
Tel: +264 (0)64 404511

E-mail: info@safari24.com

Fax: +264 (0)64 403526

PO Box 3662, Swakopmund, Namibia

Cell: +264 (0) 81 128 4511

website: www.safari24.com



NAMIBIAN HIGHLIGHTS

Central and northern parts of Namibia

14 DAYS UPMARKET LODGE TOUR

The highlights of this tour are the visits to the Etosha National Park, the highest sand dunes in the world, Namibian Coast, Desert Elephants and Bushman Art.

Day 01: Frankfurt

Departure from Frankfurt. Board flight to Windhoek.

Day 02: Windhoek

Your guide from the agency "Safari 24" will meet and greet you at Windhoek International airport. Transfer to Windhoek. The first night is booked at the 4* hotel **Windhoek Country Club Resort**. After check-in there is time to relax at the luxurious outdoor swimming pool after the long flight.

During the afternoon we participate in a city sightseeing tour. The pavement cafés and picturesque old German architecture conspire to give an airy, European feel, whilst street-vendors remind you that this is Africa.

Dinner included.

Day 03: Windhoek – Sossusvlei

We leave Windhoek, which lies at an altitude of approx 1650m above sea level, and descent down towards the oldest, living desert in the world, the Namib. High on the steep Pass, we stop for a magnificent view down into the Namib.

The accommodation is booked at **Sossusvlei Lodge**, which is situated at the border of the enormous apricot coloured sand dunes towering into a blue sky.

We visit the Sesriem Canyon. This is a narrow fissure in the sandstone, 30m deep in places and carved by the Tsauchab River. Since its permanent waters it was used by the early settlers, to draw water from it by knotting together six lengths of hide rope, called *riems*. Hence it became known as *ses riems*.

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.

Day 04: Sossusvlei – Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge

Sossusvlei, a large clay pan, is surrounded by a sea of huge, red sand dunes. When the pan is dry the white, cracked mud surface formed by silts deposited here by the Tsauchab River contrasts sharply with the surrounding dunes and the dry and dead camel thorn trees. Many a photographer has taken innumerable pictures of conflicting contrast.

After lunch at the Sossusvlei Lodge we travel to Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge. The bungalows form part of the landscape.

The afternoon is at leisure.

B, L and D are included.



Private Bag 114

Suite 68

Maun, Botswana

Day 05: Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge - Swakopmund

The dusty gravel road leads through the Namib Naukluft Park. The endemic *Welwitschia mirabilis* plant, a botanical curiosity consists only of two long, shredded leaves and can live up to 2000 years. Many other endemic plants are found in the Namib, the oldest living desert on earth. Despite its reputation of being inhospitable, visitors will discover a fascinating variety of life forms, uniquely adapted to desert life.

The track leads us past the Moon Valley where a magnificent view of the multitude of eroded valleys can be enjoyed.

The town of **Swakopmund** is situated at the cold and foggy Atlantic Ocean and is Namibia's premier holiday resort. German architecture is the land mark of this neat and clean town, surrounded by hundreds of palm trees. It offers, beside lovely and richly stocked shops a very interesting Museum, the Crystal Gallery with an immense variety of minerals, a Marine Aquarium and a Snake and Reptile Park.

The accommodation is booked for three nights at the **4* Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre**.

Lunch will be enjoyed at a very typical German Restaurant, the Brauhaus.

The afternoon is at leisure.

B and L included.

Day 06: Excursion Swakopmund

We participate on a morning boat cruise from Walvis Bay. Sparkling wine and fresh oysters are served while Cape Fur Seals, Flamingos, Pelicans and possibly different types of Dolphins reveal a bit of the incredible marine life.

The afternoon is at leisure.

Breakfast included.

Day 07: Swakopmund

The day is at leisure. Different activities are offered: a day trip into the Namib Desert, Quad biking and Sandboarding in the dunes, Shark and Boat fishing in the cold Benguela current, etc. Breakfast included.

Day 08: Swakopmund – Twyfelfontein

Early morning wake-up call as this day is devoted to Art. Compare the ancient old rock paintings at the Spitzkoppe Mountain, a typical pointed *inselberg* rising sharply from the surrounding flat plains, with the thousands of rock engravings at **Twyfelfontein**, the "doubtful spring". This spring used to attract huge herds of game from the sparse plains of surrounding Damaraland, making this uninviting valley an excellent base for early hunters.

We overnight at the **Twyfelfontein Country Lodge** for 2 nights.

B, L and D are included.

Day 09: Twyfelfontein

The site of the "**Petrified Forest**" is exceptional, because of the large number of petrified trees, thought to be carried here as logs by a river some 250 millions years ago. Hundreds of tall angular columns of dolerite form the "**Organ Pipes**" rising up to 5m high.

During the afternoon we participate on a nature drive into the most beautiful and colourful landscape of Namibia. With a bit of luck our guide might find the famous Desert Elephants, which besides many other game species, like Giraffe and Black Rhinoceros have adapted to the harsh vegetation of the arid desert.

B, L and D are included.

Day 10: Twyfelfontein – Etosha National Park

Today we enter the largest National Park of Namibia, **Etosha** – the great white place. Large herds of plains' animals, several rare and endangered species, and rich birdlife have found a refuge between the diversity of the landscape, changing from endless pans of silvery-white sands to forest.

We reside at the **Okaukuejo Rest Camp** in bungalows. Okaukuejo is a very popular resort, due to the refreshing swimming pool, the Ecological Institute and a floodlit waterhole. The possibility of viewing Black Rhinoceros' and Lions at night are good.

B, L and D are included.

Day 11: Etosha National Park

Extensive game drives are done to ensure a complete wildlife experience.

During the afternoon we exit the Park at the Von Lindequist gate and overnight in luxury at the **Mokuti Lodge**, situated just outside the Park.

B, L and D are included.

Day 12: Mokuti Lodge

We undertake another game drive in Etosha during the morning. Maybe we are lucky to spot the diminutive Damara Dik-Dik. Standing 40cm tall and with a weight of only 5kg, it is Namibia's smallest antelope.

The afternoon is at leisure, but you may enjoy another game drive.

Overnight at **Mokuti Lodge**.

B, L and D are included.

Day 13: Mokuti Lodge – Mount Etjo Lodge

On our way to the Mount Etjo Lodge near Ojtiwarongo we stop at Lake Otjikoto. This lake was formed when the roof of a huge subterranean cave collapsed, leaving an enormous sinkhole with steep sides. Once thought to be bottomless the retreating German forces dumped their weaponry in 1915. Sub-aqua enthusiasts are not only attracted by the dive findings, but also to the multi-coloured population of fish.

During the afternoon we take part in a game drive at **Mount Etjo Lodge**. The red sunset portraits between the Acacia trees, are a photographer's dream.

B, L and D are included.

Day 14: Mount Etjo Lodge - Windhoek

On our way to Windhoek we stop at the open-air woodcarvers market in Okahandja. This is the perfect spot for last-minute souvenir shopping, as it displays a huge variety of African curios.

The historical graves of a number of influential leaders tell of a convoluted past.

The safari ends at **Windhoek International airport** in time for the departure flight.

B and L are included.