



## 2016 Cultural Mosaic





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Swakopmund - Twyfelfontein - Kaokoveld - Kaokoveld - Ovamboland - Etosha National Park - Otavi Mountain Region  
 - Waterberg Region  
 Reference: CM

### Overview

Highlights:

- EXPERIENCE THE CULTURES OF 4 NAMIBIAN TRIBES- OVAMBO, HIMBA, DAMARA & SAN
- 2 UNESCO & 1 RAMSAR WORLD HERITAGE SITES
- WILDLIFE DISCOVERY IN THE ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Recommended vehicle (Not included) SUV or 4x4

Destination	Accommodation	Nights	Basis
Swakopmund	Swakopmund Guesthouse	2	B&B
Twyfelfontein	Twyfelfontein Country Lodge	1	B&B
Kaokoveld	Fort Sesfontein Lodge	2	B&B
Kaokoveld	Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge	2	B&B
Ovamboland	<a href="#">Ongula Village Homestead Lodge</a>	1	B&B
Etosha National Park	Halali Camp	2	B&B
Otavi Mountain Region	Fiume Lodge & Game Farm	2	B&B
Waterberg Region	<a href="#">Otjiwa Lodge</a>	1	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

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## Day 1: Swakopmund Guesthouse, Swakopmund

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### 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.

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### Day Notes

This morning your journey takes you to Swakopmund, an idyllic coastal town wedged between the Atlantic Ocean and the Namib Desert. En route you can visit the Okahandja Cultural Centre where you will receive a brief insight into the different cultures of Namibia. Swakopmund prides itself as being one of the most exciting activity centers in Southern Africa and will definitely spice up your first two days on vacation!

### Overnight: Swakopmund Guesthouse

Situated in Swakopmund town centre and only a 5min walk from the beach and main shopping area, is the Swakopmund Guesthouse, owned and run by the Borg family. Previously used as a holiday home it has been completely revamped, in a very elegant and modern style. This particular bed and breakfast establishment caters for the more upmarket traveller. Most of their guests stay here because of high comfort levels, personalized service and the short distance to the beach!



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### Included

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 2: Swakopmund Guesthouse, Swakopmund

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## Day Notes

Today is your day at leisure. You can 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.

## Optional

Catamaran Charters

Pelican Point Kayak Tour

Namibia Desert Explorers

Scenic Desert Flights

Hata Angu Cultural Tour (Swakopmund)

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### *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.



### *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.



### *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.

### *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.



### *Hata Angu Cultural Tour (Swakopmund)*

Hata Angu Cultural Tours is about trying to bridge the gap between the understanding, beauty and learning of each others exciting cultures and languages. The aim is to uplift the lives of the people living in Mondesa and DRC (Democratic Resettlement Community) by bringing some of the tourism money directly to them. We include as many people as possible and as we grow are continuing to increase the number of families involved. A vast amount of the money goes directly into the township, which is why we stress that you are not intruding on anyone lives but rather the opposite by contributing to their employment and exposure to your cultures as well.

Some of the options to be included in the tour:

Herero Lady: discussions on culture and dress

Damara Culture: learn the clicks (20-30minutes)

Medicine lady/man: NAMA Culture and herbal 'traditional' medicine(20min)

DRC Community: quick walk around and water points (20min)

Or DRC Community...quick walk visit soup kitchen /DRC School/Community Center (20min)

OR Hangeneni School: mornings only (preferably during school term and week days) (20min)

Traditional Oshivambo Dancing by young girls: At Shebeen or other pre-arranged place.(20min)

Drinks at Shebeen/Bar 'Back Of The Moon' (10-20mins)

Traditional Oshivambo Food: Eaten in Traditional Hut....The Lumbambashi.....if big group in hut and Shebeen.( 20-30min)

Food is: The Famous...Ondjuhwa (BBQ Chicken); Omagungu (Mopane Worms); Mahangu Porridge (Millet); Ekaka (Wild spinach); Omalovu (Traditional African Beer-Sorghum); Omakunde (Beans); Oofukwa (ground nuts) and

Onyandi, Oombe, Ondunga (wild fruits and Berries).....Delicious!!!!

Walk around area discussing schools, housing, visiting small home craft market.(20-30min)



### Included

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 3: 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 largest fur seal colony in southern Africa at Cape Cross. Your lodge for the evening is situated in the heart of the Damaraland, one of Namibia's most geographically diverse areas, where game such as rhino, desert elephant and kudu roam freely. A visit to the Burnt Mountain and the Organ Pipes is particularly rewarding in the later afternoon. Very close to your lodge 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.

### Optional

Cape Cross Seal Colony  
Burnt Mountain

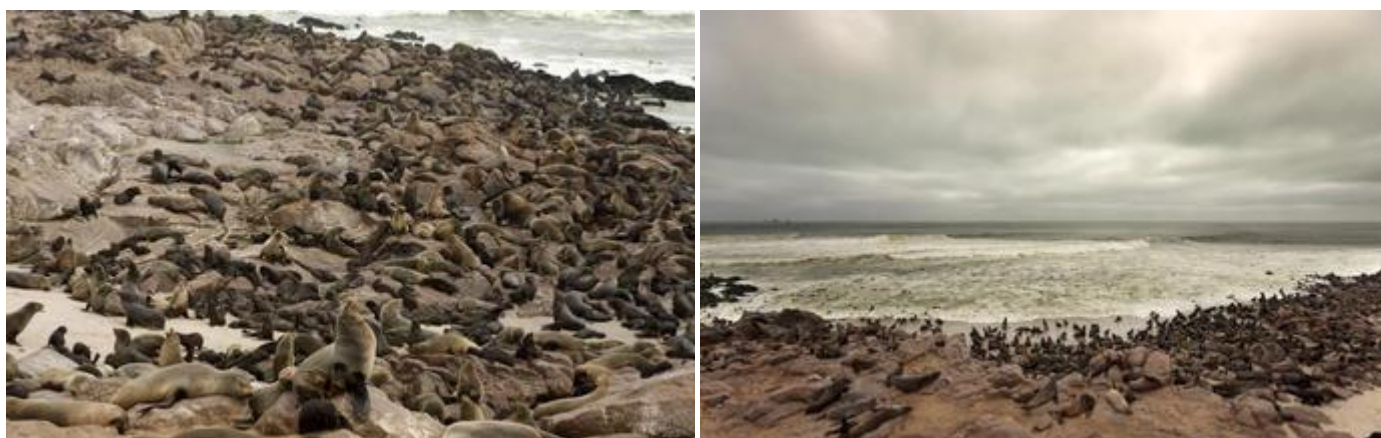
### Recommended

Damara Living Museum

### *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)



### *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.





### 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 4: Fort Sesfontein Lodge, Kaokoveld

### Kaokoveld

Kaokoland is a compendium of the story of the earth, the product of a quintessential performance of nature not seen elsewhere. It has moulded a landscape of its own – strong, independent and inhospitable – for loneliness breeds individuality. It is one of the last remaining wilderness areas in Southern Africa. It is a world of incredible mountain scenery, a refuge for the rare desert dwelling elephant, black rhino and giraffe and the home of the Himba people. Although it is harsh and offers little respite at midday, the rugged landscape is especially attractive during the early morning and late afternoon when it is transformed into softly glowing pastel shades. The topography in the south of the area is characterised by rugged mountains which are dissected by numerous watercourses, but north of the Hoarusib River the scenery is dominated by table-top hills. Still further north, the Otjihipa Mountains rise abruptly above the Namib floor to form the eastern boundary of the Marienfluss, while the west of the valley is defined by the Hartmann Mountains. The Marienfluss valley is very scenic and relatively greener than the Hartmann's valley. Hartmann's valley is closer to the Atlantic and yet much more arid. However, it does have a strange

atmosphere when the sea mists drift inland. One of the most spectacular landmarks of the area is the Epupa falls. Several pools at the base of the waterfall allow for (relatively) crocodile free swimming.

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### Day Notes

After breakfast visit Twyfelfontein, a World Heritage Site where over 2500 rock engravings and rock paintings cover the eroded surface of a pre-historic desert. On your way to your lodge visit the Petrified Forest interspersed with Welwitschia Plants, the oldest living desert plant on Earth. After the visit you continue your journey north into the Kaokoland, entering areas that are still very untouched and more known as being the home to one of Namibia's well known cultures – being the Himba.

### Optional

Petrified Forest

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### Recommended

Twyfelfontein Rock Art

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#### *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.



### Overnight: Fort Sesfontein Lodge

The directions of Kamanjab or Khorixas through Damaraland is an experience and gives the guest first impressions from an original Africa before the farm management. Enjoy the free view, space and recognize the individual scattered settlements of the Damara and Herero, as well as African game in the wild.

The lodge, located in Fort Sesfontein which the ruins of a historic fort built in 1896 with great attention to detail has

been built from authentic materials. It is a monument that provides protection and security as well as modern comfort. The lodge hosts are the descendants of the indigenous people of the Damara, Herero and Himba. They create a friendly and amiable atmosphere and provide entertainment with musical performances of their tribal groups as well as insight into their cultures.



### Included

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 5: Fort Sesfontein Lodge, Kaokoveld

### Day Notes

With a network of dry riverbeds and interspersed acacia plains, this area is the preferred habitat of the desert elephant and the rare black rhino. Join the guides at your lodge on an optional experience of a lifetime, when they track these rare animals in the Hoanib River bed. Other options include a scenic walk or a nature drive in the area.

### Included

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 6: Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge, Kaokoveld

### Kaokoveld

Kaokoland is a compendium of the story of the earth, the product of a quintessential performance of nature not seen elsewhere. It has moulded a landscape of its own – strong, independent and inhospitable – for loneliness breeds individuality. It is one of the last remaining wilderness areas in Southern Africa. It is a world of incredible mountain scenery, a refuge for the rare desert dwelling elephant, black rhino and giraffe and the home of the Himba people. Although it is harsh and offers little respite at midday, the rugged landscape is especially attractive during the early morning and late afternoon when it is transformed into softly glowing pastel shades. The topography in the south of the area is characterised by rugged mountains which are dissected by numerous watercourses, but north of the Hoarusib River the scenery is dominated by table-top hills. Still further north, the Otjihipa Mountains rise abruptly above the Namib floor to form the eastern boundary of the Marienfluss, while the west of the valley is defined by the Hartmann Mountains. The Marienfluss valley is very scenic and relatively greener than the Hartmann's valley. Hartmann's valley is closer to the Atlantic and yet much more arid. However, it does have a strange atmosphere when the sea mists drift inland. One of the most spectacular landmarks of the area is the Epupa falls. Several pools at the base of the waterfall allow for (relatively) crocodile free swimming.

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## Day Notes

This morning you travel into the rugged and unspoilt Kaokoveld, a land marked by undulating hills and open plains inhabited by the Ovahimba. These proud and statuesque people still adhere to their traditional values and cultures; over the next few days enjoy marvelous opportunities to visit one or more of the inhabited villages.

## Overnight: Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge

Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge is situated on a reserve that forms part of the core wildlife area of the conservancy, approximately 100km North from Etosha. It's name meaning "small group of one clan". The 6000ha reserve is a joint venture between the Opuwo Country Lodge and the Uukwhaluudhi Conservancy and is fenced to protect its valuable endemic wildlife. This partnership ensures that tourism revenue is fed back into the community and allows conservation efforts to be rewarded through financial returns. An open veranda-like main area is thatched and situated on top of a small knoll, overlooking a large savannah plain periodically dotted by antelope, zebra and giraffe that graze along the fringes of the surrounding Mopani and Terminalia woodland.



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## Included

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 7: Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge, Kaokoveld

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## Day Notes

On a day excursion you travel further north, you may encounter springbok, ostrich, kudu and huge Baobab trees that stand like giants in the midst of the Mopane savanna. Once at the spectacular Epupa Falls, this water wonderland in an arid environment will have you gasping in awe. The Falls delve into a 35 meter gauge and create one of Namibia's most celebrated pictures. Optional activities include scenic walks and excellent birding opportunities.

## Recommended

Epupa Falls

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### *Epupa Falls*

Named by the Herero people after the spray it creates, Epupa Falls consists of a series of little waterfalls created by the Kunene River as it drops 60 metres, creating hundreds of natural pools that providing the Himba people and visitors with a fantastic recreation spot. The falls create a spectacular contrast to the arid desert and rugged surrounding mountains.



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## Included

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 8: Ongula Village Homestead Lodge, Ovamboland

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### Ovamboland

The Region of Owamboland (or the 4 O's) is Namibia's most densely populated area and consists of a number of closely associated ethnic groups collectively referred to as Ovambo or Ambo. The language itself is also collectively referred to as the Oshivambo language and originates from Bantu, it is however divided into many different dialects. The region, apart from the majestic Kunene River that flows throughout the year, is made up of flat sandy plains that are bisected by the so-called "Oshanas" (pans). When these are filled with water and mirror the long and narrow makalani palm trees on their water surfaces, Owamboland becomes one of the most scenic areas to visit. In combination with the traditional villages and the overall traditional lifestyle still being lived here, traveling the area gives you the impression of having gone back in time to the undisturbed Africa 200 years ago.

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### Day Notes

After breakfast you travel west and enter the area locally known as the region of the four O's. It is characterized by interspersed clumps of real fan palm trees and inhabited by the Ovambo, the largest ethnic group in Namibia. Attractions on your way include a giant baobab tree in Outapi as well as a Royal King's Homestead in Tsandi. Staying alongside an active Ovambo Homestead (or Village) you have the opportunity to experience to the traditional lifestyle of our Ovambo people. Participate in the preparation and making of local traditional drinks and meals, discover the art of basket weaving and pottery and explore the beauty of this region.

### Overnight: Ongula Village Homestead Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Communal tourism is still in the fledgling stages. However, an increasing number of indigenous people are starting to take fate into their own hands by getting actively involved in the tourism industry. One such example is the Ongula Traditional Homestead Lodge near Ohangwena. Built within the boundaries of an active homestead, Ongula is the first lodge in Namibia to introduce visitors to the authentic, traditional lifestyle of the Ovambo, the largest cultural group in the country. Stopping over at Ongula is a definite "must" when travelling the area north of Etosha National Park.



## Included

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 9: Halali 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 demarkated an area of over 100'000 km<sup>2</sup>, 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. The following two days are spent at a camp inside the park.

### *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: Halali Camp**

Strategically located halfway between Okaukuejo and Namutoni, Halali is situated at the base of a dolomite hill, amongst shady Mopane trees. A flood-lit waterhole which is viewed from an elevated vantage point provides exceptional wildlife viewing throughout the day and into the night. Accommodation is provided in family chalets, two and four bed bush chalets and double rooms - all converted with large sliding doors to the outside, to allow visitors to experience and benefit from the peace and tranquility of the natural surroundings. Other facilities include a restaurant, bar, shop, swimming pool, kiosk and camping facilities.



### **Alternate: Namutoni Camp**

The lodge centres on an old German Fort overlooking the King Nehale waterhole; an elevated decked walkway provides excellent opportunities for enjoying the surrounding scenery, wildlife and the spectacular sunsets. The Fort has been developed into a hub of activity, offering two restaurants, a relaxation lounge, a bar, crafts boutique, curio shop, jewellers and bookstore. Accommodation is provided in comfortable double rooms or bush chalets. Camping is also available.



### Included

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 10: Halali Camp, 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. Tonight is again spent inside the park, where you have the opportunity to view game species at the flood-lit waterhole at any time during the night.

### *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 000km<sup>2</sup>. 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 11: Fiume Lodge & Game Farm, Otavi Mountain Region

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### Otavi Mountain Region

The Otavi Mountain Region is sometimes referred to as the "Golden Triangle", or as the "maize Triangle". Features of interest include the Hoba Meteorite and sink holes and underground lakes. The Hoba Meteorite is the largest meteorite in the world, and the largest naturally occurring piece of iron on the Earth's surface. It is made of nickel-iron and weighs about 60 tonnes. Lake Otjikoto and Lake Guinas are sinkholes the depths of which are not really known and nearby is the Dragon's Breath one of the largest and deepest underground lakes in the world. It was here just outside Otavi that World War I ended in southern Africa on July 1 1915.

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### 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. You have the morning available for extensive game drives, 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 early afternoon you travel to your lodge, situated in the region of Grootfontein.

### Overnight: Fiume Lodge & Game Farm

Fiume is owner managed and situated just 35km north from the town of Grootfontein and 3km from the B8. Fiume Lodge is an ideal stopover for traveller's en-route to the north of Namibia, the Caprivi as well as Botswana and the Viktoria Falls. The lodge's ideal location also provides easy access to Bushmanland, Khaudom National Park and the Etosha National Park. The lodge is situated on a 1400ha private game farm with more than 10 different big game species and smaller mammal species. Comfortable accommodation is offered in 9 stylish chalets, all equipped with air-conditioning, en-suite bathrooms, twin-beds and built-in cupboards to lock in valuables for peace of mind. All chalets are furnished with rose wood to create that cosy "warm" feeling people appreciate when traveling far from home. Two chalets are slightly bigger and have their own unique cosy feeling and interior. They can be used as a family unit on request. Facilities • 9 stylish chalets • Equipped with air-conditioning, en-suite bathrooms, twin-beds • Built-in cupboards to lock valuables • Laundry service only available on a 2 nights stay • Restaurant, Bar and Pool • Wi-Fi Activities: • Game Drives \*pre-bookings only • Bushmen excursions \*pre-bookings only • "A day in a life of a Namibian Farmer" excursion \*pre-bookings only



### Included

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 12: Fiume Lodge & Game Farm, Otavi Mountain Region

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### Day Notes

You have the option (not included) of taking part in an excursion into the Bushmen land and experience a true glimpse into the lives of this ancient civilization. Guests can expect the most informal, liberating learning experience about these people, their history, lifestyle and culture. What to look forward to: Bush walk, village life, making of tools, jewellery and weapons. The San will teach how to start a fire, how and what to use as medicines and the different roles of men and women in the community.

### Included

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 13: Otjiwa Lodge, Waterberg Region

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### Waterberg Region

The Waterberg Plateau is a particularly prominent location, elevating high above the plains of the Kalahari of Eastern Namibia. Waterberg Park and some 405 km<sup>2</sup> of surrounding land were declared a Nature Reserve in 1972. The plateau is largely inaccessible so in the early 1970s several of Namibia's endangered species were translocated there to protect them from predators and poaching to extinction. The programme was very successful and Waterberg now supplies other Namibian parks with rare animals. In 1989, black rhinoceros was reintroduced to the area from Damaraland.

The Waterberg Plateau National Park is ecologically diverse and rich and has over 200 different species of bird with some rare species of small antelope on the lower hills of the mountain. Geologically, the oldest rock stratum is over 850 million years old and dinosaur tracks were left there some 200 million years ago. The first human inhabitants were the San people, who left rock engravings believed to be several thousand years old. A small tribe of the San were still living their traditional lifestyle on the plateau until the late 1960s. It was the site of one of the major turning points in Namibia's history. It was at Waterberg, in the foothills, that the Herero people lost their last and greatest battle against German Colonial forces at the beginning of the 20th century.

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### Day Notes

After breakfast you travel south towards the vast bush veld of the central Namibian region. Here you will find a veritable treasure trove of African wildlife that boasts a variety of some 25 game species. Here is truly a place where tranquillity and wildlife meet. Experience a romantic sundowner, walking trails, game drives and bird-watching.

### Overnight: Otjiwa Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Set amidst the unspoilt beauty of Namibia's oldest game farm, Otjiwa Safari Lodge is the ultimate holiday destination for those in search of an authentic African experience that meets the very best in international tourism standards. True Namibian hospitality and personal service go without saying...The ranch is a veritable treasure trove of African wildlife and boasts a variety of some 25 game species that freely roam its 12 000ha expanse of bushveld. Amongst these is one of the country's largest herds of sable antelope, the precious white rhinoceros, roan antelope, as well as big herds of plains game. Renowned for its beautiful dams, Otjiwa is also home to rich bird life, amongst which the majestic African fish eagle. Here is truly a place where tranquillity and adventure meet as the Otjiwa experience offers romantic sundowners, walking trails, game drives, bird-watching, a vulture hotel and, upon special request, rhino tracking. For visitors who wish to explore the surrounds, Otjiwa's central location provides its guests with the perfect base from which day trips can be undertaken to the famous Etosha National Park, the Waterberg Plateau

nature conservancy, a cheetah conservation sanctuary, dinosaur tracks (also known as 'spoor') and, of course, the Namibian capital, Windhoek



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### **Included**

Bed & Breakfast

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## **Day 14: Departure**

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### **Day Notes**

Depart back to Windhoek for your return flight / last overnight (not included) or continue your journey into the rich water world of the Bwabwata National Park.