



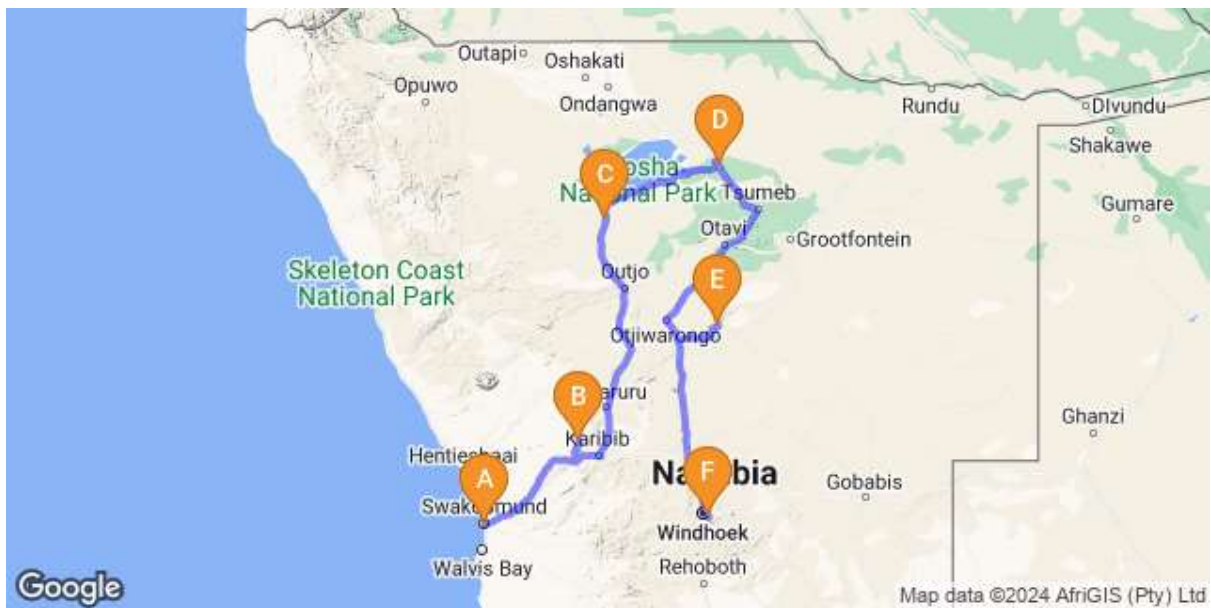
10-Day Namibia Birding, Wildlife & Photography Tour

Swakopmund - Erongo Mountains - Etosha South - Etosha East - Waterberg Plateau National Park - Greater Windhoek

10 Days / 9 Nights

Reference: Batis Birding Set Departure 2024

30 August 2024 - 08 September 2024



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

Introduction

Home to approximately 676 bird species, of which 15 are near-endemics and 1 true endemic, Namibia is a wonderful birding destination. Birding here is easy and photographic opportunities are plenty. This tour is designed specifically to target as many of Namibia's endemic and near-endemics as possible. It covers a wide range of habitats and visits Namibia's most iconic places such as the Namib Desert, Erongo Mountains, Etosha National Park and Waterberg Plateau National Park. We will not only be seeing wonderful birds and breathtaking landscapes, but also many exciting mammals, reptiles and plants, such as the Welwitschia. You can look forward to clean and comfortable accommodation, delicious, wholesome food and friendly people.

Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Duration
Hotel Pension d'Avignon	Swakopmund	30 Aug	1 Sep	D,B&B	2 Nights
Ameib Guesthouse	Erongo Mountains	1 Sep	2 Sep	D,B&B	1 Night
Taleni Etosha Village	Etosha South	2 Sep	4 Sep	D,B&B	2 Nights
Sachsenheim Guest Farm	Etosha East	4 Sep	6 Sep	D,B&B	2 Nights
Waterberg Resort	Waterberg Plateau National Park	6 Sep	7 Sep	D,B&B	1 Night
River Crossing Lodge	Greater Windhoek	7 Sep	8 Sep	D,B&B	1 Night

Key

D,B&B: Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Price

7 pax: N\$ 30,700.00 per person sharing

6 pax: N\$ 33,800.00 per person sharing

5 pax: N\$ 35,750.00 per person sharing

4 pax: N\$ 40,105.00 per person sharing

3 pax: N\$ 45,400.00 per person sharing

2 pax: N\$ 59,830.00 per person sharing

1 pax: N\$ 107,995.00 incl. single supplement

Single supplement: N\$ 3,492.00

Included

- ✓ Accommodation as per above itinerary
- ✓ All breakfasts and dinners
- ✓ All entrance fees
- ✓ Vehicle, fuel, passenger liability and emergency evacuation
- ✓ Specialized birding Guide
- ✓ Daily mineral water in the vehicles while travelling
- ✓ Tourism and conservation levies, government and road taxes

Excluded

- ✘ All international flights and/or domestic flights
- ✘ Travel insurance
- ✘ Visas, Laundry, telephone calls and other items of a personal nature
- ✘ Drinks except for water while travelling
- ✘ Lunches
- ✘ Gratuities
- ✘ Any optional activities
- ✘ Any pre- or post-tour expenses

Day 1: Hotel Pension d'Avignon, Swakopmund (Fri, 30 August)

Day Itinerary

Your guide will meet you at the airport and continue directly into the dunes in search of Namibia's only true endemic, the Dune Lark. From there you will continue to the Walvis Bay lagoon and bird the remainder of the day along this spectacular lagoon.

Walvis Bay is blessed with a rich biodiversity which thrives in the scenic Namib Desert dunes and associated gravel plains, the Walvis Bay Lagoon, the ephemeral Kuiseb River Delta and other ecosystems.

The ideal time to visit Walvis Bay is from October to April, when the migrant birds have moved in from the northern hemisphere in their thousands. The sheer numbers of the birds around the lagoon are impressive and the area has the highest density of Chestnut-banded Plover in the world. The Lagoon happens to be one of Africa's most important shorebird stopovers (it is a RAMSAR site), where you can see incredible numbers of Greater and Lesser Flamingos and some extremely localised species, such as the diminutive Damara Tern.

Some of the most abundant of the migratory species are Common Greenshank, Marsh Sandpipers, Black-necked (Eared) Grebe, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone and Curlew Sandpiper. Whimbrel, Curlew and Bar-tailed Godwit occur in smaller numbers. This lagoon is one of the few sites in southern Africa where Common Redshank, Eurasian Oystercatcher and Red-necked Phalarope are fairly regular. This phenomenal wader spot also regularly attracts Greater and Mongolian (Lesser) Plover, Terek Sandpiper and birds that are much more typically found on the subtropical east coast of southern Africa. Resident birds of the lagoon include Pied Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, White-fronted Plover, and the sought-after Chestnut-banded Plover.

Pelagic seabirds that can often be seen from Paaltjies: White-chinned Petrel, Sooty Shearwater, Wilson's Storm Petrel, Cape Gannet, Pomarine and Skua.

Other birds we will look out for around Walvis Bay: Red-faced Mousebird, Dusky Sunbird, Orange River White-eye, Pale Chanting Goshawk and Bokmakierie.

- **Swakopmund & Walvis Bay**

Key species: Damara Tern, Dune Lark, Gray's Lark, Tractrac Chat (pale form), Bank and Crowned Cormorant, Orange River White-eye, Karoo Eremomela

Other species: Kelp, Grey-headed and Hartlaub's Gull, White-breasted Cormorants, Greater and Lesser Flamingo, Ruddy Turnstone, Marsh, Curlew and Wood Sandpipers, Black-necked (Eared) Grebe, Red Knot, Bar-tailed Godwit, Red-necked Phalarope, Swift, Caspian, Common, Sandwich, Black, White-winged and Caspian Terns, Whimbrel, Chestnut-banded, Grey and White-fronted Plover, Sanderling, Eurasian Curlew, Redshank, Greenshank, Terek

Sandpiper, Maccoa Duck, Cape Shoveler, Little Grebe (Dabchick), Parasitic Jaeger, Brown Skua, Cape Gannet, Sooty Shearwater, Red-capped Lark, Bokmakierie, Chestnut-vented Warbler, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, African Reed Warbler, Rosy-faced Lovebirds, Red-eyed Bulbul, Dusky Sunbird, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Black-chested Prinia, Rock Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon, Pririt Batis.

Habitat: A good spread of Namib habitats exist along the coast. Coastal gravel plains are open and largely unvegetated. The dune fields can be split between coastal unvegetated dunes on the Atlantic Ocean and vegetated dunes a little further inland.

Two major river systems namely the Kuiseb River and Swakop River, which are considered linear oases, have an established vegetation line.

Swakopmund

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

Overnight: Hotel Pension d'Avignon

Hotel D'Avignon is set in a central yet quiet area. This hotel is close to restaurants, the beach, as well as a nearby museum.

A stay at the Hotel D'Avignon includes a complimentary buffet breakfast each morning. Also featured at this hotel is WI-FI connectivity, en-suite guest rooms, a swimming pool and a garden area.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 2: Hotel Pension d'Avignon, Swakopmund (Sat, 31 August)

Day Itinerary

After breakfast we will continue birding along the coastal desert. Once we have found all our targets around Walvis Bay and Kuiseb Delta area we will head towards Swakopmund and bird in the surrounding gravel plains, salt pans and the Swakop River Valley for the pale form of Tractrac Chat, Familiar Chat, Red-capped Lark and with luck Rufous-eared Warblers and Karoo Eremomela. Interesting waders such as Kittlitz's and Chestnut-banded Plovers as well as African Black Oystercatcher, White-breasted, Bank, Cape and Crowned Cormorants, Maccoa Duck, Cape Shoveler, Grey-headed Gull and Little Grebe (Dabchick) can also be found here.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 3: Ameib Guesthouse, Erongo Mountains (Sun, 1 September)

Day Itinerary

Today we head to the mighty Erongo Mountains via Spitzkoppe. The Spitzkoppe is one of a series of impressive granite inselbergs that rise steeply out of the desert plains. It is at this imposing Batholith where we have our best chance of finding Herero Chat. Along the way we may also encounter the rare and declining Burchell's Courser and many other sandy desert species like Stark's Lark and other strategic species like Karoo Long-billed Lark. On the plains surrounding these hills we should see Rüppell's Korhaan, Namaqua Sandgrouse, Chat Flycatcher and Karoo Chat, Verreaux's and Booted Eagle, Augur Buzzard, African Hawk-Eagle and Lanner Falcon also occur in the hills as do Rosy-faced Lovebird, Carp's and Ashy Tit, White-throated Canary, Layard's Tit-Babbler, White-tailed Shrike, Double-banded Courser, Starks, Sabota, Red-capped, Spike-heeled, Fawn-coloured and Rufous-naped Larks, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Mountain Wheatear, Pale-winged Starling, Bradfield's Swift, Rockrunner, Monteiro's and Damara Red-billed Hornbill.

Birding in the Erongos is very rewarding and supports many of the Namibian near-endemics such as Violet Wood-Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Rüppell's Parrot, White-tailed Shrike, Carp's Tit in the river beds, Rockrunner, Hartlaub's Spurfowl and other specials like Freckled Nightjar and Rosy-faced Lovebird in the granite outcrops.

Other birds to look out for: Red-billed Spurfowl, Helmeted Guineafowl, Namaqua Sandgrouse, Rufous-naped and Monotonous Larks, Black-cheeked, and Violet-eared Waxbills, Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Monteiro's Hornbill, Golden-tailed, Cardinal and Bearded Woodpeckers, Orange River Francolin, Chestnut Weaver (rain dependent), Chestnut-vented Warbler, Verreaux's Eagle-owl, Spotted Eagle-owl, African Scops-Owl, Pearl-spotted Owl and Southern White-faced Scops-owl.

- **Spitzkoppe & Erongo Mountains**

Key Species: Rüppell's Parrot, Hartlaub's Spurfowl, White-tailed Shrike, Carp's Tit, Herero Chat, Violet Wood-Hoopoe, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Chestnut Weaver, Rockrunner, Rüppell's Korhaan, Bradfield's Swift, Burchell's Courser, Freckled Nightjar, Layard's Warbler, Damara and Montiero's Hornbill.

Other Species: Stark's Lark, Karoo Long-billed Lark, Rüppell's Korhaan, Double-banded and Namaqua Sandgrouse, Chat Flycatcher and Karoo Chat, Verreaux's and Booted Eagle, Augur Buzzard, African Hawk-Eagle, Lanner Falcon, Ashy Tit, White-throated Canary, Layard's and Chestnut-vented Warbler, Double-banded Courser, Starks, Sabota, Red-capped, Spike-heeled, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Mountain Wheatear, Pale-winged Starling, Southern Pied Babbler and Acacia Pied Barbet.

Habitat: The habitat is mostly Pro-Namib vegetation types, Acacia scrub and large granite inselberg.

Erongo Mountains

Conveniently located only a few hours' drive from Namibia's capital city of Windhoek, the Erongo Mountain Range stretches across the plains between the towns of Omaruru and Karibib, and is home to a remarkably rich natural heritage. This expanse of rugged wilderness serves as one of Namibia's most popular tourist drawcards, attracting visitors with its spectacularly scenic landscapes, magnificent caves and rock painting sites, and its impressive array of wildlife species. These include, among others: rhino, cheetah, leopard, giraffe, wildebeest, impala, kudu, warthog, mountain zebra, oryx, eland, springbok and over 200 bird species.

Overnight: Ameib Guesthouse

Located at the foot of the majestic Erongo Mountains, Ameib Guesthouse offers comfortable accommodation in a beautiful natural setting and near attractions such as Phillip's Cave, Bull's Party and Elephant's Head. The property's spacious bungalows include en-suite bathrooms and barbeque facilities. The on-site restaurant serves delicious dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Additional amenities include a bar

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 4: Taleni Etosha Village, Etosha South (Mon, 2 September)**Day Itinerary**

Today we will enter the Etosha National Park. The Park is the flagship of Namibia's conservation areas, teeming with large game and boasting about 380 species of birds. You will be based in the park during the next 3 days and will spend time visiting a range of habitats. The grassy plains north of Okaukuejo Camp are the best areas in the park to see Pink-billed Lark, Double-banded Courser, Northern Black (White-quilled) Korhaan and Spike-heeled Lark. Raptors are abundant and we should see Martial Eagle, Secretary Bird, Bateleur, Ovambo Sparrowhawk, Tawny Eagle and Greater Kestrel. Migrant raptors such as Western Red-footed Kestrel, Lesser Spotted Eagle and Yellow-billed Kite can be seen in large numbers during the wet season. The camp situated in the centre of the park, Halali is the best site to see Violet Wood-hoopoe, Bare-cheeked Babbler and Carp's Tit. In the East around Namutoni the open grasslands are home to Namibia's isolated population of Blue Crane, Temminck's Courser, Grey-backed and Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark and Eastern Clapper Lark. The elusive Black-faced Babbler occurs in dense Terminalia woodlands in this area. Floodlit waterholes at all three camps provide wonderful game viewing at night as well as providing opportunities to see nightjars and owls.

Etosha is famous for its large game populations and during our stay here we should see Lion, Elephant, Burchell's Zebra, Red Hartebeest, Blue Wildebeest, Springbok, Oryx, Giraffes, Greater Kudu and several smaller antelope. Among the rarer species regularly seen are Black Rhino (especially at waterholes at night), Cheetah and Black-faced Impala, a subspecies only found in Namibia. Your visit here will be taken at a leisurely pace and there will be excellent photographic opportunities

Etosha South

Located just south of the boundary of Etosha National Park in northwestern Namibia, Etosha South makes up the southern region of this wild paradise. The area is comprised of a collection of world class private game reserves. The national park can be accessed via the southern entrance at Andersson's Gate. Visitors can catch a glimpse of a variety of wildlife including: lion, giraffe, elephant, white and black rhino, and a multitude of plains game.

Overnight: Taleni Etosha Village

Affordable comfort 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.

The 45 individual suites offer a fully air-conditioned bedroom with an en-suite bathroom and a patio to enjoy the beauty that surrounds you. Two small children (under 12) can be accommodated with their parents on a fold-out sleeper couch in the unit.

Facilities include an open-plan bar with big screen television, 2 sparkling pools plus a kiddie pool, a restaurant serving delectable cuisine as well as a fully stocked utility and curio shop.

Enjoy the Walking Trails on our reserve where various small game can be spotted from the lookout decks and hides.

Sundowner Drives and Stargazing Sessions allow guests to experience the magic of our sunsets and famous star-studded skies.

Let our team whisk you away to an enchanted venue in the Mopane Forest for a magnificent Boma Dinner Experience for your special function or private dinner.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 5: Taleni Etosha Village, Etosha South (Tue, 3 September)

Day Itinerary

- **Okaukuejo area, Southern Etosha National Park**

Key Species: Pink-billed Lark

Species: Secretarybird, Kori and Ludwig's Bustard, Northern Black and Red-crested Korhaans, Glossy Starling, Yellow-bellied and Burnt-necked Eremomela, Fork-tailed Drongo, Blue Crane, Burchell's and Double-banded Courser, Alpine Swift, Pale Chanting Goshawk, South African Shelduck, Green-winged Pytilia, Sociable Weaver, Pygmy Falcon, Southern Pied Babbler, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Violet-eared Waxbill, Red-headed Finches, Marsh and Barn Owls and Rufous-cheeked Nightjar, Shaft-tailed, Long-tailed and Pin-Tailed Whydah, Grey-backed and Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Larks, Red-capped, Spike-heeled and Rufous-naped Lark, Capped Wheatear, Scaly-feathered Finch, Namaqua Sandgrouse, Red-necked and Lanner Falcons, Lappet-faced, White headed and White-backed Vultures, Double-banded and Temminck's Coursers, Cardinal, Golden-tailed and Bearded Woodpecker, Brubru, Crowned Lapwing, Ashy tit, Red-billed Quelea, Rufous-eared Warbler, Red-breasted Swallow, Greater Kestrel, Desert Cisticola, Spotted Thick-knee, Southern Ant-eating Chat, Pied and Black Crow, Kalahari Scrub Robin, Martial and Tawny Eagle, Southern Yellow-billed and Grey Hornbill.

Habitat: This end of the park has large open grassland along the saline pan and is dispersed with Mopane woodland.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 6: Sachsenheim Guest Farm, Etosha East (Wed, 4 September)

Day Itinerary

We will slowly amble through the park to the eastern side. We will stop in at Halali Camp for lunch where we will do some birding in the gardens.

- **Halali area, Etosha National Park**

Key Species: Bare-cheeked Babbler, Blue Crane, Violet Wood-Hoopoe and Damara Hornbill.

Other Species: Crimson-breasted Shrike, Great Sparrow, Violet-eared Waxbill, Southern Pied Babbler, Red-headed Finch, Kori Bustard, Scaly-feathered Finch, Marico Flycatcher, Namaqua Dove, Pallid and Montagu's Harrier, Little Sparrowhawk, Gabar Goshawk, Bateleur, White-crested Helmet Shrike, Southern White-crowned, Lesser Grey and Red-backed Shrikes, Golden Breasted Bunting, Ground Scraper Thrush, Lanner Falcon, African and Southern White-faced Scops-Owl, Lilac-breasted and Purple Rollers, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver, Long-billed Crombec, Willow Warbler, Spotted Flycatcher, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Martial Eagle, Mosque Swallow, Crested Francolin, Red headed Weaver, Carp's Tit, Southern Red-billed Hornbill and Swallow-tailed Bee-eater.

Habitat: This part of the park has large open grassland along the saline pan and is dispersed with established Mopane woodlands.

Etosha East

Etosha East is a protected sanctuary in the eastern part of the world-renowned Etosha National Park, known as one of the most accessible game reserves in Southern Africa. Etosha East boasts vast open plains scattered with semi-arid savannah grasslands dotted with watering holes and secluded bush camps. An impressive 5000-square-kilometre Etosha salt pan makes up a large area of the eastern side of the park and can even be seen from space. This remote area teems with abundant wildlife such as lions, elephants, black rhinos and giraffes, as well as a variety of birdlife featuring flamingos, ostriches, eagles, hornbills, and owls.

Overnight: Sachsenheim Guest Farm

This generation farm offers 21 rooms that feature Twin rooms and VIP rooms. We also offer camping and private camping with power points, lush grass and ablutions with hot water. We serve a farm buffet that will have you talking long after. With authentic Namibian flavour and flair.

Our staff was farm workers trained to master the art and after 26 years they take special pride in their attention to detail, ensuring your Sachsenheim experience will be treasured for years to come. Sachsenheim has a variety of 12 majestic antelopes and is a paradise with about 300 bird species roaming our fields (Especially in the rainy seasons) Come and indulge in the peace of nature even if it is at the swimming pool or while you enjoy the African Sunset. We are more than just a place. We are a truly farm feeling with a personal touch.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 7: Sachsenheim Guest Farm, Etosha East (Thu, 5 September)

Day Itinerary

We will have another day to explore the eastern and northern parts of the park. The area here is especially good for finding Leopard, White Rhino, Elephant, Spotted Hyena and Dik-dik

- Namutoni area, Eastern Etosha National Park

Key Species: Black-faced Babbler, Blue Crane, Eastern Clapper Lark.

Other Species: Temminck's and Double-banded Courser, Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark, Dusky Lark, Southern Pied Babbler, Shaft-tailed Whydah, Tawny Eagle, Rattling Cisticola, Ruff, Common Sandpiper, Egyptian Geese, Marico

Flycatcher, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Banded and Sand Martin, Southern Red-billed Hornbill, Marico, White-bellied and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler, Fawn-coloured Lark, Kurrichane Button-Quail, African Harrier-hawk, Violet and Black-cheeked Waxbill, African Golden Oriole, Gabar Goshawk, European Roller, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Southern White-crowned Shrike, African Paradise Flycatcher, Meyer's Parrot, Violet-backed Starling, Crested francolin, Caspian Plover, Emerald Spotted Wood dove, White-browed Scrub Robin, African Palm-Swift, Red-billed and Swainson's Spurfowl, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Chinspot Batis and Burchells' Sandgrouse.

Habitat: The eastern side of Etosha is typical Karstveld and is a very different habitat to the rest of the park.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 8: Waterberg Resort, Waterberg Plateau National Park (Fri, 6 September)

Day Itinerary

After a final game drive through the eastern part of the park we will depart towards Waterberg Plateau National Park.

This park was created as a sanctuary for the rare and endangered species of the Caprivi. The table top mountain plateau comprises a sandy plain flanked by 100 m high cliffs and scree slopes. The high diversity of birdlife in this semi-arid region is due to the location of the Waterberg at the meeting point of broad-leafed woodland on northern Kalahari sandveld on top of the plateau and mixed thorn bush savannah below, a third habitat is provided by the cliffs and scree slopes. The Acacia savanna and woodland here abounds with birds and is one of the best sights in the country to see near-endemics such as Rüppell's and Meyer's Parrot, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Violet Woodhoopoe, Monteiro's Hornbill, Carp's Tit, Hartaub's Spurfowl and Rockrunner.

Other exciting species that we might encounter during your limited stay include Bearded Woodpecker, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Bradfield's, Alpine, African Palm, Little, Common and White-rumped Swifts, Freckled Nightjar, Red-billed and Spurfowl, Bradfield's, Southern Yellow-billed, African Grey and Red-billed Hornbills. The Waterberg is also home to the last remaining population of Cape Vulture in Namibia which breed on the northern side of the plateau. With luck you will see some of these magnificent birds as well as other raptors including African Hawk-Eagle, Booted and Verreaux's Eagle, Peregrine Falcon and Augur Buzzard.

- **Waterberg Plateau National Park**

Key Species: Rüppell's Parrot, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Violet Wood-Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed, Monteiro's and Bradfield's Hornbill, Carp's Tit and Rockrunner and Hartlaub's Spurfowl.

Other Species: Bearded Woodpecker, Swainson's Spurfowl, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Bradfield's, Alpine, African Palm, Little, Common and White-rumped Swifts, Freckled Nightjar, Red-billed Spurfowl, Southern Yellow-billed, African Grey and Red-billed Hornbills, African Green Pigeon, Cape Vulture, African Hawk-Eagle, Booted and Verreaux's Eagle, Peregrine Falcon and Augur Buzzard.

Habitat: The Waterberg is a large sandstone plateau and has a sandy Kalahari habitat on top and well-established Acacia scrub and *ficus* woodland on the edges.

Waterberg Plateau National Park

Situated in north central Namibia and named for the springs that emanate from its foothills, the Waterberg Plateau National Park is a fascinating geological site featuring compressed sandstone crags, 200-million-year-old dinosaur footprints, and petrified sand dunes. The area's natural water sources make it far more fertile than its environs, and the park is blessed with a plethora of plant and animal species, including leopards, rhinoceros, vultures, cheetahs, bush babies, ferns and fig trees. Visitors can enjoy a wide selection of activities including: learning about the local Herero culture on an informative village tour, tracking rhino on a guided safari, exploring the Waterberg's 50-kilometre-long and 16-kilometre-wide sandstone plateau, dubbed 'Table Mountain', and catching a glimpse of the rare and endangered sable and roan antelope.

Overnight: Waterberg Resort

Waterberg Resort is the gateway to the Waterberg Plateau Park, one of the most spectacular features of the northern region, towering some 200 meters above the surrounding landscape, with sheer cliffs and fascinating rock formations. The Waterberg Resort has recently been re-developed. Accommodation is provided in comfortable premier bush chalets, two and four bed bush chalets and double rooms, all nestled along the base of the Waterberg Plateau cliffs, among towering trees.

The restaurant, bar and kiosk are housed in the historic Rasthaus, originally built in 1908 and used as a police post for several years. The open-air swimming pool with a view of the Plateau above is the perfect remedy for the weary guest. The Camp also has a shop and a camping site available.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 9: River Crossing Lodge, Greater Windhoek (Sat, 7 September)

Day Itinerary

We will do some early morning birding before departing to Windhoek where we will be exploring the sparsely wooded hills and valleys surrounding the city. Rocky slopes should yield Short-toed Thrush, White-tailed Shrike, Barred Warbler and with luck Rockrunner.

- **Greater Windhoek**

Key Species: White-tailed Shrike, Chestnut Weaver, Rockrunner, Bradfield's Swift, Orange River Francolin, Damara and Montiero's Hornbill.

Species: Short-toed Rock Thrush, Barred Wren-Warbler, Palm Swifts, Rock Martin, Greater striped and Pearl-breasted Swallow, South African Shelduck, Cape Shoveller, Red-billed Teal, Desert Cisticola, Rattling Cisticola, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Cape penduline Tit, Black-chested Prinia, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Ashy Tit, Marico Flycatcher, Pirit Batis, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Cape Glossy, Wattled and Pale-winged Starling, Dusky, Marico and Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Great Sparrow, Red-billed Spurfowl, Red-headed Finch, Red Bishop, Black-faced and Blue Waxbills, Red-billed Firefinch and several other Acacia savanna species.

Habitat: The habitat around Windhoek comprises of mixed Acacia scrub and schisty hillsides with drainage lines, that hold established Acacia woodland.

Greater Windhoek

Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, lies at the heart of the country, encircled by magnificent mountains, expansive valleys, and fertile farmlands. The landscape of the Greater Windhoek area surrounding this bustling city is characterised by vast valleys, thick scrub, rocky hills, and covered in golden savannah. Visitors can explore the dry river beds and mountainous scrublands, as well as enjoy birding, leopard-spotting and view large quantities of wildlife in the north; visit the more arid eastern part with its olive, potato, and date plantations; explore the rolling hills of the Khomas Hochland Mountains in the west of the Greater Windhoek area and soak up the epic views along a number of scenic passes leading off the high plateau, including Bosua Pass, Gamsberg Pass, and Spreetshoogte Pass.

Overnight: River Crossing Lodge

“Feel the pulse of the city from the heart of the bushveld.” River Crossing is 5 km from Windhoek, situated on the airport road and only 5 minutes from the heart of Windhoek. The lodge is situated on top of a koppie on a pristine 6500 hectare reserve, offering unparalleled sunset views. River Crossing will allow you to rediscover the nuances of a bygone era of farm life and offers the discerning traveler all the modern comforts.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 10: End of Itinerary (Sun, 8 September)

Day Itinerary

We will head out to Avis Dam where we should see Bradfield’s and Palm Swifts, Rock Martin, Greater striped and Pearl-breasted Swallow. Wetland birds are also abundant and South African Shelduck, Cape Shoveller and Red-billed Teal are usually present. In the shrub-lands surrounding the dam Desert Cisticola, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Black-chested Prinia and a variety of seed-eaters are easily seen. Migrant waders are usually present in good numbers during the summer months.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Itinerary Terms and Conditions

The costs quoted are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we may be forced to change or alter the itinerary at short or no notice; please be aware that we will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.

You must please take out, prior to confirming the booking, comprehensive travel-, medical-, evacuation-, cancellation-, curtailment- and default insurance for the duration of your trip. Due to the remote areas through which you may travel, it is vital that all guests are covered for emergencies and other unforeseen circumstances. We will not be held responsible for guest travelling without insurance.

The relevant cancellation policy applies should you fail to start your journey for any reason, including airline delays or missed connections. Please ensure you have adequate travel insurance for this purpose. You become liable for cancellation penalties immediately on confirmation of booking services.

Passports must be valid (usually for at least 6 months after date of travel) and still have at least 3 blank visa (not endorsement) pages.

All visa requirements must be fulfilled and these are your responsibility. If you have any queries about obtaining visas please contact us.

20% non-refundable deposit is due on confirmation and the balance 45 days before departure.