

NAMIBIA - DESERTS & NOMADS - 20 DAYS

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Perfect for explorers who like the idea of combining lodging and camping. A well-crafted, 20-day itinerary includes time in both the Kalahari and the Namib Desert, climbing the massive dunes at Sossusvlei, unearthing the desert's secrets on a guided fat bike tour, marvelling at incredible rock art at Twyfelfontein and world-class game viewing in Etosha National Park. The itinerary includes a two-night guided hike on the spectacular Etendeka Plateau and encounters with two of Namibia's indigenous cultures, the Himba and the Oshiwambo people. The itinerary includes comfortable, well-placed accommodation, a sprinkle of camping, expertly guided activities and a 4x4 car rental. The route can be reversed. All itineraries can be booked on a self-drive or private guided basis.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

The highlights include the Kalahari, Dune 45, Sossusvlei, Deadvlei, the Tropic of Capricorn, Walvisbay Lagoon, Swakopmund, Damaraland, Etendeka Plateau, Kaokoland, Wamboland, Etosha National Park.

#	AREAS	KMS	ACCOMMODATION	MEALS
1	Arrival - Windhoek	45km	The Windhoek Luxury Suites	B+B
2	Windhoek - Kalahari	280 km / 3h	Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm	s/c
3	Kalahari		Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm	s/c
4	Kalahari - Sesriem	310km / 3h45	<u>Le Mirage Lodge</u>	DBB
5	Sesriem	120km	<u>Le Mirage Lodge</u>	DBB
6	Sesriem - Swakopmund	347 km / 4h30	Atlantic Garden Boutique Hotel	B+B
7	Swakopmund		Atlantic Garden Boutique Hotel Guided Desert Fat Bike Tour	B+B
8	Swakopmund - Twyfelfontein	280 km / 3h30	Madisa Camp	S/C
9	Twyfelfontein		Madisa Camp	s/c
10	Twyfelfontein - Palmwag	100km/1h30	Etendeka Walking Trail	DBB
11	Palmwag		Etendeka Walking Trail	DBB + L
12	Palmwag - Kaokoland	245km / 3h45	Kaoko Mopane Lodge	DBB
13	Kaokoland		<u>Kaoko Mopane Lodge</u> Visit a Himba Village with a guide	DBB



#	AREAS	KMS	ACCOMMODATION	MEALS
14	Kaokoland - Wamboland	298 km / 3h45	Nakambale Lodge @ Olukonda Tour of a homestead as well as the original Finnish Mission Station at Nakambale	DBB
15	Wamboland - Etosha	200km 2h30	Onguma Tamboti Campsite	S/C
16	Etosha		Onguma Tamboti Campsite Guided game drive in Etosha	S/C
17	Etosha	90km	<u>Halali</u> Guided Night Drive in Etosha	S/C
18	Etosha		<u>Halali</u>	S/C
19	Etosha - Windhoek	360km / 3h30	<u>Okapuka Safari Lodge</u>	DBB
20	Day of Departure	30km / 30min		



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ITINERARY DAY-TO-DAY

DAY 01

Arrival - Windhoek

Welcome to Namibia! A driver from the car rental company will warmly welcome you in the arrivals hall of the airport and transfer you to the car rental depot in Windhoek. We will meet you here to assist with the vehicle collection, ensuring you have everything necessary to embark on your Namibian adventure. After a short drive, arrive at your hotel, where you can unload your luggage and take a leisurely stroll to a nearby cafe for a bite to eat. This afternoon we recommend a Windhoek City Tour, which takes 3 hours. The fun tour gives historical context to Windhoek's buildings and an insight into the lively culture of Windhoek's informal township, Katatura. Return to the hotel and walk to the nearby restaurants for dinner.

Overnight at <u>The Windhoek Luxury Suites</u> Basis: B+B

DAY 02

Windhoek - Kalahari

Breakfast. This morning, you can do supply shopping before embarking on your journey from Windhoek to the Kalahari. Your route follows a tarred highway to Mariental, where you embark on your first few kilometres of gravel travel to the lovely Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm. Check in and enjoy the beauty and peace of the red Kalahari dunescape. Travel time from Windhoek to the farm is roughly 3 hours.

Overnight at <u>Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm</u> Basis: Camping S/C

DAY 03

A Day in the Kalahari

Enjoy the day exploring the beauty of the Kalahari. The farm offers unforgettable sundowner drives, which include sundowners on a red Kalahari dune. This activity must be booked before arrival.

Overnight at <u>Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm</u> Basis: Camping S/C



DAY 04

Kalahari - Sesriem

As you pack up your camp, bid farewell to the red Kalahari dunes, and begin your descent from the Naukluft escarpment to the gravel plains of the Namib. Arrive at Le Mirage Lodge during the afternoon, check in and relax after the day's travel. Your chalet offers the option to sleep under the stars. Travel time between the Jansen Kalahari Guest Farm and Le Mirage Lodge is roughly 4h.

Overnight at <u>Le Mirage Lodge</u>

Basis: DBB

DAY 05

A Day in the Sossusvlei Area

This morning is an early start to grab a light breakfast before departing the lodge for the Sesriem gate into the Namib Naukluft Park (we recommend you ask the lodge for a packed breakfast). The gate opens at sunrise, and you may encounter a queue of cars waiting to enter the park. Once you've completed the entry permit paperwork and paid the entry fees (N\$150 per person + N\$50 per vehicle-the permit is valid for a day and allows multiple entries), you drive the 60km to the Sossusvlei dunes. The route to the dunes is a well-maintained tar road, except for the last few kilometres of thick sandy tracks. Sossusvlei will be on your right, and the parking and route to Deadvlei will be on your left. It is best to visit Deadvlei before the day gets too hot. If you're feeling energetic, we recommend the climb up the crest of Big Daddy Dune. The panoramic views over the sand sea are spectacular. If you want to visit the Sesriem Canyon, you'll find the access road running along the perimeter fence from the Sesriem park gate. Return to the lodge and enjoy the afternoon at leisure or book a guided activity.

* Kindly remember that sitting on or climbing the ancient trees in Deadvlei is prohibited. If you happen to witness anyone doing so, please remind them that these iconic skeletons are fragile, and all of us must help preserve them.

Overnight at <u>Le Mirage Lodge</u>

Basis: DBB



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DAY 06

Sesriem - Swakopmund

Breakfast. Shake the Sossusvlei sand out of your shoes and head further north to the icy water of the Atlantic Ocean. Stop at Solitaire to refuel and sample some of their famous apple pie. Your route crosses the Tropic of Capricorn and winds through the Kuiseb Canyon. You'll reach the port town of Walvis Bay first. Keep following the coastal road north to Swakopmund. You'll arrive in Swakop during the course of the afternoon. Check in at your hotel or guesthouse and enjoy a stroll through town or on the jetty before choosing a restaurant for dinner. Travel time from Sesriem to Swakopmund is approximately 4h30.

Our Swakopmund restaurant recommendations:

- Brauhaus
- Gabrielle's Pizzeria (booking is essential)
- Altstadt
- Andy's Sushi, Oyster and Fine Seafood Restaurant
- Brewer + Butcher

Overnight at <u>Atlantic Garden Boutique Hotel</u> Basis: B+B

DAY 07

A Day on the Namibian Coast

Breakfast. Meet your guide at the Swakopmund Fat Bike Tours office for a desert tour on fat bikes. This is a unique 'must do' Swakopmund experience. You get to experience the breathtaking scenery of the oldest desert in the world in a fully ecological way without noise or air pollution. Ride along the top of the Namib Desert's famous dunes and enjoy the once-in-a-lifetime views of the desert, sea and Swakopmund. This tour is for both the scenic appreciator and adrenalin-seeking adventurist. The scenic desert tour is around 12 - 14km long and includes cycling from Swakopmund town centre, along the dry Swakop river bed and up and down stunning dunes.

Tour times are Mon-Sun 8:30, 11:00, and 14:30. Average fitness and cycling experience is required, and you must be able to cycle for 2 hours. For the not-so-fit, there is an E-bike option.

After the tour, enjoy leisurely exploring Swakopmund for the rest of the day.

Overnight at <u>Atlantic Garden Boutique Hotel</u> Basis: B+B



DAY 08

Swakopmund - Twyfelfontein

Breakfast. Continue north via Henties Bay and Uis to the Twyfelfontein area. We recommend having lunch at the Cactus and Coffee Café in Uis. As you continue north toward Twyfelfontein, you'll pass many small homesteads and makeshift shops/stalls next to the road. Feel free to stop and admire the crafts. Feel free to negotiate the price of these handmade items, but keep in mind to be fair during the bargaining process, respecting the artists' talent and time. As you travel deeper into Damaraland, the dramatic landscapes continue to unfold. Take time to stop and admire this starkly beautiful place where the world's cares seem far away. The small road to Twyfelfontein (the D2612) is known for carrying heavy traffic and is often very corrugated, with deep sandy patches. Ensure a safe journey by taking your time while travelling. Arrive at Madisa Camp in the afternoon. Check in and relax after the day's journey and listen to the sound of the Barking Geckos calling to each other as the daylight fades. Enjoy your self-prepared dinner under the stars tonight. Travel time between Swakopmund and Twyfelfontein is roughly 4h.

Overnight at Madisa Camp Basis: Camping S/C

DAY 09

A Day in the Twyfelfontein Area

Today, you can join a local guide for a scenic drive through the dry riverbeds of the Huab and Aba Huab rivers in search of the desert-adapted elephants (book this activity directly with the camp at check-in). Alternatively, you can visit the nearby Damara Living Museum to gain an insight into the lifestyle and culture of the Damara people. We recommend visiting the Twyfelfontein Rock Art Gallery in the afternoon when the light is best for photos. Experience another beautiful evening under the stars of the Milky Way in Damaraland.

Overnight at <u>Madisa Camp</u> Basis: Camping S/C



DAY 10

Twyfelfontein - Palmwag

Breakfast. Following an easy morning, you head north to Palmwag Lodge, where you'll park your car. At 16h00, meet at Palmwag Lodge, and entrust your luggage to the driver, who will securely transport it to your first overnight camp, River Camp. The walking trail begins at Palmwag Lodge, leading into the Etendeka Concession for approximately 2 to 3 hours to River Camp, where you will spend your first night. Dinner will be cooked and enjoyed around an open fire. The Etendeka Overnight Walking Trail Experience set in the foothills of the Grootberg Massif is a unique new offering from the Etendeka Lodge Company and the Etendeka Community Trust (comprising the Anabeb and Omatendeka Community Conservancies). The experience promises to be an authentic and exhilarating engagement with nature. Trek through one of Namibia's most remote and untouched landscapes on foot, enjoy sundowners as you look out over never-ending vistas of ancient rock formations and sleep under a blanket of stars. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to connect with nature. A unique guided journey into a remote conservation area filled with desert life. Travel time between Twyfelfontein and Palmwag Lodge is roughly 1h30.

Overnight at <u>Etendeka Walking Trail</u> Basis: FB

DAY 11

Hiking Etendeka

A full-cooked breakfast is served before the start of the walk. Enjoy a full day's hiking on the beautiful Etendeka Plateau. A late morning snack is enjoyed under the shade of a tree along the route. Upon reaching tonight's camp, a late lunch will be prepared for you. Spend the afternoon relaxing and enjoying the beauty and peace of your surroundings. The sundowner is spectacular, and dinner is enjoyed next to the fire.

Overnight at <u>Etendeka Walking Trail</u> Basis: FB

DAY 12

Etendeka - Kaokoland

This morning, a short morning hike or transfer brings you back to Etendeka Mountain Camp, where a driver will meet you for the transfer back to Palmwag Lodge. You can have lunch at Palmwag Lodge before starting today's drive north into Kaokoland. Arrive at Kaoko Mopane Lodge in the afternoon. Check in and relax after the day's journey. Travel time between Palmwag Lodge and Opuwo is roughly 4h.

Overnight at <u>Kaoko Mopane Lodge</u> Basis: DBB



DAY 13

A Day in Kaokoland

A local guide will meet you at the lodge for a half-day visit to a traditional Himba Village. This is a unique opportunity to meet one of the world's last nomadic tribes. Return to the lodge and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight at <u>Kaoko Mopane Lodge</u> Basis: DBB

DAY 14

Kaokoland - Wamboland

After breakfast, you head east into Owamboland. The scenery changes dramatically from the red dry gravel plains of Kaokoland to lush forest and white sand. This is the homeland of Namibia's biggest ethnic group, the Oshiwambo. Arrive at Nakambale Lodge @ Olukonda and check in, where friendly staff will welcome you. You can join a tour of a traditional kraal and the original Finnish missionary station at Nakambale either during the afternoon or tomorrow morning.

Dinner will be lovingly prepared for you before retiring for a good night's sleep. Travel time between Opuwo and Olukondo is roughly 3h45.

Overnight at <u>Nakambale Lodge @ Olukonda</u> Basis: DBB

DAY 15

Wamboland - Etosha

You start your journey south today and travel to the Onguma Reserve at the eastern entrance into the Etosha National Park. Arrive and set up your camp before driving to Etosha for an afternoon game viewing. Exit the park before sunset when the gates close. Travel time between Olukonda and Onguma is roughly 2h30.

Overnight at Onguma Tamboti Campsite
Basis: Camping S/C



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DAY 16

A Day in Etosha

This morning, you join a guide from Onguma for a morning of game viewing in the northern parts of Etosha. The knowledgeable guides know the park like the back of their hands and are up to date with the animal movements. Return to Onguma for lunch and rest during the hottest part of the day. Return to the park for a late afternoon game drive in your vehicle or relax at the camp.

Overnight at <u>Onguma Tamboti Campsite</u> Basis: Camping S/C

DAY 17

A Day in Etosha

Pack up camp and drive into Etosha to start a full day of game viewing while you travel through the middle of the park to Halali Camp. Find your private campsite where you'll be based for the next two nights. You can choose whether you self-cater or have meals at the camp restaurant. Remember, the speed limit in the park is 60km per hour. Enjoy an early dinner before joining a guide from Halali for a night game drive in the park. Be sure to dress warmly, as the drive will be on an open, game-viewing vehicle.

Overnight at <u>Halali</u> Basis: Camping S/C

DAY 18

A day in Etosha

Enjoy another day exploring Etosha or watch the animals come and go at the Halali waterhole.

Overnight at <u>Halali</u> Basis: Camping S/C



DAY 19

Etosha - Windhoek

After packing up camp, drive south to the Andersson gate, where you exit the Etosha National Park. From here, your route back to Windhoek is all tar road, and you travel through the small towns of Outjo, Otjiwarongo and Okahandja. Approximately 45 km after Okahandja, take the Okapuka Safari Lodge turnoff. Check in at Okapuka Safari Lodge to rest and enjoy your last evening in the Namibian bushveld. Guided game drives are available to round off your safari experience. The travel time from Etosha to Okapuka is roughly 3h30.

Overnight at <u>Okapuka Safari Lodge</u> Basis: DBB

DAY 20

Day of Departure

Before transferring to Windhoek, take advantage of the remaining time to participate in one last activity. Once in Windhoek, visit the Namibia Craft Centre to purchase souvenirs and have lunch. Then return your rental car to the depot, from where you transfer to the airport to check in for your onward flight. Travel time between Okapuka and Windhoek is 30 minutes.

END OF SERVICES



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QUOTE

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT N\$
Per Person sharing (2 Adults sharing)	From N\$ 57 500.00

Each confirmed itinerary contributes N\$500 towards the DRC School Project & Community Centre in Swakopmund.

RENTAL CAR

Toyota Double Cab 4x4 (fully camping-equipped)

Fully Equipped vehicles come with the following equipment (up to 4 pax):

- 2 x Rooftop Tents
- 2 x Mattresses
- 4 x Duvets
- 4 x Pillows
- 4 x Blankets
- 1x Camping Fridge
- 4 x Camping Chairs
- 1 x Camp Table
- 1x Cutlery box with cutlery, crockery, pots, pans, kettle and gas bottle with cooker top

GUIDED EXCURSIONS

These activities are conducted by local guides from the stated lodge or a private activity operator.

- Swakopmund Fat Bike Desert Tour
- Etendeka Walking Trail (2 nights)
- Kaoko Mopane Visit a traditional Himba Village with a local guide
- Nakambale visit the Nakambale Museum and traditional kraal
- Onguma Guided Etosha Game Drive
- Halali Guided Night Drive in Etosha

MEAL ABBREVIATIONS

B+B	Bed and breakfast
B+B+L	Bed, breakfast and lunch
DBB	Dinner, bed and breakfast (excludes drinks)
DBB+L	Dinner, bed, breakfast and lunch (excludes drinks)
FB	Accommodation, meals and local drinks
FI	Accommodation, three meals daily, soft drinks, house wines, local brand spirits and beers, teas and coffees, refreshments during guided activities



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

Details about self-drive inclusions and exclusions are available <u>HERE</u>.

Details about private guided inclusions and exclusions are available <u>HERE</u>.