



EXCLUSIVE NAMIBIAN HELICOPTER SAFARI

# HELICOPTER SAFARI ITINERARY

## AT A GLANCE

### DAY 1 - KUNENE REGION, NORTHERN NAMIBIA

After clearing customs and immigration at Ondangwa International Airport in the far north of Namibia, continue on to the domestic airport in Ruacana (on the Angolan border) where your heli and pilot will meet you. We will fly west to Okahirongo River Camp, and the day can be spent relaxing in the comforts of the camp, enjoying a drive within the Marienfluss valley, and an afternoon scenic flight over the Kunene River.

*Accommodation: Okahirongo River Camp*

### DAY 2 - EPUPA FALLS & HIMBA PEOPLE

We will spend the next 2 days exploring the Kunene region by helicopter - the impressive Epupa Falls on Kunene River, visiting remote Himba villagers and the Marienfluss valley, taking in some of the world's most incredible landscapes, rich wildlife and fascinating cultures.

*Accommodation: Okahirongo River Camp*

### DAY 3 - PURROS CONSERVANCY

Today we fly south to the Purros Conservancy, bordering the Skeleton Coast Park. This rugged and sandy landscape is known to be one of Namibia's most wild areas - home to lions, elephant and rhino. We will stay at Okahirongo Elephant Lodge - the luxurious chalets are beautifully designed, blending in with the natural environment, and decorated in colours that reflect the desert scenery.

*Accommodation: Okahirongo Elephant Lodge*

### DAY 4 & 5: PURROS CONSERVANCY & MOEWE BAY

The next 2 days we will look for elephants and rhino, and tracking lion with Flip Stander who is an authority on lion research. We will enjoy a day trip to Moewe Bay on the coast, where we will have a unique opportunity to visit Flip's research station, and explore the coastline looking out for the Cape Fur Seal, sometimes seen surfing on the breaking waves. Fishing here is also fun - strictly catch and release - with catches including Cob, Steenbra and Blacktail.

*Accommodation: Okahirongo Elephant Lodge*

### DAY 6, 7 & 8 - PALMWAG RESERVE

Today we fly further south to Damaraland, found between the Skeleton Coast and the Central Plateau. We will stay 3 nights at Desert Rhino Camp which is located within Palmwag Reserve - an area rich in wildlife and home to significant numbers of black rhino. The attractions include fascinating geological formations, unique vegetation and the largest collection of ancient rock art sites in Southern Africa.

*Accommodation: Desert Rhino Camp*

### DAY 9 - BRANDBERG MOUNTAIN & SWAKOPMUND

Our destination is Swakopmund - Namibia's premier holiday resort, located halfway down the Namibian coast, surrounded by the West Coast Recreational Area. On route we will fly over Namibia's highest mountain - the Brandberg - a dome shaped massif famous for the White Lady rock painting. Orabes Kopf is a prominent point where we will land to take in the incredible views to the south.

*Accommodation: Swakopmund Guesthouse*

### DAY 10 - SWAKOPMUND

We will enjoy the coastal resort of Swakopmund and some of the exciting activities including a private dolphin cruise followed by a barbeque on the beach. Half a days shark fishing, and in the late afternoon, a quad biking tour in the amazing sand dunes is on offer, with sundowners looking over the ocean.

*Accommodation: Swakopmund Guesthouse*

### DAY 11 & 12 - NAMIBRAND NATURE RESERVE

Our final destination is Boulders Camp Wolwedans in the NamibRand Nature Reserve - south Namibia, located between the Naukluft Park and Nubib mountain range. The game reserve, previously farmed land, is free of fences allowing wildlife to roam freely. Boulders Camp is the perfect base to explore the NamibRand Nature Reserve by foot, safari vehicle and by heli. We will embark on a dawn flight over the Sossusvlei sand dunes - an exceptional way to finish your adventure.

*Accommodation: Boulders Camp*

### DAY 13 - OUR ADVENTURE ENDS





# KUNENE REGION

## NORTHERN NAMIBIA

*mountainous, arid, inaccessible, & undeveloped  
compared to the rest of Namibia*

The Kunene region in north west Namibia, is remote and wild, and home to the Himba people. Named after the Kunene river which forms a natural border with Angola in the north, the region is also home to the famous Skeleton Coast Park.

The landscapes here are nothing short of spectacular – dominated by desert mountains, dramatic gorges, vast plains and seasonal rivers. The rivers are a focus for wildlife, in particular elephant that have adapted to life in the desert.



# OKAHIRONGO RIVER CAMP

On the banks of the Kunene River, is the exclusive hideaway of Okahirongo River Camp. Overlooking the Otupambua Rapids, in the spectacular Marienfluss valley within the rugged Kaokoland Mountains, this camp caters for only 14 people in luxury tents, with both inside and outside showers, and a huge viewing deck.

Kunene River that winds its way from Angola, along the border to the Skeleton Coast is known for its great crocodile population, and is characterized by thundering waterfalls, white water and tranquil pools. We will visit the beautiful and remote Epupa Falls, that are formed by a series of cascading rapids, and the mouth of the river on the coast where green turtles are seen year round. We will also have a privileged encounter with the Himba people, visiting their amazing homestays, and learning a little about their traditions and remote way of life. There are opportunities for game drives within the mountains and valley, boat trips and great birding walks.





# THE HIMBA TRIBE

The Himba people live in the Kunene region of northern Namibia – they are nomadic pastoralists, living in small circular style huts that surround an ‘okuruwo’ (fire) and a central livestock enclosure. The fire symbolizes ancestral protection and the livestock links them to their ancestors.

Because of the harsh desert climate and limited outside influence, their traditional lifestyle remains little changed. They wear little clothing, and the women are known for covering their skin and coating their hair in ‘otjize’ – a mixture of fat and red ochre.

In the 1980’s when drought struck Namibia, the Himba lost 90% of their cattle – threatening their culture and way of life. But the Himba are amongst Africa’s most prosperous herders and have proved resilient. With peace and good rains that came in the 1990’s, the Himba have rebuilt their herds. Today they are more engaged in conservation, and benefit from tourism opportunities.





# MARIENFLUSS VALLEY

## SCENIC FLIGHT





EXCURSION TO  
KUNENE RIVER &  
EPUPA FALLS







# PURROS CONSERVANCY

## NORTHERN NAMIBIA

*One of Namibia's most wild regions - scenically stunning with constantly changing colours*

This is the only place in the world where desert elephants, black rhinos, giraffes and lions live in a desert environment. Purros Conservancy in Kaokoland, borders the Skeleton Coast Park - the mountainous landscape is known to be one of Namibia's most wild areas - a contrast of rugged mountains and table top kopjes, that transform into soft pastel colours at dawn and dusk.



# OKAHIRONGO ELEPHANT LODGE

Within Purros Conservancies lie Okahirongo Elephant Lodge – a luxurious tented camp with 7 en suite chalets and a suite - all with spectacular views. Each cottage is decorated in its own unique African style. The open-air buildings are linked by wooden walkways all joining onto a central area with a rustic deck and infinity pool - a perfect place to relax inbetween our excursions.

During our time here, we will have great game drives and opportunities to learn a little about the conservation activities. We will meet Flip Stander who is an authority on lion research, and engage in some lion tracking. We will explore Moewe Bay on the coast, and visit some Cape Fur seal colonies – these endearing mammals can often be seen surfing the waves. Fishing here is also fun – strictly catch and release - with catches including Cob, Steenbra and Blacktail.





SEAL COLONIES AT  
MEOWE BAY





A blue helicopter is parked on a sandy beach. The foreground is covered with numerous bleached whale and seal bones of various sizes. The background shows a vast, flat landscape under a clear blue sky with some distant hills.

# SKELETON COAST

*Known by the Bushmen as 'the land god made in anger', the 'Skeleton Coast' got its name from the many bleached whale and seal bones. Dense ocean fogs, inhospitable climate and heavy surf has caused 1000's of shipwrecks - many of which still litter the shore*



# DAMARALAND

## PALMWAG RESERVE

*Exceptionally scenic – expensive and untamed – characterised by rocky hills, scattered euphorbia, and 'welitschia' plant, considered a living fossil*



Palmwag Reserve is a 450,000 ha. wilderness, home to Africa's largest free roaming black rhino population – and the Namibian base of Save the Rhino Trust.

Desert-adapted elephants, giraffe and mountain zebra also habituate here, supported by a series of fresh water springs. The east side is mountainous, with rolling hills – many flat topped, and broad valleys with springs and unique vegetation. The west side has extensive gravel plains and dry river beds that disappear into the sands of the Skeleton Coast.





BLACK RHINO  
PALMWAG RESERVE



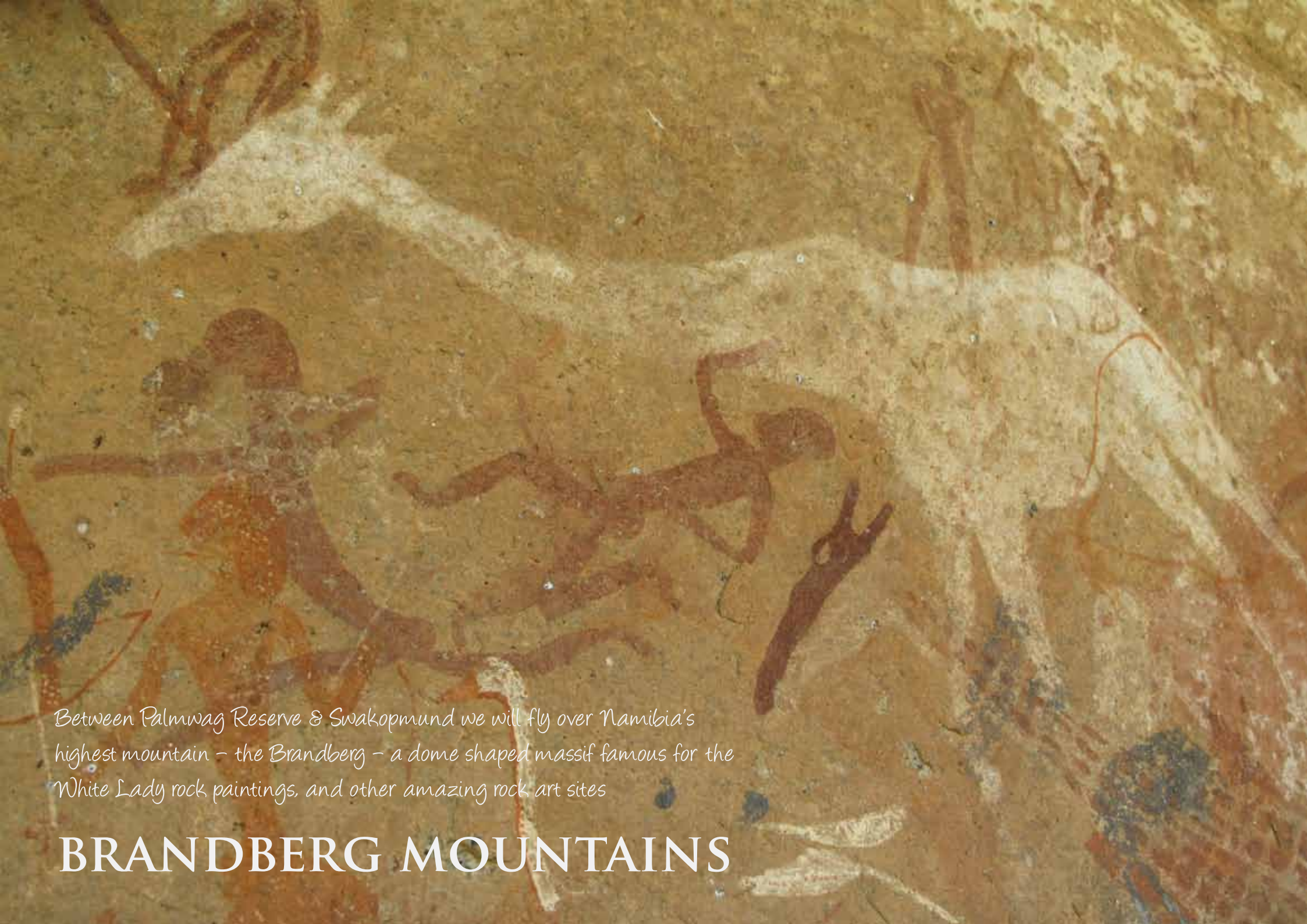
# DESERT RHINO CAMP

Desert Rhino Camp is run by Wilderness Safaris in conjunction with Save the Rhino Trust - an organisation dedicated to the conservation of black rhino. Located in the vast Palmwag Reserve between Etosha and the Skeleton Coast, the luxury 'Meru' style tented camp offers an excellent safari experience, with opportunities for tracking black rhino and gaining an insight into conservation at a grass root level.

One of the regions highlights is rock art sites with ancient bushman engravings. Twyfelfontein is one such site - recognised by UNESCO as a world heritage site. Another attraction worth seeing is the petrified forest - a prehistoric relic located in an old river channel, that dates back 200,000 years to the Permian period.







*Between Palmwag Reserve & Swakopmund we will fly over Namibia's highest mountain - the Brandberg - a dome shaped massif famous for the White Lady rock paintings, and other amazing rock art sites*

## **BRANDBERG MOUNTAINS**



# SWAKOPMUND

This is a seaside resort, founded in 1892 as the main harbor for German South West Africa. The town's architecture reflects its German colonial history. Today Swakopmund is a thriving holiday town – with pristine beaches, palm-lined streets and great restaurants.





# PRIVATE DOLPHIN CRUISE WALVIS BAY, SWAKOPMUND

The West Coast Recreational Area neighbours the town, where extreme-sports enthusiasts engage in sandboarding, quad biking, dune carting, parachuting and shark fishing.

There are also options for trips to see the Cape Cross seal colony, take a bird trip to the Swakopmund Salt Works, and dolphin cruises from Walvis Bay.







QUAD BIKING ON THE DUNES,  
SWAKOPMUND



# SWAKOPMUND

## GUEST HOUSE

Swakopmund Guest House is situated in the town centre, just five-minute walk from the beach and main shopping area. The guesthouse, owned and run by the Borg family has 12 spacious and comfortable rooms, decorated in a modern and elegant style, and offers high level of comfort and a personalised service.

Swakopmund is perfectly located, allowing for access to the sand dunes, and visits to the beach. We will enjoy a cruise from Walvis Bay with the thrill of watching dolphins, seals and birds, and we will learn about the lighthouse, oyster platforms and diverse marine life. Lunch will be cooked and served on the beach, and in the afternoon we will experience a different thrill – quad-biking on the sand dunes that surround Swakopmund, followed by sundowners overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.





# NAMIBRAND NATURE RESERVE

*one of South Africa's largest private nature reserves, free of fences to allow wildlife to roam in their natural habitat, as they did before commercial farming*

Game found in the beautiful NaminRand Nature Reserve includes gemsbok, mountain and plains zebra, springbok, red hartebeest, bat-eared fox, spotted hyena, Cape fox and African wildcats. Kudu, klipspringer, baboon and leopard are found in the more rocky areas.

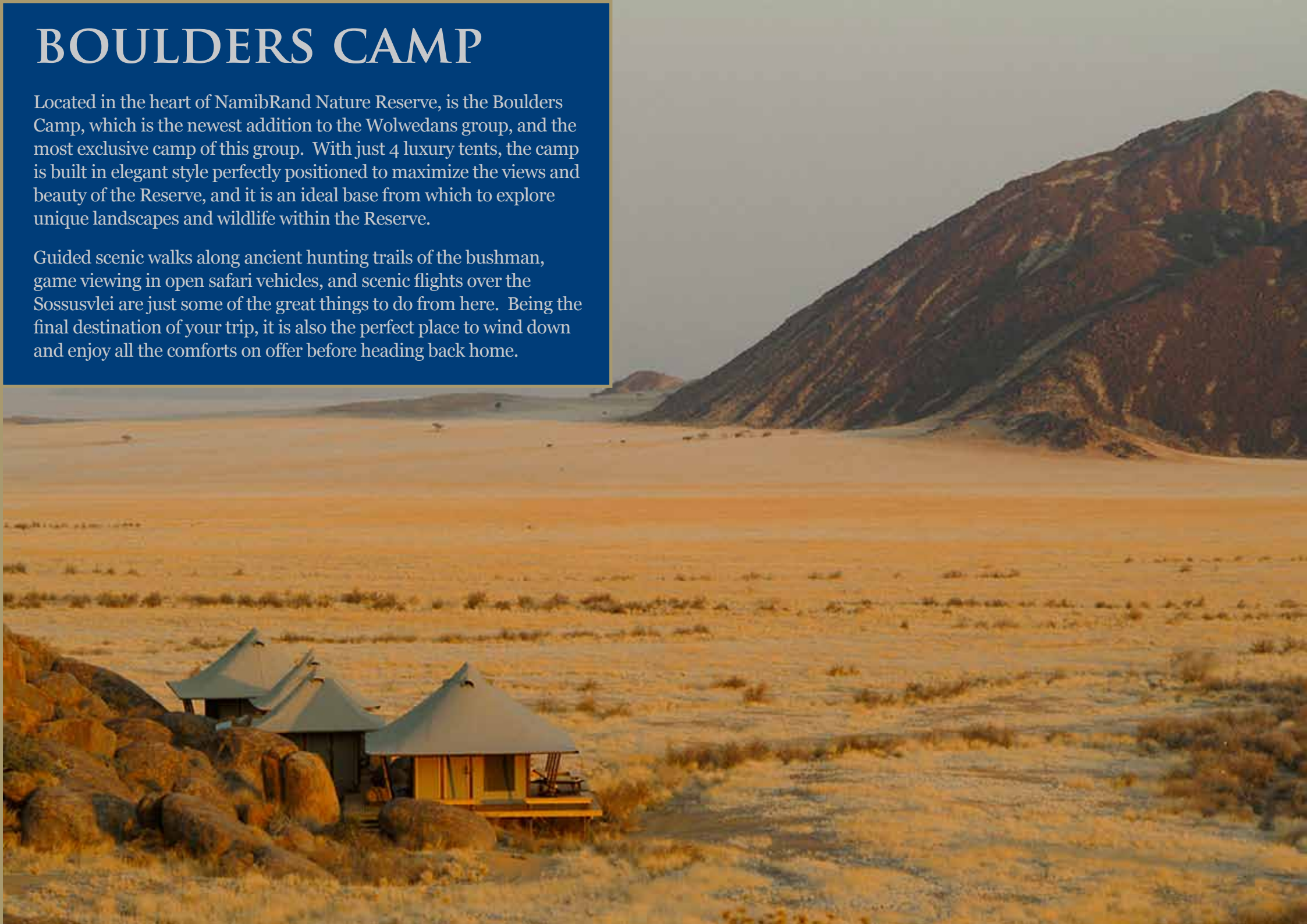
Visitors here contribute towards this amazing conservation initiative that aims to promote large scale conservation and research projects - headed by the NamibRand Conservation Foundation.



# BOULDERS CAMP

Located in the heart of NamibRand Nature Reserve, is the Boulders Camp, which is the newest addition to the Wolwedans group, and the most exclusive camp of this group. With just 4 luxury tents, the camp is built in elegant style perfectly positioned to maximize the views and beauty of the Reserve, and it is an ideal base from which to explore unique landscapes and wildlife within the Reserve.

Guided scenic walks along ancient hunting trails of the bushman, game viewing in open safari vehicles, and scenic flights over the Sossusvlei are just some of the great things to do from here. Being the final destination of your trip, it is also the perfect place to wind down and enjoy all the comforts on offer before heading back home.





# SOSSUSVLEI

A dawn flight over the Sossusvlei is the ultimate desert experience. Here the sand dunes are some of the largest ever seen, and the colours and shapes within it are an incredible sight as the sun rises and sets – we will have the opportunity to get a birds eye view of these, and land the heli to appreciate their scale.

*this is the most photographed place in Subsaharan Africa - the salt pan (that floods every few years) is surrounded by huge dunes - red in colour due to the high iron content in the sand*





# JAMIE ROBERTS

*helicopter pilot*

Born in Kenya's Rift Valley, Jamie was brought up on the remote shores of Lake Baringo with his 5 siblings. He enjoyed an amazing free childhood surrounded by nature, and appreciating all that Kenya's wilderness had to offer.

In 1993 Jamie established Tropic Air - now one of Kenya's leading air charter operations.

Jamie is an experienced fixed wing and rotor wing pilot, with a passion for nature, and extensive natural history knowledge.

Jamie has over 8,000 flying hours in fixed and rotor wing aircraft.





## BEN SIMPSON

*helicopter pilot*

Aged 21, Ben arrived in Kenya from Hong Kong – and over the last 14 years he has developed an intimate knowledge of East Africa. A motorbike enthusiast, much of what Ben offers on heli trips stems from his two wheel adventures in Kenya’s northern wilderness.

Committed to delivering a true wilderness experience in complete safety, much of Ben’s work outside of tourism, involves flying cameras for natural history documentaries, including the BBC’s award-winning ‘Life’ series.

He has over 8,000 flying hours in fixed and rotor wing aircraft.



# HELICOPTERS

With its superior performance in hot & high environments, our Eurocopter AS 350 B3's are perfectly adapted to fly in Africa – from the snowy peaks of Mount Kenya to the Danakil Depression in Ethiopia.

Our aircraft are fitted with satellite tracking software, our pilots are trained in 'first person on scene' first aid, and all precautions are carried out to ensure maximum safety and comfort.

*100's of hours have been spent exploring the most spectacular and remote mountains, valleys, forests and deserts, to ensure that we deliver an experience of a lifetime*



# COSTS & INCLUSIONS

13 DAY SAFARI  
US\$ 210,000 FOR 2 GUESTS

## INCLUDES

All helicopter flights  
Private pilot  
Full board accommodation  
Drinks (soft drinks, house wines, beers & selected house spirits)  
Game viewing activities  
Conservation and Park fees  
Local guide fees  
Local airstrip transfers  
Private dolphin cruise  
Quad biking  
Shark fishing  
Laundry

## EXCLUDES

Champagne, premium spirits & cellar wines  
Gratuities  
Items of a personal nature