and iconic site surrounded by Ocean on three sides, the Strand Hotel Swakopmund is a social epicenter and destination in itself for all visitors to and residents of Swakopmund.

Its architectural inspiration finds its roots deep in Namibian-German history and reflects this in a tasteful contemporary manner. The interiors are residential in nature, and the brief to all designers involved was to create a non-hotel, hotel. One as charming and welcoming as the town it is located in. Simply very warm and comfortable, and as they say in German: "gemütlich" providing a genuine "sense-of-place" atmosphere adding to any Namibian visit.

Arriving at the Strand is a dramatic experience as one passes through its 13m high and 9m wide Ocean View Atrium which travels right through the Hotel offering sea views at either end. Off this Atrium Lobby is Reception, consisting of three individual desks and an inviting open fireplace which rounds off the residential feel and warm welcome.



Activities

Swakopmund

The Moon Landscape

Kuiseb Canyon

Swakopmund

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The Moon Landscape

This area is traversed by the Tropic of Capricorn and is mostly flat, although some scenic canyons and elevations are found in some areas, for example in the Moon Valley system. While most of the soil is rocky, sand dunes are still occasionally found in this region; for example, sand dunes occupy much of the coastline between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund.

The location can be accessed via a picturesque drive through the Namib-Naukluft Park. An eerie mysterious landscape has been constructed through years of erosion of soft layers of earth that were deposited in this area over 450 million years ago.

Kuiseb Canyon

Mysterious and remote, the Kuiseb Canyon was carved aeons ago by the Kuiseb River, which runs mainly underground. This deep fissure is flanked by steep folds of rock on one side and the copper-coloured sand dunes of the Namib Desert on the other, and shelters several wildlife species that are acclimatised to the region's harsh environment, including hyena, buck and even leopard.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Excluded

Bar Accounts

Dinner

Day 4: Strand Hotel Swakopmund, Swakopmund

Day Itinerary

After breakfast proceed to Walvis Bay to participate in a lovely morning Catamaran cruise (included).

On this cruise you will see oyster farms, Pelican Point, the lighthouse and a seal colony. You may also see dolphins, leatherback turtles and sunfish, and a large variety of birdlife. Tame seals visit the catamaran giving you the chance to view these animals up close. Enjoy fresh oysters, sparkling wine and snacks on board.

Return to the Walvis Bay Yacht Club in the late morning / noon, and then explore the town of Walvis Bay and the Walvis Bay Lagoon, with your tour guide. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to explore the town of Swakopmund. Lunch and dinner today will be for your own account.

Activities

Catamaran Charters
Walvis Bay
Swakopmund

Optional

Living Desert Tours
Sandwich Harbour 4x4

Catamaran Charters

The Catamaran Charters Team invites you aboard the 45ft Royal Cape Sailing Catamaran Silverwind, or the 60ft Simon Sailing Catamaran Silversand, or the 40ft Admiral Motorised Catamaran Silvermoon, to enjoy an adventure packed tour to Pelican Point and Walvis Bay's beautiful bay area.

The chances of encountering dolphins, whales, turtles, seals and Mola Mola (sunfish) make the search for the marine big 5 and adventurous tour by enjoying sparkling wine, fresh oysters and other mouth-watering snacks aboard the spacious and comfortable catamarans.

Walvis Bay

Situated along Namibia's spectacular coastline, just south of Swakopmund, Walvis Bay (Whale Bay) is a thriving town, Namibia's principal harbour and one of the country's most popular tourist centres. It is known for its natural lagoon, striking orange sand dunes and wealth of outdoor activities, including fishing, bird-watching, sailing, sandboarding, swimming, surfing and golf. Located just outside town is Dune 7, one of the largest sand dunes in the world, offering fantastic views from the crest for those with the energy to climb it. Visitors can look forward to a number of activities including: visiting the expansive green and pink salt pans dotted with flocks of flamingoes, and jumping on a boat trip to view seals colonies, dolphins and friendly pelicans, while enjoying champagne and oysters.

Swakopmund

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Living Desert Tours

The Living Desert Tour is a unique 4x4 adventure which specializes in bringing the desert to life while sharing the awesome beauty of the Namib Desert with travellers from all over the world. The coastal dune belt may seem barren and lifeless to many people, but in fact it is alive with a fascinating variety of little desert adapted animals, which are able to survive on the life-giving fog which consistently rolls in from the cold Atlantic Ocean.

Come see the Dancing White Lady Spider (*Carparachne aureoflava*) cartwheel 44 turns per second down a dune to escape the enemy. Admire the transparent Namib Dune Gecko (*Pachydactylus rangei*) with webbed feet that are equivalent to snow shoes. Learn about the different beetles and insects and how they survive in the dune desert. Follow in the tracks of a legless Lizard (*Fitsimmon's Burrowing Skink*), observe Sand Diving Lizards (*Meroles Anchieta*) dancing on the hot sand, Sidewinder Snakes (*Perinquey's Adder*), Desert Chameleons and many more fascinating creatures. Learn about the geology, structure and formation of the desert, and admire the vast and beautiful landscapes while enjoying a scenic dune drive combined with fun and adrenalin.

Sandwich Harbour 4x4

Sandwich Harbour 4x4 is a safari company based in Walvis Bay, Namibia, offering 4x4 excursions to Sandwich Harbour, Marine Dune Days, Kayak Combos and Bird Watching Activities in the Wetlands around Walvis Bay.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Excluded

Lunch and Dinner

Bar accounts.

Day 5: Ongava Lodge, Ongava Private Game Reserve

Ongava Private Game Reserve

Sharing the southern boundary with Etosha National Park, the prolific 30 000-hectare private Ongava Game Reserve is considered one of the top private game reserves in the region, enjoying global recognition for exceptional conservation, groundbreaking research and exciting safari experiences. The landscape is characterised by vast open plains dotted with salt pans and abundant wildlife. Visitors can easily access Etosha through Andersson's Gate in the south.

Known for its luxury lodges made out of natural materials, Ongava is a popular destination for those looking to immerse themselves in nature. The reserve offers visitors the perfect combination of wildlife safari experiences

within and around the Etosha National Park. One of Ongava's top attractions is its rhino population and guests can experience the thrill of getting close to these majestic creatures. Popular activities include: night game drives, guided nature walks, bird watching and 4x4 guided game drives.

Day Itinerary

Today you travel towards the renowned Etosha National Park. On the way you will stop over at the town of Omaruru, where you will enjoy a wine tour and a light lunch at the Kristall Kellerei (included). Continue to the Ongava Game Reserve, located next to Etosha National Park. In the afternoon, join a scheduled game drive on the Ongava Reserve, with lodge guide and vehicle (included). Here you will spend (2) nights on a dinner, bed & breakfast basis at the **Ongava Game Lodge**. Lunch will be included en route.

Overnight: Ongava Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Ongava Lodge is one of Namibia's premier lodges on one of the country's most important private game reserves.

The well-established Ongava Lodge is situated in the privately owned Ongava Game Reserve along the southern boundary of Etosha National Park. Placed as it is close to the top of a hill in the foothills of the Ondundozonanandana range, the vantage point is beautiful and overlooks a well-frequented waterhole and the plains beyond.

Ongava Lodge offers luxury accommodation in 14 rock-and-thatch en-suite chalets. There are impressive views over the camp's waterhole from the main lounge and dining areas and there is also an inviting pool to cool off in the heat of the day. Meals are either served in the main dining area under thatch or on the dining deck under the stars.

Activities include game drives into Etosha, spending time in the camp hide, and nature drives and walks on the reserve. Ongava has resident white and black rhino, giving guests staying at Ongava the opportunity to see both species.



Omaruru

Omaruru is a city in the Erongo region of Namibia near Mount Erongo and the usually dry Omaruru river. This town has 14,000 residents and is spread over 352 square kilometres of land. The town gets its name from the cattle that used to browse on the local bushes and turn the milk bitter, which in the local Otjiharero language translates to Omaruru. The annual festival in which past chiefs of Omaruru are celebrated, the winery and the dinosaur footprints have made this town a popular destination amongst travellers.

Ongava Private Game Reserve

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Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 6: Ongava Lodge, Ongava Private Game Reserve

Day Itinerary

Today you will explore Etosha National Park (with your tour guide and tour vehicle - NOT in open 4x4 game drive vehicle). Lunch will be included, at one of the resorts inside the park.

Etosha National Park

Situated in northwestern Namibia, the Etosha National Park offers a premier game viewing experience. The park's diverse vegetation ranges from dense bush to open plains attracting a variety of wildlife. Located in the heart of the park is the Etosha Pan - a shallow depression that covers an area of 5000 square kilometres. Dry and shimmering for most of the year, the pans fill up with water after seasonal rains, making it the perfect habitat for wildlife. In the dry season, the wildlife is attracted to the perennial springs and waterholes that makes for excellent game viewing. Visitors can look forward to world-class game viewing including a variety of large mammals such as lion, elephant, leopard, rhino, zebra, giraffe, a diversity of birdlife such as flamingoes and pelicans.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 7: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Today marks the end of your visit to Namibia. Your guide will take you to the Windhoek International Airport in time for your departure flight back to the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg (**which must be in the late afternoon / evening**). Check in for your flight at least 2 hours prior to flight departure time. Lunch / Packed lunch will be included today. On arrival in Johannesburg, you will connect with your late evening outbound flight back home. **(Flight at own arrangements)**

Included

Transfer: Hotel to Windhoek Airport.

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
	Scheduled		OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]		Hosea Kutako International Airport [WDH]			
	Scheduled		Hosea Kutako International Airport [WDH]		OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]			

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Hosea Kutako International Airport [WDH]	Le Mirage Resort & Spa		Transfer
		Le Mirage Resort & Spa	Strand Hotel Swakopmund		Transfer
		Strand Hotel Swakopmund	Ongava Lodge		Transfer
		Ongava Lodge	Hosea Kutako International Airport [WDH]		Transfer

Travel Information



Located in southwestern Africa, Namibia boasts a well-developed infrastructure, some of the best tourist facilities in Africa, and an impressive list of breathtaking natural wonders. Visitors can explore the capital of Windhoek and discover the lovely coastal town of Swakopmund boasting remnants of the country's German influence, reflected in the architecture, culture, cuisine and the annual Oktoberfest celebrations. To properly appreciate this extraordinary country, you will have to venture out of the cities to explore the remarkable natural landscapes Namibia has to offer. These include: the impressive Fish River Canyon; the vast Etosha National Park teeming with abundant wildlife, such as lions, desert-adapted elephants and the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra; the hauntingly beautiful Kalahari Desert; and of course the Namib Desert stretching for over 2000 km along the magnificent Atlantic Coast. Namibia is an ideal destination for travellers seeking an unforgettable African experience in a uniquely beautiful untamed wilderness.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Namibia uses the Namibian Dollar (N\$) this is linked on a one to one exchange with the South African Rand. The Rand is legal tender in Namibia, but the N\$ cannot be used in South Africa.

If you are wishing to purchase currency before arriving in Namibia, it is easiest to buy Rand as the Namibian Dollar is seldom available in banks outside of Namibia.

Banking

Banks are found in most towns, and are generally open from 09h00 to 15h30 on weekdays and 08h30 to 11h00 on Saturdays. Closed on Sundays and public holidays. Most of them offer foreign exchange services - with cash, bank and credit cards as well as travellers cheques.

You can also obtain cash from many of the ATMs. Several international banks have branches in main city centres. Always advise your bank that you are travelling outside of the country as they might block your purchases if they have not been informed.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Namibia is geared towards the needs of the local populace, and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Namibia's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

It is easy to travel around Namibia by car, and a 2WD vehicle is perfectly adequate for most journeys. However, long distances, poor mobile phone coverage outside of main towns and infrequent petrol stations that only accept cash mean that planning ahead is vital.

There are major airlines that fly into Windhoek and Swakopmund. Other destinations are reachable by car or charter flight.

Namibians drive on the left and all signposts are in English. Seat belts must be worn at all times and talking in a mobile phone while driving is prohibited. The general speed limit is 120km/h on tarred roads outside of towns and 100km/h on gravel roads. In built up areas, the speed limit is 60km/h.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Traditional Namibian cuisine is rarely served and so the food at restaurants tends to be European in style and is, generally, of a very high standard.

Namibia is very meat-orientated, and many menu options will feature steaks from various animals. However, there is usually a vegetarian and seafood section offered by most camps and restaurants.

In the supermarkets you'll find pre-wrapped fresh fruit and vegetables (though the more remote the areas you visit, the smaller your choice), and plenty of canned foods, pasta, rice, bread, etc. Most of this is imported from South Africa.

The water in Namibia's main towns is generally safe to drink, though it may taste a little metallic if it has been piped for miles. Natural sources should usually be purified, though water from underground springs and dry riverbeds seldom causes any problems. However, filtered and bottled water are readily available in most towns and all camps, lodges and hotels.

Climate and Weather

Partially covered by the Namib Desert, one of the world's driest deserts, Namibia's climate is generally very dry and pleasant – it's fine to visit all year round. Namibia only receives a fraction of the rain experienced by countries further east. Between about **December to March** some days will be humid and rain may follow, often in localised, afternoon thunderstorms. These are more common in the centre and east of the country, and more unusual in the desert.

April and especially **May** are often lovely months in Namibia. Increasingly dry, with a real freshness in the air, and much greenery in the landscape; at this time the air is clear and largely free from dust.

From **June to August** Namibia cools down and dries out more; nights can become cold, dropping below freezing in some desert areas. As the landscape dries so the game in the north of the country gravitates more to waterholes, and is more easily seen by visitors. By **September and October** it warms up again; game-viewing in most areas is at its best, although there's often a lot of dust around and the vegetation has lost its vibrancy.

November is a highly variable month. Sometimes the hot, dry weather will continue, at other times the sky will fill with clouds and threaten to rain – but if you're lucky enough to witness the first rains of the season, you'll never forget the drama.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Namibians have a somewhat relaxed attitude to dress codes. A jacket and tie is very unusual. In fact, long trousers and a shirt with buttons are often quite adequate for a formal occasion or work wear. A pair of sensible shoes, jeans and a t-shirt is recommended.

During the day it is generally hot, so pack light weight loose fitting clothes in natural fabrics, such as linen or cotton, that will keep you cool and are easy to wash and dry.

Avoid blue clothing - the tsetse flies are drawn to the colour blue, and their bite can give you African Sleeping Sickness.

Long sleeved shirts and long trousers will protect you against mosquitoes at night.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Current is 220/240 volts at 50 cycles per second. A three-point round-pin adapter plug should be brought for your electrical appliances. Such adapters are also available at major airports.
