



NAMIBIA

Okonjima
home of the african foundation

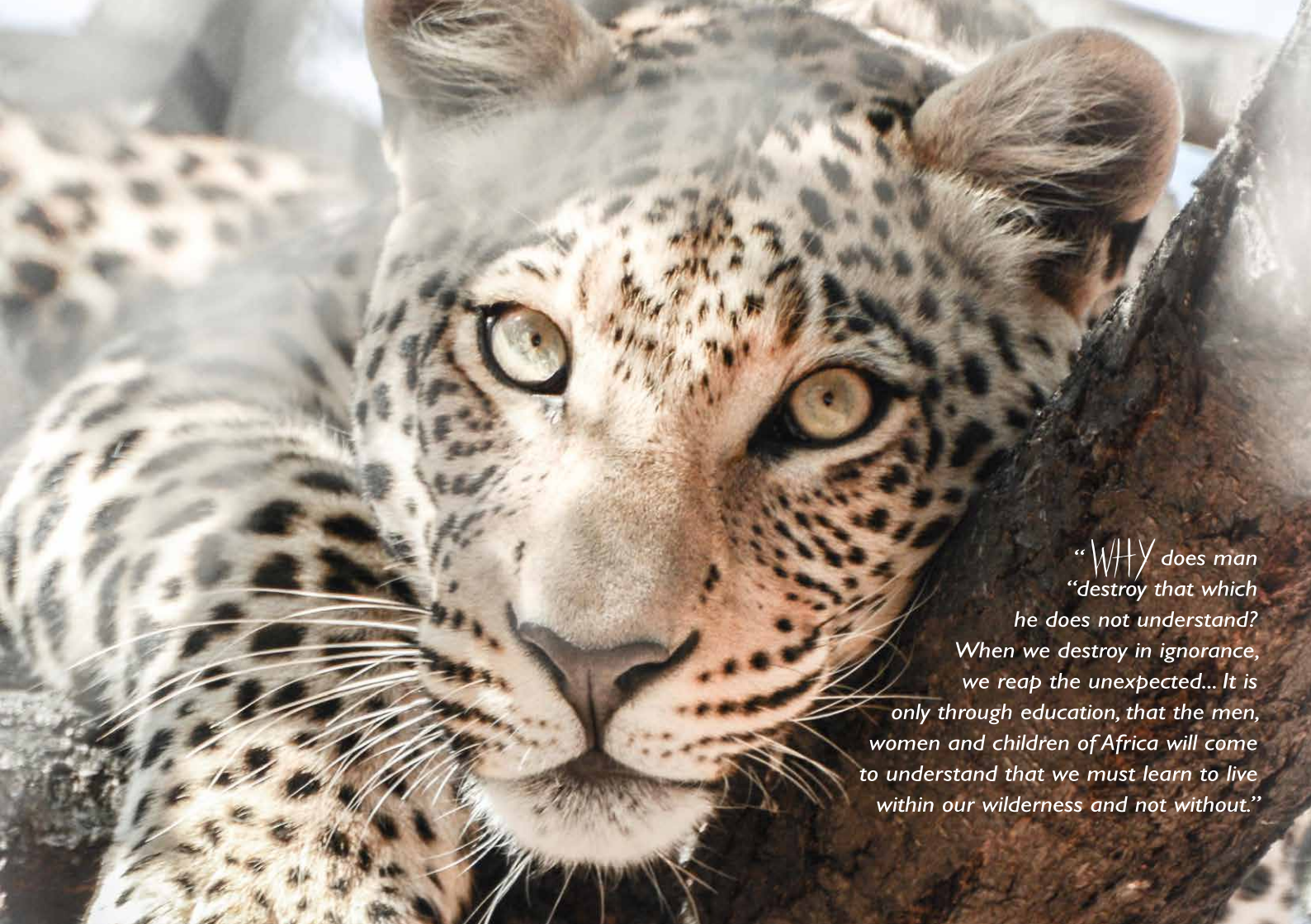


Home of the AfriCat Foundation

Okonjima - from the Herero word meaning place of the baboons - lies nestled in the unspoilt beauty of the Omboroko Mountains, part of the well-known Waterberg Plateau - halfway between Windhoek and Etosha. (BI)

Not only is Okonjima a luxury lodge, offering a variety of different accommodation facilities, but it is also home to the AfriCat Foundation, a non-profit organisation committed to long-term conservation of Namibia's large carnivores and other endangered species.

A visit to Okonjima provides an opportunity to witness AfriCat's important work. Both Okonjima and AfriCat are dedicated to conservation through environmental education, preserving habitat, promoting research, and community support.



*“WHY does man
“destroy that which
he does not understand?
When we destroy in ignorance,
we reap the unexpected... It is
only through education, that the men,
women and children of Africa will come
to understand that we must learn to live
within our wilderness and not without.”*



The Okonjima Nature Reserve sprawls over 200 square kilometres of undulating plains, mountainous outcrops, and riverine thickets, and it is here that leopard (*Panthera pardus*), the most adaptable of all the wild cats, thrive.

These intelligent, solitary predators occur in high density in the expanse of Okonjima Nature Reserve's multi-faceted topography. The Reserve's predator research programme has spanned three decades, and its findings have provided great insight to leopard behavioral patterns as well as offered an upbeat prognosis for a sustainable future for the species in today's Africa.

A two-day Okonjima stay offers the best chance to view *wild leopard* and *brown hyena* in Namibia, as well as those collared for research purposes, in their natural habitats. The Okonjima Nature Reserve, a huge protected area set amongst the rugged commercial farmlands of central Namibia, comprises a diversified ecosystem representative of both the larger and small mammals of Namibia, as well as most of the country's endemic birds.

Game drives and *guided bush walks* offer visitors an intimate, up-close perspective of Namibia's wildlife and, especially, it's most protected species. The Okonjima Nature Reserve is home to, and runs extensive research projects on rare and endangered species big and small.



Your Experience
OKONJIMA ACTIVITIES



The Okonjima Nature Reserve

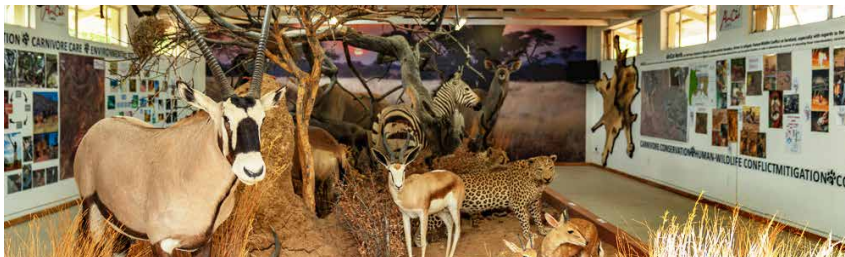
A TWO-DAY OKONJIMA STAY OFFERS THE BEST CHANCE TO VIEW WILD LEOPARDS IN NAMIBIA.



Guests are invited to join a guided *Off-The-Beaten-Track* walk & drive activity. This undemanding combination of a short walking trail and nature drive in the Okonjima Nature Reserve is especially loved by our younger guests and families, due to interactive and informative demonstrations. This two-hour experience provides a stimulating insight into the flora and fauna, as well as culture, of Namibia.

Self-guided hiking along our nature trails:

Guests are encouraged to seek some self-reflection and solace in the Namibian wilderness, surrounded by Okonjima's striking natural beauty and abundant wildlife. Between early morning and afternoon game drives, guests may go on a self-guided hike along one of three well laid-out hiking trails. The trails vary between four and six kilometres and, clearly marked, they meander along spectacular landscapes where wildlife abounds. The trails start a short distance from either of the Okonjima Lodge camps.







Up-close & personal
OKONJIMA - YOUR EXPERIENCE





The Villa

OKONJIMA'S GRAND AFRICAN HOUSE

The Villa is 10 km from Plains Camp. This thatched, African Villa, is Okonjima's boutique lodge (3 suites – 6 pax) or can be booked exclusively for private groups of 8 – 10 pax.

- 2 private suites, together with 2 select, en-suite bedrooms in the 'Main House'
- 2 separate, exquisite, thatched suites situated approximately 35m – 50m on either side of 'The Main House'
- Each suite has a mini-bar and coffee|tea making station
 - Wi-Fi and cell phone reception
 - Safe
 - King size bed
 - Air-conditioning and heating
 - Roof-fan
 - Bath
 - Inside - and outside shower
 - Glass-panelled doors fold away to give panoramic views, which can also be replaced by canvas panels for ventilation at night
- The 'Main House' includes a private kitchen, living - and dining room with an outdoor 'braai' area and a large, infinity swimming pool, overlooking a natural water-hole
- No children under the age of 12 years
- Fully inclusive rate
- **NON-EXCLUSIVE STAY:** Boutique lodge, sharing, guide and vehicle for 2 - 6 pax
- **EXCLUSIVE STAY:** Private, exclusive chef, guide and vehicle for 2 - 10 pax





Bush Suite

OKONJIMA'S LUXURY BUSH RETREAT

Bush Suite is 500m from Bush Camp and 3km from Plains Camp. This private Suite is a uniquely designed African Bush-Cottage.

- 2 select, luxury, en-suite bedrooms
- Each room has 2 queen-size beds, air-conditioning and heating, a roof-fan, safe, a bath, an inside - and outside shower
- The Suite has Wi-Fi and cell phone reception
- A large swimming pool, overlooking the savanna bushveldt and the Omboroko mountains
- A private kitchen
- A personal host, chef, guide and game-drive vehicle
- The living space boasts a spacious lounge with a fireplace, a dining area under-roof or outside under natural shade and an open, wood-burning fireplace
- Children of 3 years and older are welcome, but no minder service available
- Due to the nature of our activities, child participation is restricted
- Fully inclusive rate
- Can accommodate a family or small group of 4





Bush Camp

OKONJIMA'S AFRICAN LODGE

Bush Camp is 2.5km from Plains Camp, and situated on the edge of a wilderness area. The Bush Camp chalets enjoy complete privacy and are a combination of earthy, ochre walls, glass windows and khaki-green canvas, under a thatched roof.

The Junior-Suite boasts a stunning view, glass-panelled doors fold away to give panoramic views, 2 Queen-size beds, a comfortable en-suite lounge with fire-place, a bath, an inside - and outside shower.

- 8 luxury, thatched African-style Chalets with semi-detached, open lounge | sala
- 1 luxury, Junior-Suite (wheel-chair friendly)
- Each en-suite Chalet has a mini-bar, coffee|tea station, telephone, 2 comfortable leather chairs, 2 couches, 2 queen-size beds and a safe
- All Chalets are between 80m - 100m apart from each other
- The thatched Lapa, which includes the reception, dining and lounge area is designed in the form of the indigenous 'camelthorn' pod
- A secluded swimming pool
- Wi-Fi and cell phone reception
- No children under the age of 12 years
- A Half Board rate
- Fully Inclusive rate





The Barn



Dining



View Room

Plains Camp

OKONJIMA'S HOMESTEAD

Plains Camp honours the Okonjima cattle-farming history. The Hanssen family were well-established Brahman breeders and continued to farm cattle until the need for solutions to increasing livestock losses became pertinent. In 1993, the herds of Brahman cattle were sold, changing the face of Okonjima as well as that of Carnivore Conservation!

VIEW ROOMS:

- 11 Exclusive and spacious View Rooms, with vistas across the grass plains (9 View units & 1 double inter-leading family unit - 11 in total)
- All rooms are set 25m -75m apart
- Large verandah
- Wheel-chair friendly ramp
- 2 Double beds
- Desk and comfortable reading chair
- Mini-fridge
- Coffee|tea station
- 2 roof-fans
- Safe
- Twin basins and large twin shower
- Private parking and telephone to contact reception
- Wi-Fi and cell phone reception

- Half board (HB) rate incl. dinner, bed and breakfast (excl. lunch & activities)
- Activities at Plains Camp are available at an additional cost
- Children from the age of 3 years and older are welcome, but no child-care service is available
- Due to the nature of our activities, child participation is restricted
- The Barn has Wi-Fi facilities and cell phone reception
- 2 secluded swimming pools

STANDARD ROOMS:

- 14 Standard Rooms with vistas across the grass plains (10 Standard units & 2 double inter-leading family units - 14 in total)
- All rooms are set 15m -20m apart
- Small verandah
- Wheel-chair friendly ramp
- 2 Double beds
- Mini-fridge
- Coffee|tea station
- 2 Roof-fans
- Safe
- Twin basins and large shower
- Private parking and telephone to contact reception
- Wi-Fi and cell phone reception



View Room



Twin Basins & Shower



Standard Room

Omboroko

OKONJIMA'S CAMPSITES



The four, exclusive campsites are nestled amongst the Omboroko mountains and share a private swimming pool.

- 4 campsites each with hot & cold running water, a shower, a flush toilet, a central washing-up area
- 1 fixed light for cooking and 1 power|battery charging point
- A viewpoint for sundowners
- Okonjima provides 2 bundles of fire wood
- This campsite is a self-catering facility
- Dinner can be booked at a lodge and lunch at the Day Centre
- None of the Lodge facilities are open or available to campers, except the curio-shop and Day Centre
- Children 3 years and older are welcome. Due to the nature of our activities, child participation is restricted, depending on age
- A guided tour to 'The AfriCat Carnivore Care & Information Centre' (additional cost)
- Identify some of the 250 bird species on the self-guided walking trails
- The guided "Off The Beaten Track" is an experience not to be missed (additional cost)
- Tracking carnivores in the wild is optional (limited availability | low season only | no prior bookings | additional cost)



AfriCat

DAY CENTRE



HOW CAN YOU HELP
AFRICAT?

THE DAY CENTRE - VISIT AFRICAT'S CARNIVORE CARE & INFORMATION CENTRE

Tourism funds and supports the majority of The AfriCat Foundation's environmental education & conservation work. Visitors will be able to spend a short time at AfriCat's Carnivore Care & Information Centre, which offers you valuable insight into the work of the Foundation. Your visit to AfriCat will include: A short, guided-drive to the AfriCat Care Centre to meet some of our carnivore ambassadors. Our guides will answer questions, explain the work we do with carnivores in Namibia and position the vehicle for that special photograph.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the nature of our activities, child participation is restricted. No kids under the age of 3 years. Strictly NO contact between humans and animals. Tracking carnivores in the Okonjima Nature Reserve is not on offer to day visitors.

Lunch is served between: 12:00 - 14:00.

Please check and phone for departure times with the lodges, as times change seasonally.



The AfriCat Foundation was founded in the early 90s, and formally registered as a Namibian non-profit organisation in 1993. The Foundation has since grown significantly, and what started out primarily as a welfare organisation has, over the years, identified a need to focus on environmental education, community support, and research. Our mission is the understanding and protection of Namibia's large carnivores and other endangered species.

Objectives

- Education - helping children and young adults of Namibia to gain a new sense of understanding for the natural world and the importance of wildlife and conservation
- Large Carnivore research, particularly cheetahs, leopards, lions, and brown hyaenas on farmland and in the 200 km² Okonjima Nature Reserve
- To create awareness and promote tolerance of large carnivores amongst the farming community, by advising farmers on effective carnivore compatible, farming techniques

Tourism and wildlife conservation is one of the most compatible relationships the world over. Okonjima's lodges and the AfriCat Foundation have embraced tourism as both a conservation strategy as well as a sustainable business model. This close association has resulted in the creation of a 200km² (55,000 acre / 20,000 hectare) nature reserve, providing refuge for some of Namibia's most vulnerable wildlife.



Okonjima Nature Reserve

Home of AfriCat

Dedicated to carnivore & endangered species conservation through environmental education, preserving habitat, promoting research and community support.



The AfriCat Foundation

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“IN THE AFRICA OF 2050,
MOST CAT SPECIES WILL SURVIVE ONLY
WHERE PEOPLE CHOOSE TO TOLERATE THEM”

Henry David Thoreau wrote, “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived”. The wild man and wild woman lives in all of us. The need for “wildness” is as ancient a desire as the creation of life itself. All of us caught up in our hectic, chaotic lives, at one time or another long for that feeling of being truly wild and at one with nature.

And yet as much as we need the freedom of nature, why is it that so much of our energy appears to be directed towards destruction rather than conservation? We are living at an important and fruitful moment now, for it is clear to us that the images of the all- consumptive past must be replaced with a sustainable utilisation of the environment; sustainable for ourselves, our children and the generations to come. Never before has the fate of the planet rested so firmly in the hands of one species.

The decline of a carnivore generally alters the ecological balance of its biological community. Carnivores are linked through predation to herbivores, which are, in turn, linked to each other through competition and to plant communities by their foraging. They are particularly sensitive to environmental disturbance, and the decline or disappearance of these vulnerable carnivore species serves as an indicator of changes in their ecosystem.

Through environmental education, research and sustainable living, The AfriCat Foundation is committed to doing its part in the conservation of the ecosystems in which the carnivores of Africa play out their lives in what is truly a wild country. We invite you to come and share with us a glimpse of nature; you will not leave untouched.

Dr. Mark Jago - AfriCat Foundation Board Member and Veterinarian



Okonjima Nature Reserve
HABITAT RESTORATION



CARNIVORE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION



COMMUNITY SUPPORT



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT MITIGATION



RESCUE, RELOCATE & RELEASE



RESEARCH

How to get to Okonjima

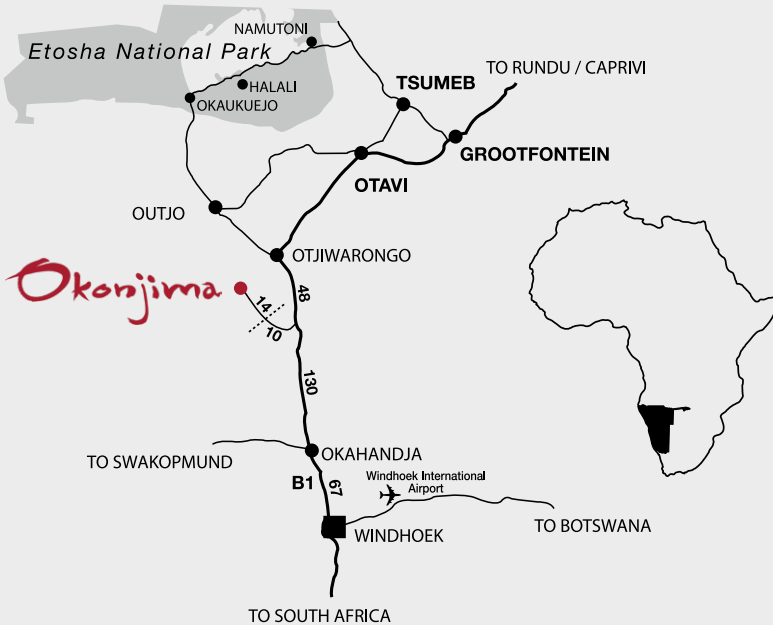
2.5 hours drive north of Windhoek on the B1.
The Okonjima Nature Reserve is 10 km from the B1.

To those coming from the south (B1):

Take the gravel turn-off to the left, just after the sign "Otjiwarongo 50km".

To those coming from the north (B1):

Take the gravel turn-off to the right, just after the sign "Okahandja 130km".
This turn-off is approximately 48km South of Otjiwarongo,
10km off the B1 - main road running north south.



Reservations: +264 67 314 000 / +264 81 127 6233

Operations: +264 81 845 8166

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www.africat.org

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Aeronautical Information for Airstrip

length: 1300m, Elevation: 5430ft

Orientation: 05/23

Surface: compact dirt / sand

Windsock: midfield

north side Airstrip co-ordinates: S 20° 51' 59" E 016° 38' 22"

Caution: Mountain range south of A/F 3 miles – 6250ft.

RWY situated between mountain ranges in valley.

Power line 11m (North West of A/F), Fence around A/F 2.40m -
Captive Carnivore area - North East of airstrip:

