Provisional Itinerary
Namibia 2015
7th-17th July '15

Sossusvlei / Swakopmund
Damaraland &
Etosha National Park



Tuesday 7th July

# Cape Town - Windhoek

Air Namibia



We are booked on the Air Namibia 5pm flight to Windhoek, where a vehicle awaits to transfer us to our overnight accommodation, *The Windhoek Country Club*. We drive through mountainous terrain to Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. With roughly 350,000 inhabitants Windhoek constitutes the largest city in the country and is situated in a lush and scenically appealing valley of the *Auas Mountains*, Namibiacs second highest mountain range.

Tonight we have dinner in the Hotel

<u>Hotel: Windhoek Country Club Resort (D, B)</u> a luxurious 4-star hotel conveniently located only 8.8km from the centre of Windhoek. Their buffets are renowned.

Wednesday 8th July

### **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 the lodge.

Hammerstein Lodge (D, B): is in close proximity to the beautiful Sossusvlei region

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July Namib Desert 260km



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 camera. **Sossusvlei**, where the mostly dry Tsauchab River ends abruptly amongst majestic dunes, sees (some of) 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.

<u>Namib Desert Lodge (D, B):</u> lies at the foot of ancient fossilised dunes and is an ideal base to explore the region.



Email: brian@traveltime.co.za / www.traveltime.co.za





After breakfast we travel via the desolate, rolling hills of the *Kuiseb 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 Swakopmund, the rest of the day is spent at leisure.

<u>Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre (B):</u> is a 4-star luxury establishment built in and around an impeccably restored historical station building.

## Saturday 11th

## **Swakopmund**



Swakopmund is the perfect location for walking tours, shopping, relaxing at a quaint coffee shop or taking a strollalong the sandy beaches.

Being Namibias playground, a wide variety of activities are on offer, ranging from dolphin cruises, desert tours and scenic flights to adventure activities for the young in body and sole (quad biking, paragliding, parachuting and kite surfing).

It should be noted that most of these excursions should be pre booked. (Day before)

# Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre (B)

Sunday 12th Damaraland 450km



Heading further north, we travel via the Brandberg, Namibias highest mountain (2579m), into the Damaraland, one of the least populated and geologically diverse areas in Africa. This harsh, rocky environment is home to the rare desert elephant, the black rhino and free-roaming antelope species.

We visit *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 geological phenomenas 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 on the edge of the Damaraland.

**Igowati Lodge (D, B):** is the perfect stopover when you are on your way to see the wonders of Damaraland. **iGowati means desert dunes.** 





After a relaxed breakfast, we travel towards the Etosha National Park, famous for its vast amount of wildlife and unique landscape. Once we have reached our camp, we have the rest of the day at leisure, but can optionally also book an afternoon game drive in open vehicles with the lodge.

Special attractions at the Camp are the Okambashu Restaurant and the Oshebeena Bar, styled like a typical little township bar and brimming with African joie de vivre.

Etosha Safari Camp (D, B): is situated just 10 km south of Andersson Gate, between Outjo and Okaukuejo .

Tuesday 14th July Etosha National Park 200km



Following breakfast we head into the Etosha National Park. The day 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. The waterholes support a rich diversity of birds and mammals, including rare species such as black-faced impala, roan, cheetah, and Namibias smallest antelope, the Damara dik-dik.

<u>Makuti Etosha Lodge (D, B):</u> As the closest lodge to Etosha National Park, Mokuti is only four minutes drive from the eastern Von Lindequist Gate near the historical *Namutoni Fort*.

Wednesday 15th July

# **Etosha National Park**

300km

540km



Today we again take a 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.

#### Makuti Etosha Lodge (D, B)

# Thursday 16th July



After breakfast travel south towards Windhoek. After strolling through one of the large craft markets in *Okahandja*, your route takes you between high mountain ranges back to the capital city. Here you can visit the craft markets or do some last minute shopping or just relax at your hotel.

<u>Windhoek Country Club (D, B)</u> - a luxurious 4-star hotel conveniently located only 8.8km (5.5mi) from the centre of Windhoek.

Windhoek

Friday 17th July Windhoek Airport 20km



After breakfast we will spend the day in Windhoek before travelling the short distance to the Windhoek (Hosea Kutako) International Airport for our 16h35 outbound flight to Cape Town.

On arrival in Cape Town, Hylton Ross shuttles will be waiting to take us home.

#### **TOUR SUMMARY**

DAY	ACCOMMODATION	MEAL BASIS	ACTIVITIES	KM
Tuesday	Windhoek Country Club	Dinner / Breakfast	Travel by air from Cape Town	
Wednesday	Hammerstein Lodge	Dinner / Breakfast	Travel into the Namib Desert	430
Thursday	Namib Desert Lodge	Dinner / Breakfast	Excursion to Sossusvlei, visit the surreal Dead Vlei on foot, Sesriem Canyon excursion.	260
Friday	Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre	Breakfast incl. / Dinner not included. Own choice of Restaurant	Scenic drive via Ghaub and Kuiseb Canyons, visit Walvis Bay lagoon and bird island	300
Saturday	Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre	Breakfast / Dinner as for Friday	At leisure - book any activities with your consultant	
Sunday	Igowati Lodge	Dinner / Breakfast	Excursion to Twyfelfontein, Burnt Mountain, Organ Pipes and Petrified Forest. Visit a traditional Damara village	450
Monday	Etosha Safari Camp	Dinner / Breakfast	Optional afternoon game drive in open vehicles with the lodge / wellness treatment	220
Tuesday	Mokuti Etosha Lodge	Dinner / Breakfast	Full day Etosha game Drive in tour vehicle	200
Wednesday	Mokuti Etosha Lodge	Dinner / Breakfast	Full day Etosha game Drive in tour vehicle	300
Thursday	Windhoek Country Club	Dinner	Travel back to Windhoek	540
Friday		Breakfast	Travel back to Cape Town by air	

Alternative accommodation may be used

Price per person sharing for this 11 day tour as detailed:

R25,380 per person in a twin room, based on a minimum of 10 passengers.

Single supplement is R3,620

The airfare is R4,600 per person (including taxes) and is subject to change until your booking is confirmed. Total price including airfare is: R29,980 sharing / R33,600 single

To secure your place on this tour, payment is required as follows: 10% (R2,998) on booking / 40% (R11,992) on 7th January '15; and 50% (R14,990) on 7th May '15.

## **Included / Excluded in this Itinerary:**

Included	Excluded	
All transfers and transport as per itinerary	All lunches (driver will stop at suitable place if required)	
Accommodation and meals as indicated in the itinerary	All expenses of a personal nature	
Porterages during the whole trip	All optional excursions and activities	
Entrance Fees at all parks which are visited in Namibia	Tips	
Bottled water on the bus	International and local Flights and Taxes, other than quoted	
English Speaking Guide/ Driver	Travel Insurance	
Medrescue		
Air conditioned Coach		

# This proposal is:

Subject to Traveltime Trading Terms & Conditions 2013. (Request a copy) / Subject to availability of accommodation and services at time of booking and subject to unforeseeable increases in supplier tariffs / Valid for travel in <u>July</u> 2015

Should you have any questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Coombes on **021 557 0794 or brian@traveltime.co.za**