

NAMIBIA HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights:
Sossusvlei, Swakopmund, Twyfelfontein and the Etosha National Park



Tour Information (NH)			
Days / Nights	9 / 8	Departure	Wednesday
Pick up	Windhoek, as from 08h00	Drop off	Windhoek, during the afternoon
Languages	English/German	Category	Bronze & Gold
Bronze Min/Max Pax	min 2 / max 16	Gold Min/Max pax	min 2 / max 6
Combinations	CC		

Departure Dates											
Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
7, 14, 21, 28	12	9, 23	13, 27	13, 27	10, 24	8, 22	12, 26	10, 24	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Wed Namib Desert 430km
Departing Windhoek, we travel to our lodge in the Namib Desert. This is the gateway to Sesriem Canyon and Sossusvlei, where some of the highest sand dunes on earth stand towering over the white desert plains. The afternoon can be spent relaxing at the pool, or taking part in optional activities offered at our lodge.

Bronze: Hammerstein Lodge
Gold: Sossusvlei Lodge (D)

Thu Namib Desert 280km
This morning demands an early start. The first rays of sunrise paint the mountains of sand into a variety of apricot, red and orange, contrasted against a crisp blue skyline, enrapturing our senses, and providing an opportunity to capture this awesome landscape on film. Sossusvlei, where the mostly dry Tsauchab River ends abruptly amongst majestic dunes, sees us walking up one of these dunes to admire the desert landscape. Thereafter we visit the Sesriem Canyon, a life sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert.

Bronze: Namib Desert Lodge (B)
Gold: Sossusvlei Lodge (B, D)

Fri Swakopmund 290km
After breakfast we travel via the desolate, rolling hills of the Kuseb Moon Valley towards the Atlantic Ocean. In Walvis Bay we visit the shallow lagoon, one of the most important wetland areas on the African continent and a RAMSAR world heritage site. Over 80% of the African flamingoes feed in this lagoon and present a breathtaking picture when they appear in groups counting a few hundred thousand. Having arrived in the coastal town of Swakopmund, we have the rest of the day at leisure.

Bronze: Swakopmund Hotel (B)
Gold: Swakopmund Boutique Hotel / Hansa Hotel (B, D)



Sat Swakopmund

Swakopmund is the perfect location for walking tours, shopping, relaxing at a quaint coffee shop or along the sandy beaches. This being Namibia's playground, we also have a wide variety of activities on offer, ranging from dolphin cruises, desert tours and scenic flights to quad biking, paragliding, parachuting and kite surfing - to mention but a few.

Bronze: Swakopmund Hotel (B)

Gold: Swakopmund Boutique Hotel / Hansa Hotel (B, D)

Sun Damaraland 440km

Heading further north, we drive via the Brandberg, Namibia's highest mountain (2579m), into the Damaraland, one of the least populated and most geologically diverse areas in Africa. This harsh, rocky environment is home to the rare Desert Elephant, the Black Rhino and free-roaming antelope species.

Bronze: Damara Mopane Lodge (B)

Gold: Vingerklip Lodge (B, D)

Mon Etosha Area 500km

We start the morning with a visit to Twyfelfontein, a heritage site where Bushman communities engraved and painted over 2500 pictures some 6000 years ago! Close by we explore the Burnt Mountain, Organ Pipes and the Petrified Forest - all amazing geological phenomena depicting the creation and evolution of some of the oldest landmasses on earth. Here we also visit the Welwitschia mirabilis plant - the oldest living desert plant on earth! After a visit to a traditional Damara village we proceed on to our lodge situated close to the world-renowned Etosha National Park, and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Bronze: Etosha Safari Camp (B)

Gold: Epacha Game Lodge & Spa (B, D)

Tue Etosha National Park 300km

Today is devoted purely to the abundant wildlife found in the Etosha National Park, which surrounds a parched salt desert known as the Etosha Pan. The park is home to 4 of the Big Five - Elephant, Lion, Leopard and Rhino - its waterholes support a rich diversity of birds and mammals, including rare species such as black-faced Impala, roan, cheetah, & Namibia's smallest antelope, the Damara Dik-Dik.

Bronze: Etosha Safari Camp (B)

Gold: Epacha Game Lodge & Spa (B, D)

Wed Etosha National Park 470km

Today we again game drive in the Etosha National Park. We may encounter animal species we have not seen the previous day and look forward to any new surprises at the different waterholes visited. In the afternoon we travel to our lodge, where we enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

Bronze: Kempinski Mokuti Lodge (B)

Gold: Emana@Etosha (B, D)

Thu Return to Windhoek 420km

After breakfast we continue southwards to Windhoek, where we visit the craft markets in the main street of the capital city, where after we are driven to our hotel or to the international airport for our return flight. (B)

