2016 Namibia Highlights - Bronze

NAMIB

SWAKOPMUND

DAMARALAND

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK
2016 Namibia Highlights- Bronze
Namib - Namib - Swakopmund - Damaraland - Etosha National Park - Etosha National Park
9 Days / 8 Nights

Overview
Highlights:

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

Languages- English / German

Combinations- CZ

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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:  Hammerstein 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
Departing Windhoek, we travel to our lodge in the Namib Desert. This is the gateway to Sesriem Canyon and Sossusvlei, where some of the highest sand dunes on Earth stand towering over the white desert plains. The afternoon can be spent relaxing at the pool, or taking part in optional activities offered at our lodge.

Overnight: Hammerstein Lodge
Hammerstein Lodge is a gateway to the Namib in close proximity to the beautiful red dunes of Sossusvlei (60km from Sesriem). The area is renowned for its rocky outcrops of massive granite boulders and the lodge gets its name from one enormous rock that is shaped like a hammer. Hammerstein Lodge & Camp offers sundowner drives into the mountains, sightseeing flights as well as 4x4 trips to Sossusvlei on request.

Included
Bed & Breakfast

Day 2:  Namib Desert Lodge, Namib

Day Notes
This morning demands an early start. The first rays of sunrise paint the mountains of sand into a variety of apricot, red and orange, contrasted against a crisp blue skyline, enrapturing our senses, and providing an opportunity to capture this awesome landscape on film. You will be astonished by the surreal Deadvlei, surrounded by the highest dunes and Sossusvlei, where the mostly dry Tsauchab River ends abruptly amongst majestic dunes. Take the opportunity to walk up one of these dunes to admire the desert landscape beneath. Thereafter we visit the Sesriem Canyon, a life sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert.
Activities
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.

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**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.

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**Included**
Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 3:  Beach Hotel Swakopmund, 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-curduling 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 25ºC.

Day Notes
After breakfast we travel via the desolate, rolling hills of the Kuiseb Moon Valley towards the Atlantic Ocean. In Walvis Bay we visit the shallow lagoon, 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 breathtaking picture when they appear in groups counting a few hundred thousand. Having arrived in Swakopmund, the rest of the day is spent at leisure.

Activities
Kuiseb Canyon
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.

*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: Beach Hotel Swakopmund

Whether you are on a business trip, visiting our charming town Swakopmund, having a conference, a romantic weekend or holiday trip, Beach Hotel Swakopmund is a perfect place to stay and to feel comfortable. The ideal location of Beach Hotel Swakopmund, just 50 m from the Atlantic Ocean and within walking distance to the centre of Swakopmund, allows you to experience the flavour of our charming town, while providing you the opportunity to explore the surrounding areas. Beach Hotel Swakopmund offers the largest ranges of categories at the Namibian coast. From an upper market luxury apartment to an economically family unit! All rooms have a balcony and only 4 without sea views. Facilities on site include our Restaurant, "Anchor Point" which is open all year round as well as a lounge with Sundowner bar, a roof terrace with panoramic view and where you can enjoy some Sundowners or relax in the swimming pool. After a long day out you can enjoy a professional massage or head to the gym for the fitness enthusiasts.

Included
Bed & Breakfast

Day 4: Beach Hotel Swakopmund, Swakopmund

Day Notes
Swakopmund is the perfect location for walking tours, shopping, relaxing at a quaint coffee shop or taking a stroll along the sandy beaches. Being Namibia’s playground, a wide variety of activities are on offer, ranging from dolphin cruises, desert tours and scenic flights to quad biking, paragliding, parachuting and kite surfing.
Optional
Catamaran Charters
Living Desert Tours
Namibia Desert Explorers
Scenic Desert Flights

_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.

_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.
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 wildernesess. 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.

Scenic Desert Flights
A dramatic flight over the Namib Desert, see how the seldom present waters of the Kuiseb River stop the advance of the red sands of the Namib, experience the vastness of the magnificent dune formations as you fly south to Sossusvlei and then return along the coast passing over long gone mining settlements, lonely shipwrecks, seal colonies, colourful salt works, Windhoek Harbour and finally back to Swakopmund.

Included
Bed & Breakfast

Day 5: Ugab Terrace Lodge, Damaraland

Damaraland
Huge, untamed and ruggedly beautiful Damaraland is an exceptionally scenic landscape of open plains and spectacular rock formations. The major attractions are Spitzkoppe, the Brandberg, Twyfelfontein, Vingerklip and the Petrified Forest. Damaraland, one of the least populated places on earth, shows no fences nor boundaries in the vast, stony desert landscape. It is marked by endless vistas across stark plains, ancient valleys and brooding, distant mountains which bring the traveller as close to nature as is comfortably possible. In Damaraland, plants and animals have over millennia evolved side by side with the harsh environment, creating unusual geological features, which together with a wealth of rock paintings and engravings, a population of desert-adapted elephant and rhino, combine to form the unique attraction to this region. Damaraland was once an area occupied primarily by the Damara people, but over time became home to other tribes such as the Hereros and the displaced Riemvasmakers of South Africa. Today, many residents of Damaraland are thus of mixed heritage, but most consider themselves Damara.
The Damaraland community comprises a unique group of people who recognised the value of the wildlife on their land and formed a Community Wildlife Conservancy to protect it. Until 1981, Damaraland was unprotected and open to poachers, mostly from outside of the of the Damaraland area. In the interests of the Damarland wildlife a game guard system was eventually formed with people from the community and the welfare of the wildlife increased. Today it is one of the last places in southern Africa where game still roams freely like it did thousands of years ago – a true wilderness..

Day Notes
Heading further north, we travel via the Brandberg, Namibia’s highest mountain (2579m), into the Damaraland, one of the least populated and geologically diverse areas in Africa. This harsh, rocky environment is home to the rare desert elephant, the black rhino and free-roaming antelope species. We visit to Twyfelfontein, a heritage site where Bushman communities engraved and painted over 2500 pictures some 6000 years ago! Close by we explore the Burnt Mountain, Organ Pipes and the Petrified Forest - all geological phenomena’s depicting the creation and evolution of some of the oldest landmasses on Earth. Here we also visit the Welwitschia mirabilis plant – the oldest living desert plant on Earth. After a visit to a traditional Damara village we proceed on to our lodge, situated on the edge of the Damaraland.

Activities
Brandberg
Twyfelfontein Rock Art
Burnt Mountain
Damara Living Museum
Petrified Forest

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 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’.

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.
**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.

**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.

**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!

**Overnight: Ugab Terrace Lodge**

Welcome to the Ugab Terrace Lodge set deep in the heart of a rare and untouched mystery situated within Namibia’s famous tourist attractions.

We provide a unique African experience with friendly staff and delicious cuisine that will make you feel at home. Indulge yourself with the breathtaking view enjoying a refreshing drink and overwhelming experiences of bathing in a splash pool constructed in the natural rocks at the top of the mountain surrounded by unspoilt valleys and bush.

Treat yourself with our adventure tours and activities. A guided walk in nature to experience our lustrous vegetation, a thrill ride on the 15th longest zip line in the world, a nature drive to the historical Vinger klip and much more ...

Our accommodation comprises of 16 chalets set in a semi-circle on the edge of the mountain with a panoramic view over open valleys and the ancient terraces formed by water corrosion millions of years ago.

We offer a Restaurant with divine food and a bar overlooking the Rock Vinger and beautiful Ugab Terraces valley.

End your stay with us with a guarantee of the most memorable sunset or sunrise in the world.

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**Included**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 6: Etosha Safari Camp, 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 demarcated 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**

After a relaxed breakfast, we travel towards the Etosha National Park, famous for its vast amount of wildlife and unique landscape. Once we have reached our camp, we have the rest of the day at leisure, but can optionally also book an afternoon guided game drive in open vehicles with the lodge.

**Optional**

Game Drive with Lodge

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**Etosha Safari Camp**

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.

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**Overnight: Etosha Safari Camp**   [View iBrochure](#)

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Included
Bed & Breakfast

Day 7: Mokuti Etosha Lodge, Etosha National Park

Day Notes
The day is devoted purely to the abundant wildlife found in the Etosha National Park, which surrounds a parched salt desert known as the Etosha Pan. The park is home to 4 of the Big Five - elephant, lion, leopard and rhino. The waterholes support a rich diversity of birds and mammals, including rare species such as black-faced impala, roan, cheetah, and Namibia’s smallest antelope, the Damara dik-dik.

Activities
Etosha Game Drive
Etosha Pan

Sense of Africa Etosha Game Drive
Game drive through Etosha National Park searching for predators, plains game, reptiles & birds. Vehicle height, large sliding windows and reclining seats in the larger coaches ensure that our guests enjoy the best possible view and photographic opportunities. Depending on the time of year, these game drives take many different routes, but most often focus around the waterholes where you are most likely to see a variety of wildlife taking the chance to get a drink and swim.
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 8:  Mokuti Etosha Lodge, Etosha National Park

Day Notes
Today your guide again takes you on a game drive in the Etosha National Park. We may encounter animal species we have not seen the previous day and look forward to any new surprises at the different waterholes visited. In the afternoon we travel to our lodge, where we enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

Activities
Etosha Game Drive
Etosha East

Sense of Africa Etosha Game Drive

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’, encloses 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 9: Departure

Day Notes
After breakfast we continue southwards to Windhoek, where we visit the craft markets in the main street of the capital city, where after we are dropped off at our hotel or at the international airport for our return flight.

Activities
The Diamond Works
Old Brewery Craft Centre

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.

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.