



2016 Under the Southern Cross- Bronze





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Windhoek - Namib - Swakopmund - Twyfelfontein - Etosha National Park - Etosha National Park - Erongo

16 Days / 15 Nights

Overview

Highlights:

- WORLD'S HIGHEST DUNES AT SOSSUSVLEI & DEAD VLEI
- 2 UNESCO & 1 RAMSAR WORLD HERITAGE SITES
- EXPERIENCE THE CULTURES OF THE DAMARA & SAN
- WILDLIFE DISCOVERY IN THE ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Recommended vehicle (Not included): SUV or 4x4

Destination	Accommodation	Nights	Basis
Windhoek	Haus Sonneneck	1	B&B
Namib	Namib Desert Lodge	3	B&B
Swakopmund	Europa Hof Hotel	3	B&B
Twyfelfontein	Twyfelfontein Country Lodge	2	B&B
Etosha National Park	Talení Etosha Village	3	B&B
Etosha National Park	Mokuti Etosha Lodge	1	B&B
Erongo	Kashana Namibia	2	B&B

Key

RO: Room only

SC: Self Catering

HB: Half Board

B&B: Bed and breakfast

D, B&B: Dinner, bed and breakfast

FB: Dinner, bed, breakfast and lunch

FB+: Dinner, bed, breakfast, lunch and activities daily

FI: Fully inclusive

Day 1: Haus Sonneneck, Windhoek

Windhoek

Pulsing with life, opportunity and a sparkle of adventure, Windhoek is a multicultural city characterised by tranquil co-existence and enough living space for all its citizens, which number 350'000. Visitors can enjoy the best of two worlds between the European-style architecture and lifestyle, to the vivid beat of African culture and environs. The first recorded settlements were established because of the springs in the area. In about 1842, the Oorlam Kaptain, Jan Jonker Afrikaner, settled in at the strongest spring in the present Klein Windhoek. At the time, the place was called “/Ai-//Gams” (Fire Water) by the Namas, and “Otjomuise” (Place of Steam) by the Hereros, both names bearing references to the hot springs. The German colony came into being with the determination of its borders in 1890. Germany sent a protective corps (the “Schutztruppe”) under Major Curt von Francois to maintain order; the garrison was stationed at Windhoek, where it was strategically situated as a buffer between the Namas and Hereros, while the twelve strong springs provided water for the cultivation of food.

The present Windhoek was founded on 18 October 1890 when Von Francois laid the foundation stone of the fort, which is known as the Alte Feste (Old Fortress).

Windhoek has a rich cultural life where activities happily mix and match to produce some interesting combinations. The “township” of Katutura is an journey for discovering the sounds and smells of Africa. The highlight is a visit to the Tukondjeni Market, which offers services that satisfy many community needs. It’s a busy place, where one can purchase supplies and traditional Namibian food such as barbecued meat, dried fish, fried mopane worms (known as “omaungu”) and other traditional food such as “ombidi” and dehydrated wild spinach.

Day Notes

After arrival at the international airport, you proceed via mountainous terrain to Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. Your accommodation is situated in a quiet suburb and close to the city center with its afro-European flair and peaceful atmosphere. In the evening enjoy typical Namibian cuisine in one of the numerous restaurants in the city.

Optional

Old Brewery Craft Centre

The Diamond Works

Old Brewery Craft Centre

Right in the centre of the city, on Independence Avenue, you will find this vibrant local craft market with a huge range of crafts on offer. Stall holders come from all parts of Namibia so variety is guaranteed. Open daily.

The Diamond Works

Witness first hand, the art of diamond cutting and the careful craftsmanship of jewellery manufacturing by our skilled experts – all whilst enjoying a complimentary glass of sparkling wine. View a replica of the iconic Cullinan diamond and discover the history of the Diamond and Gold Trade in South Africa. Our institute boasts a large range of premium loose diamonds and tanzanite, as well as gold and platinum jewellery. Our diamond tour is available in various international languages.

Diamonds have been associated with purity, strength, wealth, virtue, power and most importantly love. Today, an appreciation for diamonds has evolved, not to only appreciate any diamond but to appreciate a truly rare diamond – The Diamond Works diamond. The Diamond Works Institute is considered a true South African diamond and jewellery expert. Established in 2001, it has evolved to be one of the most renowned diamond facilities in the region.

The Diamond Works Institute extends its appreciation to tanzanite, a gem 1000 times rarer than diamonds. This exceptional stone represents the essence of Africa, and we whisper the tales of this stones journey from the ground to the showroom. Tanzanite is noted for its remarkably strong trichroism; appearing alternately sapphire blue, violet and burgundy depending on crystal orientation.



Overnight: Haus Sonneneck

Situated in the Eros Hills, it enjoys proximity to Restaurants, a Shopping Centre and the City, while retaining the quiet of a country estate. The spotless rooms are spacious and include every possible comfort for your personal freedom and relaxation. All rooms have en-suite facilities with a cosy and comfortable atmosphere, making your stay most enjoyable. The heart of Sonneneck is the area around the sparkling swimming pool, surrounded by large, shady trees and a lush garden, where you can absorb the warmth of the Namibian sun. Whether you are visiting our capital for business or pleasure, Haus Sonneneck is the perfect stop-over prior to your excursion into our beautiful country.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 2: Namib Desert Lodge, Namib

Namib

The Namib is the world's oldest desert, and although it stretches along the entire length of Namibia's coastline, the Namib commonly refers to the vast sea of sand from Luderitz to Swakopmund. For a big sandy desert the scenery is remarkably varied, with the giant red dunes of Sossusvlei being the most famous part. Because of how old it is the Namib is home to numerous species that don't occur elsewhere and although no humans live in the desert an

amazing array of flora and fauna manages to survive here. Famous species include the Welwitschia – a living fossil plant, endemic chameleons, fur seals along the coast, brown hyenas, jackals and remarkably one of Africa's largest antelope the Gemsbok. The name Namib is of Nama origin and means "vast place" and vast it certainly is.

Day Notes

The journey starts with you traveling south into the heart of the Namib Desert, an area with awe-inspiring landscapes and majestic dunes. Arriving at your lodge, situated near the entrance to Sesriem, the remainder of the day can be spent at leisure. Enjoy a late afternoon walk or take part in optional activities offered by your lodge.

Optional

Sundowner Drive

Overnight: Namib Desert Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

The main building and the chalets of Namib Desert Lodge are spread out along the foot of the fossilised dunes of the ancient Namib. A comfortable sojourn is guaranteed by 65 en suite rooms with air conditioning. A restaurant and bar, an inviting terrace with views of the fossilised dunes and two swimming pools beckon you to linger and relax. Oryx antelope and springbok make frequent appearances at our illuminated watering place.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 3: Namib Desert Lodge, Namib

Day Notes

This day calls for an early rise, as you will forever remember the picture of a sunrise over the mighty dunes of the Namib Desert. Gaze at the bright splash of sun-baked sand combined with the mighty play of shadows cast onto the layside of the dunes. From Sossusvlei visit Dead Vlei, a surreal white clay pan surrounded by monumental dunes and dotted with age-old camelthorn trees. Traveling back, visit the Sesriem Canyon, an 18 million year old gorge eroded into the conglomerate floor.

Recommended

Sossusvlei

Dead Vlei

Sesriem Canyon

Sossusvlei

Sossusvlei's rich ochre sand dunes offer one of the most mind-blowing sights you will ever experience. Their oscillating crests rise to an astonishing 320m and, with their air of timelessness, create an unforgettable wilderness in the heart of the world's oldest desert. Dwarfed by the sheer size of the highest dunes on earth, your ascending footprints look like insect trails leading into infinity. The solitude is immeasurable and your place in the great scheme of life takes on a curious insignificance. The white vleis (clay pans) contrast sharply against the red sand and vast blue sky, while fog-dependent animals and plants seek shelter from the sweltering heat underneath the sand and age-old camelthorn trees. One of these pans, referred to as Dead Pan, is a large ghostly expanse of dried white clay, punctuated by skeletons of ancient camel-thorn trees, carbon-dated as being between 500 and 600 years old. During this time the flow of the Tsauchab River into the pan was stopped by the formation of a dune belt – hence the trees died, now forming part of Namibia's own Salvador Dali "painting".



Dead Vlei

This ancient clay pan was once an oasis, studded with acacias and fed by a river that suddenly changed course, leaving the earth to dry up along with the trees it previously supported. So dry were the climatic conditions that the trees never decomposed – instead they were entirely leached of moisture so that today, 900 years later, they remain as dessicated, blackened sentinels dotting the pan's cracked surface. Surrounded by the red-pink dunes of the Namib Desert, they create a surreal spectacle that is a photographer's dream.



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.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 4: Namib Desert Lodge, Namib

Day Notes

The entire day can be spent at leisure at your beautiful lodge. Optional activities, besides relaxing along the sparkling pool, consist of nature walks and nature drives into the petrified dunes or visiting scenic mountain areas in the Naukluft mountain range.

Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 5: Europa Hof Hotel, Swakopmund

Swakopmund

With palm-lined streets, seaside promenades and fine accommodation for all budgets, Swakopmund is Namibia's most popular holiday destination, and its pleasant summer climate and decent beaches attract surfers, anglers and beach lovers from all over Southern Africa. Thanks to its mild temperatures and negligible rainfall, Swakopmund generally enjoys grit in the oyster. When an easterly wind blows, the town gets a good sand-blasting, and almost perpetual drizzle. The fog rolls up to 30km inland and provides moisture for desert-dwelling plants and animals, including 80 species of lichen.

For better or worse, Swakopmund feels overwhelmingly Teutonic – indeed, it has Germany – but for visitors, it's a Namibia's adrenalin capital, and offers a wide range of gut-curdling activities from sand boarding and quad-biking to skydiving and camel riding. Note, however, that it gets especially busy around Namibian school holidays in December and January, when temperatures average around 25°C.

Day Notes

After breakfast, travel through two rugged canyons and via the Welwitschia plains and the Moonlandscape to Swakopmund. Better known as Namibia's playground, this idyllic town is wedged between the sweltering Namib Desert and the cold Atlantic Ocean, and enjoys a distinct German architecture and atmosphere. Swakopmund has

numerous activities to offer, some of which include scenic flights, boat trips, desert tours and quad biking adventures.

Activities

Kuiseb Canyon

Optional

Kuiseb Delta

Recommended

Walvis Bay Lagoon

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.



Kuiseb Valley and Moon Landscape

As the Kuiseb River nears the coast it splits into multiple pathways and disappears into the dunes, creating a landscape of shifting sand, dry river beds and desert-adapted shrubs. For hundreds of years, this area has been home to the Topnaars, descendants of the Khoisan, who survive by keeping cattle and sheep and growing a nutritious melon variety in the dry river beds. The delta is also known for its archaeological riches, which include score of ancient middens, Topnaar burial sites and petrified elephant tracks.

Travel through this desolate and forbidding valley of conical and dome shaped hills near Swakopmund, reminiscent of an actual lunar landscape, resembling the lifeless surface of Mars itself. The Moonlandscape represents the leftover of an ancient, enormous mountain range. During more severe weather patterns, the valleys of the mountain range as well as the mountain range itself has been chafed, chiseled and gouged by wind and the waters of the nowadays known Swakop River. Known as "badland topography", the crumbling granite surface hardly supports any plant life and is best viewed in the late afternoon to enjoy terrific light and shadow contrasts and cooler temperatures.

Walvis Bay Lagoon

Walvis Bay's calm natural lagoon is a twitcher's paradise, teeming with roughly 50 species of seabirds, including vivid flocks of flamingos, bulky-billed pelicans and glossy black cormorants. It's also a popular spot for windsurfing,

kitesurfing and kayaking, while the promenade stretching for three kilometres along the water's edge is a great place for a scenic stroll. The Lagoon is one of the most important wetland areas on the African continent and a RAMSAR world heritage site. Over 80% of the African flamingos feed in this lagoon and present a breath taking picture when they appear in groups counting a few hundred thousand.



Overnight: Europa Hof Hotel

The Hotel Europa Hof is a 3-star hotel, combining distinct German architecture with a relaxed atmosphere. It is ideally situated within walking distance to the town centre and the Atlantic Ocean. The Hotel's accompanying restaurant is popular for its great seafood dishes and its Namibian and German cuisine.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 6: Europa Hof Hotel, Swakopmund

Day Notes

You have the following two days to unwind and relax along the Atlantic Ocean! Spend your time shopping, walking, taking in the sight or opt for the numerous activities available in Swakopmund or Walvis Bay. Activities in Walvis Bay include amongst others marine cruises, kayaking, birding and wind surfing, whilst Swakopmund offers quad biking, desert tours, dune boarding, scenic flights and also township tours. On each evening you have a wide choice of excellent restaurants to choose from, many of which specialize in unforgettable seafood dishes.

Optional

Catamaran Charters
 Namibia Desert Explorers
 Pelican Point Kayak Tour
 Sandwich Harbour 4x4
 Living Desert Tours

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.



Namibia Desert Explorers

Experience the sheer thrill of riding a quad bike through Namibia's boundless expanse of shifting sand dunes. After the engines are revved up and ready to roll, an experienced guide will lead you through the Swakopmund River mouth into the dune belt. Feel the freedom of riding through one of nature's great wildernesses. As the towering dunes approach we weave our way through the smaller ones towards the "Amphitheater". With "Power-up" we blast our way to the top of the first big dune via the "Roller Coasters" to the top of "Big Billy". We stop for a drink and you get the opportunity to capture the stark and savage beauty of the Namib Desert. After riding down "Devils Dip" we ride the berms, spirals and slopes as we cruise towards the "Table Top" a great dune that offers a spectacular view of the sea.

Pelican Point Kayak Tour

Pelican Point stretches out into the sea, creating a sheltered bay that is ideal for kayaking, and taking a gentle paddle out to the seal colonies is a wonderful way to while away a few hours.



Sandwich Harbour 4x4

Our Sandwich Harbour 4x4 Excursion takes you to the Walvis Bay Lagoon, the Saltpans, the Kuiseb River Delta, Sandwich Harbour, and - if weather and tides allow for it - the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon. We have plenty of time to stop and take pictures, and to enjoy the beautiful and unique scenery of one of the most spectacular areas in Namibia. Our roaring dunes and lookout spots are a highlight of every tour.

Our popular Marine Dune Day (9h00-16h30) is a combination of both, a morning marine cruise and our Sandwich Harbour 4x4 afternoon excursion. During the marine cruise on your choice of boat (speedboat or catamaran) you have a chance to see pelicans, seals, dolphins, the Walvis Bay Harbour, old russian boats, oyster farms and Pelican Point with the old lighthouse. Our 4x4 guide will be waiting for you as soon as you are back to take you to Sandwich Harbour. We return between 16h30 and 17h00. Lunch on the boat and in the dunes, drinks and permits are included.



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.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 7: Europa Hof Hotel, Swakopmund

Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 8: Twyfelfontein Country Lodge, Twyfelfontein

Twyfelfontein

TWYFELFONTEIN: NAMIBIA'S OWN WORLD HERITAGE SITE This National Heritage site confers yet another distinction to Namibia: that of one of the foremost centers of artwork in the world. It counts as the largest open-air art gallery in Southern Africa, its name reflecting a farmer's incredulity that the unreliable spring (Afrikaans: Twyfelfontein) could have supported the Stone Age hunter and its prey for thousands of years. The reddish sandstone boulders seem to glow in the fierce heat, yet ancient man sheltered from enemy and spied on game from these surreal rock formations. Here he assiduously carved away at the intractable rock surfaces to imprint his indelible creations. Today, you can browse amongst these selfsame boulders and slabs of sandstone and marvel at the grandest spectacle of rock engravings in Africa.

The area is also home to the geological phenomenon of Burnt Mountain and the Organ Pipes.

Day Notes

On your way to the Damaraland you can visit the large lichen fields as well as the largest fur seal colony in southern Africa at Cape Cross. You travel into Damaraland past Namibia's highest mountain, the majestic Brandberg Mountain, which reminds of the volcanic era millions of years ago.

Optional

Cape Cross Seal Colony

Brandberg

The Brandberg ('Fire Mountain') Massif is Namibia's highest peak, with its zenith, the Königstein ('King's Stone'), standing at a whopping 2573 metres above sea level. Named for the vivid shade of orange it sometimes turns at

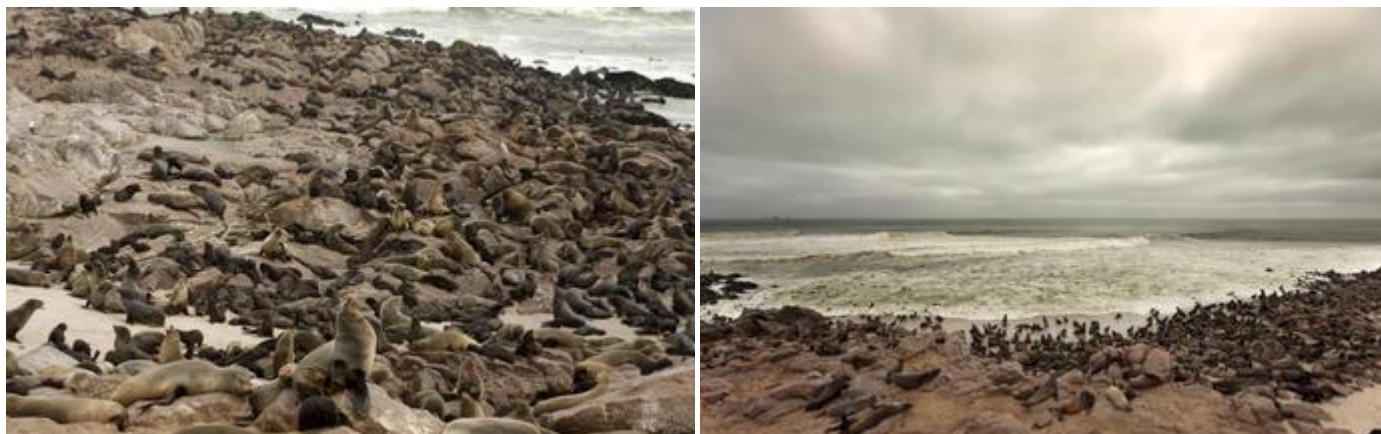
at sunset, the Brandberg has been sacred to the San people for centuries, and the Tsisab Ravine at its base is permeated with over 45 000 ancient San rock paintings, including the famous 'White Lady'.



Cape Cross Seal Colony

Skeleton Coast: an evocative name for one of the most hostile stretches of land found anywhere on earth. Cape Cross forms part of the frontline in the struggle between the icy

South Atlantic Ocean and the torrid Namib Desert. As treacherous as it may have been for mankind, this rocky shoreline represents the breeding ground for largest colony of fur seals of Southern Africa. The area can hardly be described as the most romantic (let alone agreeable) sight for a great moment in the annals of discovery, yet, in this malevolent setting new masters of the sea and technology stepped ashore some six years before Columbus beheld the islands of the new world. They, the Portuguese, now trod where no white man had ever walked before, and erected a cross (padrao) in their epic moment of triumph, heralding Southern Africa's encounter with a new and powerful civilization. (The original padrao stands in the Berlin museum but you can view an exact replica at the precise location of the beacon)



Overnight: Twyfelfontein Country Lodge

The Lodge is situated in the heart of the Twyfelfontein Uibasen Conservancy and boast 56 en-suite twin rooms, reception, lounge, curio shop, open dining room, bar and swimming pool. In construction utmost care was taken to reduce the visual impact on the environment and to blend into the mountainside with the use of thatch roofs, natural stone and paint colors toning in with the surrounding rock formations.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 9: Twyfelfontein Country Lodge, Twyfelfontein

Day Notes

After an early breakfast visit Twyfelfontein, a World Heritage Site where over 2500 rock engravings and rock paintings cover the eroded surface of a pre-historic desert – this area was inhabited by Bushmen some 6000 years ago, as it was rich in water and consequently visited by a rich diversity of game. A visit to the Burnt Mountain and the Organ Pipes is an interesting geological phenomenon and is found very close to Twyfelfontein. Afterwards you can visit a traditional Damara village. These indigenous people were, together with the Bushman, the first inhabitants of Namibia and have lived in the Damaraland area for thousands of years. On your way back to your lodge visit the Petrified Forest interspersed with Welwitschia Plants, the oldest living desert plant on earth.

Optional

Burnt Mountain
Petrified Forest

Recommended

Twyfelfontein Rock Art
Damara Living Museum

Burnt Mountain and Organ Pipes

BURNT MOUNTAIN: The mountain belongs to a 12 km long mountain range lying from east to west. The mountain rises some 200m out of the barren landscape and shimmers starkly and uninvitingly during the heat of the day. During the early morning and late afternoon, before being shadowed by the surrounding higher mountain range, it presents a kaleidoscope of beautiful colours. The mountain was formed by doleritic lava that intruded an underground cave consisting of limestone and shale. Upon impact the latter was instantly metamorphosed, releasing hydroxides and oxides, giving the mountain an amazing range of colours – red, orange, purple, black, grey and white. An interesting feature at the end of the mountain is a heap of shale (shale consist of organic plant and animal particles) that underwent drastic changes when it was intruded by dolerite, now resembling ash and clinker. As the area is extremely susceptible to compaction, please heed the request not to walk around on the mountain.

organ pipes: The name aptly describes these vertical stands of dolerite rock that can reach a height of 5m and are found in a valley some 100 meters in length. They were formed by an intrusion of a dolerite sheet into an area consisting of shale (they are situated only a few hundred meters away from the Burnt Mountain). When the dolerite cooled down and shrunk, neatly splitting into angular columns that we see today. It was subsequently eroded by the river cutting its way through the dolerite sheet. It is advisable to visit this geological phenomenon during the early morning or the late afternoon due to the intense heat build up in the valley.

Petrified Forest

Namibia's petrified forest west of Khorixas is indeed a rare phenomenon. As if through the intervention of some great time machine, the fossilized remains of these tree trunks provide an intriguing glimpse of flora that existed some 260 million years ago. The optical illusion is uncanny – right down to such details as the colour and texture of the bark and growth rings. As startling as the initial sight may be to road-weary eyes – the surprise reaches its climax when the visitor stoops to touch a section of log... for what to all intents and purposes is a piece of wood, turns out in reality to be cold stone!

Twyfelfontein Rock Art

Twyfelfontein is a World Heritage Site boasting one of the richest rock art concentrations in Africa. Thousands of tourists come to this site each year to view some 2, 500 Stone Age rock engravings. The area is home to 17 rock art sites, which collectively encompass 212 engraved stone slabs. There are an additional 13 sites displaying rock paintings.



Damara Living Museum

Observe and experience the traditional Damara way of life right in the heart of their traditional homelands. A unique opportunity to see a way of life that is slowly dying out. Open daily.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 10: Taleni Etosha Village, Etosha National Park

Etosha National Park

Etosha National Park is the parade ground of the beasts, a kaleidoscope of creatures bewildering character and variety. It was proclaimed as Namibia's first conservation area in 1907 by the then Governor of German South West Africa, von Lindequist. He demarkated an area of over 100'000 km², creating the largest game reserve on earth and expelling thousands of indigenous people from their traditional and ancestral dwellings to stay outside the park. Present day Etosha National Park was pared down due to political considerations in the 1960's by the Odendaal Plan and now covers a modest but still very impressive 22'270 square kilometres. Despite the massive size of Etosha, only the southern edge of the pan is accessible to casual visitors. In the central and eastern region there are over 30 water holes - ideal places to sit and wait it out for an unbelievable 114 different game and over 340 different bird species. The Etosha Pan dominates the park. The salt pan desert, which is nearly completely enclosed by the park and is lined by numerous watering holes, is roughly 130 km long and as wide as 50 km in places. During Etosha's notorious dry spells the pan is a deathly place, lying parched and cracked under the molten African sun. At such times it is utterly barren, an austere playground for heat and wind which conjure up their characteristic atmospheric tricks. Glassy mirages dissolve the horizon and tremble over the blindingly flat surface while graceful dust devils carry out their swirling dances over the plains. When the waters do eventually come, the pan undergoes a miraculous transformation. From a vacuous stillness it springs into living paradise awash with life. Out of the blue in their thousands come migrant flamingos, splashing the sky with plumage which eventually condenses on the horizon in undulating lines of crimson, pink and white. Guided by an uncanny faculty for navigation they come to the pan for a short breeding season from as far as Walvis Bay – how they know of the water 500 miles north stays a mystery.

Such thrills are part of the earthy encounters with nature which give Etosha and other Namibian wilderness areas a dimension which goes beyond the simpler interpretations of nature. These sanctuaries have become sources of human well-being, where man can shake off his metropolitan afflictions and can recharge the batteries of sanity and perspective which have run down in the course of powering the locomotive of progress.

Day Notes

As you head to the Etosha National Park, your time will be devoted purely to the abundant wildlife. The park surrounds a parched salt desert known as the Etosha Pan, and is home to 4 of the Big Five - elephant, lion, leopard and rhino. The park's waterholes support a diversity of mammals and birds, including species such as black-faced impala, cheetah, and Namibia's smallest antelope, the Damara dik-dik. Your lodge for the following 3 nights is situated on the southern side of the Andersson Gate of the park, enabling access into the park with sunrise and a drive back after sunset.

Overnight: Taleni Etosha Village [View iBrochure](#)

Affordable Luxury at Etosha National Park near Okaukuejo Situated only 2km from the Andersson entrance gate to Etosha National Park, Etosha Village uniquely combines affordability with comfort, style and exquisite cuisine. 40 Luxury individual canvas suites are constructed on wooden decks and offer a fully air-conditioned bedroom with an unique semi-open en-suite bathroom. Two small children (under 12) can be accommodated with their parents on a convertible bunk berth. All units are also equipped for self-caterers, complete with an open-air kitchenette, fridge, kettle and an outside seating area with barbeque. Facilities include an unique open-plan bar with big screen television, 2 sparkling pools plus a kiddie pool, a restaurant with delectable cuisine as well as a fully stocked utility

and curio shop. Explore Namibia's animal kingdom with guided excursions to Etosha National Park. Experience spectacular sunsets during Sundowner Drives on our private reserve and discover the magic of our famous star studded skies with a Stargazing session. Let our team whisk you away to an enchanted venue in the Mopane Forest for a magnificent Bush Dinner Experience for your special function or private dinner.



Alternate: Etosha Safari Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Etosha Safari Camp is situated just 10 km south of Andersson Gate on the C 38 between Outjo and Okaukuejo. 50 twin-bedded chalets nestle among Mopani trees and impart a feeling of living in the lap of African nature. Each of them is equipped with mosquito gauze, air conditioning and its own bathroom and small veranda. Special attractions are the Okambashu Restaurant and the Oshebeena Bar, styled like a typical little township bar and brimming with African joie de vivre. Etosha Safari Camp is the perfect base for safari excursions into Etosha - with an experienced guide on the daily game drive or by yourself in your own car.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 11: Taleni Etosha Village, Etosha National Park

Day Notes

You have the entire day available for extensive game viewing experiences. No game drive is the same; all waterholes hold new surprises and attract different animal species that you may not have seen on previous game drives.

Etosha East

In the vast arid space of Northern Namibia lies one of Southern Africa's best loved wildlife sanctuaries. The Etosha National Park offers excellent game viewing in one of Africa's most accessible venues. Zebra and springbok are scattered across the endless horizon, while the many waterholes attract endangered black rhinoceros, lion, elephant and large numbers of antelope. Etosha, meaning 'place of dry water', is enclosed by a huge, flat calcrete depression (or pan) of about 5 000km². The 'Pan' provides a great, parched, silver-white backdrop of shimmering mirages to an area of semi-arid savannah grassland and thorn scrub. The pan itself contains water only after very good rains and sometimes for only a few days each year, but is enough to stimulate the growth of a blue-green algae which lures thousands of flamingos.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 12: Taleni Etosha Village, Etosha National Park

Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 13: Mokuti Etosha Lodge, Etosha National Park

Day Notes

Shortly after sunrise the gates to the park open, allowing you to experience the conundrum of animals and birds greeting the new day. Today you traverse the park from west to east and have ample time available to wait at a selection of waterholes for different game species coming to the water to quench their thirst. In the late afternoon you travel to your lodge, situated directly outside the park gate.

Activities

Etosha Pan

Etosha Pan

Aeons ago, Etosha Pan was the bed of a vast lake; today what remains is a glittering, silvery-green salt pan that stretches across roughly 5000 square kilometres. Etosha is protected by the Etosha Pan National Park surrounded by savannah plains and woodlands supporting large herds of elephants. When dry, the pan sustains little life except for the algae that gives it its distinctive colour, and migratory birds that use it as a pit stop, but with heavy rain it becomes a shallow lake where flamingos breed, pelicans wade and feed, and a variety of mammal species come to quench their thirst, including leopards, lions, white rhinos, hunting dogs and antelopes.



Overnight: Mokuti Etosha Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

MOKUTI ETOSHA LODGE Mokuti is the perfect venue for travellers wanting to explore the famous eastern side of Etosha National Park. Known for its excellent and diverse wildlife encounters, it has become a popular venue for meetings, incentives, weddings and honeymoons. The closest lodge to Etosha National Park, Mokuti is only four minutes drive from the eastern Von Lindequist Gate near Namutoni Fort and is located on its own private 4 000 hectare nature reserve, which shares a common border with this fascinating wildlife reserve. Upon arrival, guests are welcomed by a cool, green, tropical oasis. Charming thatched buildings and two sparkling pools nestled among the vast indigenous gardens give credence to the name “Mokuti”, which in Ovambo means “In the forest”. **MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME** Mokuti Etosha Lodge promises guests a warm Namibian welcome, and a stay during which they will be hosted in a relaxed, uncomplicated manner. This intimate lodge has 90 rooms and 16 luxury rooms. Recently refurbished, they are all air conditioned and come equipped with satellite TV, a mini-fridge, safes, free Internet Wi-Fi access, tea/coffee-making facilities and en-suite bathrooms with showers. Mokuti Etosha Lodge offers the Tambuti Dining Room & Marula Bar, the Pool Bar & Terrace and the only open air African Boma in the area. Meals are typical Namibian feasts, featuring many local products and the famous local choices of both beef and game, all lovingly prepared according to home-style recipes. **GO ON ADVENTURES** Leisure activities and facilities abound and include Mokuti’s exclusive spa, two swimming pools, a separate children’s splash pool, two floodlit tennis courts, Pool &

Billiard Room, gym, reptile park, walking trails, private airport and professionally guided morning, afternoon or full day open vehicle game drive safaris into Etosha. At night, guests tell tall stories around open fires, after enjoying al fresco dinners served in the African Boma or even under the towering garden trees. As they make their way back to their rooms along winding pathways, they frequently encounter our resident herd of placid bontebok, and the next morning, our squirrels who insist on sharing their breakfast. MEET THE WILD Etosha National Park is home to 114 different mammal species including zebra, springbok, eland, oryx, kudu, giraffe and the all-important big four: the lion, the leopard, the elephant and black and white rhino. The wide variety of animals guarantee impressive game viewing. Etosha is also a bird watchers' paradise, with more than 340 bird species recorded in the park. ONTOUKA REPTILE PARK Guests are welcome to join our Conservation Team on a visit to our own Ontouka Reptile Park at Mokuti and learn fascinating facts about African reptiles. If they are feeling brave, they can book front row seats at a spectacular crocodile feeding session. Inhabitants of the park include some of the world's most dangerous snakes, crocodiles, turtles, goannas and chameleons. ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS Guests can make the most of the landscaped gardens relaxing in the shade under the trees or at the pool, or visit the exciting reptile park, play a game of tennis, explore the reserve by following one of the marked walking trails, be pampered in the spa or workout at the gym. For the slightly more adventurous, there is the option of accompanying one of Mokuti's experienced game guides in an open safari vehicle into Etosha National Park. With its vast number of wildlife species, guests will be sighting and photographing until the sun sets. WINING AND DINING Tambuti Dining Room Offering country-style comfort, "home" cuisine with a Namibian touch during breakfast, lunch (dependant on occupancy) and dinner. At night dinners are either a buffet or three course set menus with three selections per course. On certain nights these dinners are served in the garden, under the trees. The African Boma On certain nights dinner, consisting of a traditional Namibian Braai/BBQ, is served in the African Boma. The Pool Bar & Terrace Opens (weather permitting) from 09h30 and serves a la carte snacks, teas and coffees, lunch till 15h30 and drinks till 24h00. CONFERENCE ROOMS There are three venues to choose from for groups ranging from 25 - 130 people, depending on the function and the preferred seating style. FIND US HERE Mokuti Etosha Lodge is situated approximately 550 km north of Windhoek, (±5 hours) travelling time. From Windhoek, follow the B1 for 3 505 km. Turn left onto the C38 for 25 km and follow the signs towards Namutoni Fort. Mokuti Etosha Lodge is on the left just prior to reaching the Von Lindequist Gate into Etosha National Park.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 14: Kashana Namibia, Erongo

Erongo

The Erongo Region is one of the largest of the 13 regions found in Namibia and received its name for the majestic Erongo Massif that dominates the area around Karibib, Omaruru and Usakos. The region reaches up to the Atlantic Ocean and includes the coastal towns of Swakopmund and Walvis Bay, its northern boundary ending at the Ugab River where the Skeleton Coast National Park begins its stretch to Angola.

Day Notes

Departing Etosha, travel south towards the quaint town of Omaruru, situated in the pictures Erongo Mountain Range. Here you have enough time during the following two days to spend at leisure along the sparkling pool, or explore the small town of Omaruru and its surrounds. Experience the magical sunset around a fireplace and marvel at the African sky whilst sipping your favourite 'Namibian Sundowner.

Overnight: Kashana Namibia [View iBrochure](#)

The main building at Kashana really has been a witness to a century of history having been built in 1907 as a casino. After years of being put to less respectable uses, its condition had deteriorated seriously. It was fortunate, therefore, that its new owners decided to restore it for posterity and for the benefit of the local community, some of whom work for Kashana or in the many small businesses housed around the courtyard. The main building houses the Restaurant, Bar and offices, while the Kashana accommodation is newly built behind it. The grounds also house the novel Nawa Nawa Art Centre which displays and sells art and crafts, furniture and sculptures, many of which are fabricated with recycled waste products - as is the gallery itself.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 15: Kashana Namibia, Erongo

Day Notes

You have the entire day to explore the vast Erongo region with its rich bird life and numerous rock paintings. Visit one of the historical points such as the "Franke Turm" or enjoy an optional game drive on one of the many Game Lodges in the close vicinity of Omaruru, which can be pre-booked through our office. Alternatively you can also visit the Kristall Kellerei and enjoy a wine tasting tour and enjoy a sumptuous lunch.

Optional

Kristallkeller Winery
San Living Museum

Kristallkeller Winery

The winery was purchased by family Weder in early 2008. Winemaking and distilling entered a new phase: the plantings of the Colombard variety were extended and now we have about 2,8ha under production. Michael and Katrin Weder personally managed the Kristall Kellerei up to February 2014, when Olga Kausch. was invited to lease the Weinstube. This includes the retail of products, tours and tasting and catering of the guests. The Naute Kristall Project, in the south of Namibia, necessitates the personal attention of Michael and Katrin Weder, who subsequently relocated to that area. Under the tab "Naute Kristall Project" you can learn more about this exciting endeavor.

San Living Museum

The San have survived the harshest conditions imaginable for thousands of years and for those still living out of cities not a lot has changed. With their gentle and generous nature you will have a visit with a people that will stay with you a life time.



Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 16: Departure

Day Notes

After a relaxed-breakfast travel back towards Windhoek or the international airport for your outward flight, where your journey ends