

NAMIBIA HIGHLIGHTS (NH)

9 Days

Windhoek to Windhoek

Classification	Classic & Superior			
Pax - Classic - Superior	2 – 16 guests			
	2 – 6 guests			
Vehicle	Minibus or Coach			
Languages	Bilingual English / German			
Driver / Tour Guide	Services of registered driver guide throughout the tour			
Included	<p>Meals: All meals as specified in the itinerary Classic: 8 x Breakfasts Superior: 8 x Breakfasts; 7 x Lunches; 6 x Dinners</p> <p>Drinks: Superior: Selected Beverages</p> <p>Entrance Fees: Namib Naukluft National Park; Twyfelfontein; Petrified Forest; Living Museum of the Damara; Etosha National Park</p> <p>Portages Still Mineral Water on Bus Activities as specified Accommodation as specified Tourism levy & Government Taxes where applicable 24hrs Medical Evacuation Insurance</p>			
Pick Up	Collection by your guide at the International airport if arrival is before 09h00, or directly at your pre-booked hotel / guesthouse in Windhoek			
Excluded	All International / Domestic Flights & taxes Visas Travel & Personal accident insurance Personal Expenses Excursions / Activities not specified Gratuities			
Optional Extras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity package (Classic version): - Namib Desert nature drive - Catamaran/marine cruise - Etosha open safari vehicle game drive - Additional Excursions / Activities on request 			
Meal Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This tour can be booked on either Breakfast only or ad Dinner, Bed & Breakfast option - Only nights in Swakopmund exclude dinner 			
Departure Dates				
	Tour Language:	Bilingual	Bilingual (Classic only)	English
	Departure Days:	WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY
2020	November	11, 25	21	18
	December	2, 9	-	-
2021	January	13, 27	-	-
	February	10, 24	-	-
	March	10, 24	-	-
	April	21	3	7
	May	5, 19	15	-
	June	16,	-	2,30
	July	14, 28	17, 31	-
	August	4, 18, 25	14	11
	September	1, 15, 22, 29	11, 25	8
	October	13, 20, 27	9, 23	6

Special Discount / No Single Supplement

- Arrival flights on the day of tour departure to be no later than 09h00
- Same day flight departures out of Windhoek International are only possible after 19h00

TRAVEL WITH A PURPOSE!

Discover the main highlights in Namibia, from the awe-inspiring seas of sand of the Namib desert, the cultures and impressive landscapes of Damaraland and the variety and amounts of wildlife. This tour showcases the significant highlights of the country. This safari is ideal as an introduction or as a once only visit.

Day 1 | WEDNESDAY / SATURDAY NAMIB DESERT

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 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.

Classic: The Elegant Desert Lodge

Superior: Sossusvlei Lodge - Dinner

Day 2 | THURSDAY / SUNDAY SOSSUSVLEI / NAMIB DESERT

The morning demands an early start. Entering the Namib Naukluft National Park shortly after sunrise, the first rays of sunlight 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. You will be captivated by the surreal **Deadvlei** surrounded by some of the highest dunes on earth and **Sossusvlei**, where the dry Tsauchab River ends abruptly amongst dunes. Take the opportunity to walk up one of these majestic dunes to admire the desert landscape beneath. After that, we visit the **Sesriem Canyon**, a life-sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert.

Classic: The Elegant Desert Lodge – Desert Breakfast

Superior: Sossusvlei Lodge – Desert Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)

Day 3 | FRIDAY / MONDAY SWAKOPMUND

After breakfast we continue our journey approaching the little settlement of Solitaire on the edge of the Namib Naukluft National Park, feeling like you have arrived in the middle of nowhere. Here it is worthwhile to enjoy a cup of coffee with the delightful apple-pie written about in so many travel books before travelling via the desolate, rolling hills of the Kuiseb Valley towards the Atlantic Ocean. Reaching the coastal harbour town of 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 Africa's lesser flamingos breed in this lagoon and present a breath-taking picture when they appear in groups. Continuing along the scenic route between the dune belt and the Atlantic Ocean we reach **Swakopmund**, where the rest of the day is spent at leisure. With palm-lined streets and seaside promenades, Swakopmund is a popular holiday destination in Namibia. Its pleasant summer climate and long stretched beaches attract anglers and surfers from all over Southern Africa. For the international guest, Swakopmund is a bohemian mix of German architecture and African rhythms, a laid back attitude with adrenalin activities, misty mornings and desert heat. It is colourful, it is vibrant, but most of all, it is pure fun.

Classic: Europa Hof Hotel - Breakfast

Superior: Strand Hotel – Breakfast, Light Lunch

Day 4 | SATURDAY / TUESDAY SWAKOPMUND

Swakopmund is often fondly referred to as the "playground of Namibia", it has numerous activities ranging from, adventure to exploring the fascinating features of the Namib Desert and the animals and plants that occur and survive here. Embrace the relaxed pace of this idyllic coastal town while enjoying coffee and freshly baked pastries in one of the many café's. Alternatively explore the rugged, sweltering desert on a day tour, or view this excellent, environment from the air on a scenic flight. Find your inner child and push adrenaline to its limits with extreme adventures such as skydiving over the desert or quad biking and sand boarding on the dunes. Take time to get the feel of this quaint town with its historic buildings, museums, shopping arcades and beach bar that has transformed into its personality by the vibrant use of colour and the bohemian lifestyle.

Classic: Europa Hof Hotel - Breakfast

Superior: Strand Hotel – Breakfast & Marine Cruise

Day 5 | SUNDAY / WEDNESDAY

DAMARALAND

Today we head further north, travelling along the skeleton coastline towards the Fisherman's town of Hentisbay before turning east and heading back inland past the **Brandberg**, Namibia's highest mountain (2.579m), into the Damaraland, one of the least populated and most geologically diverse areas in Africa. This harsh, rocky environment is home to the elusive desert elephant, the black rhino and free-roaming antelope species. Accompanied by a local Damara guide, we visit **Twyfelfontein**, a UNESCO heritage site where Bushman communities engraved and painted over 2.500 pictures some 6.000 years ago! After a visit to the nearby **Living Museum of the Damara**, we proceed to the **Petrified Forest** - a geological phenomenon depicting the creation and metamorphosis of wood into stone amongst some of the oldest landmasses on Earth. Here we also see the **Welwitschia mirabilis** plant – the oldest living desert plant on Earth.

Guests traveling on the Superior tour continue, after their visits to the local attractions, to their lodge located in the vicinity of Twyfelfontein. Here guests have the remaining afternoon at leisure to relax at the refreshing pool or terrace overlooking a wide open plain, with rocky outcrops lining the horizon.

Classic: Damara Mopane Lodge or similar- Breakfast

Superior: Twyfelfontein Country Lodge – Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)

Day 6 | MONDAY / THURSDAY

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Our destination today is the wildlife heaven of Namibia - the Etosha National Park. Guests traveling on the Superior tour today visit the **Petrified Forest**. The geological phenomenon found here depicts the creation and metamorphosis of wood into stone amongst some of the oldest landmasses on Earth. Here we also see the **Welwitschia mirabilis** plant – the oldest living desert plant on Earth. Before continuing to the Etosha National Park where we check into our lodge located on the border of the Etosha National Park, we today already enter the park for our first game viewing excursion. Together with our guide, we explore the various waterholes located close to Okaukuejo and the Anderson gate.

Classic: Etosha Safari Camp - Breakfast

Superior: Etosha Oberland – Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)

Day 7 | TUESDAY / FRIDAY

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 Park was proclaimed as Namibia's first conservation area in 1907 by the then Governor, von Lindequist. Despite the size of the Etosha National Park, only the southern edge of the pan is accessible to visitors. Game viewing in the park is primarily focussed around the waterholes, some of which are spring fed and some supplied from a borehole, ideal places to sit and watch over 114 different game species, or for an avid birder, more than 340 bird species. Popular game species such as giraffe, blue wildebeest, plains and mountain zebra, hyena, lion, leopard, antelopes such as kudu, oryx, eland, as well as some of the endangered species such as Black rhino, cheetah and the black-faced impala are all found here. An extensive network of roads link the over 30 water holes allowing visitors the opportunity of a comprehensive game viewing safari throughout the park as each different area will provide various encounters.

Classic: Mokuti Etosha Lodge - Breakfast

Superior: Onguma Collection – Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)

Day 8 | WEDNESDAY / SATURDAY

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Today your guide again takes you on a game drive in the Etosha National Park, or optionally you can book an open game drive park drive with the lodge. We may encounter animal species we have not seen the previous day and look forward to any new surprises at the different waterholes visited. The Etosha Pan dominates the park. This salt pan desert, which is nearly completely enclosed by the park and is lined by numerous watering holes, is roughly 130 km long and as wide as 50 km in places. During Etosha's notorious dry spells the pan is a deathly place, lying parched and cracked under the molten African sun. It is claimed that game viewing is best during the dry periods as animals will then congregate closer to water. But even in the rainy season, the park remains an abundant wildlife haven. You then have the pleasure of experiencing the rebirth of life as the young foals, cubs and chicks are seen frolicking with their parents, and the sprouting new green shrubs and grasses create a pleasing green oasis. In the

afternoon we travel back to our lodge, where we enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure. An optional open vehicle game drive can be booked with the lodge.

Classic: Mokuti Etosha Lodge - Breakfast

Superior: Onguma Collection – Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)

Day 9 | THURSDAY / SUNDAY

DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we travel back through the centre of the country exposing bush land savannah to the capital in the centre of the country. Time permitting, en-route we may stop at the famous wood carvers market in Okahandja or the craft market in the main street in Windhoek to pick up the last few souvenirs. Windhoek is a cosmopolitan melting pot of European architecture with African culture, with a variety of excellent restaurants to choose from. You will be dropped off at your accommodation of choice, or transferred to the airport for your outward flight.

Classic: Breakfast

Superior: Breakfast, light lunch

TOUR SUMMARY:

DAY	ACCOMMODATION	MEAL BASIS	ACTIVITIES	KM
1	The Elegant Desert Lodge		Transfer to the heart of the Namib Desert to meet up with rest of group.	280
2	The Elegant Desert Lodge	Breakfast	Excursion to Sossusvlei, visit the surreal Dead Vlei on foot followed by a desert breakfast, Sesriem Canyon excursion	170
3	Europa Hof Hotel	Breakfast	Scenic drive through Gaub and Kuiseb Canyons, visit RAMSAR Walvis Bay lagoon	350
4	Europa Hof Hotel	Breakfast	Day at leisure, book any activities through your guide	
5	Damara Mopane Lodge	Breakfast	Travel to Damaraland with excursions to excursion to Twyfelfontein, Visit a Living Museum of the Damara tribe and Petrified Forest	480
6	Etosha Safari Camp	Breakfast	Travel on to the border of the Etosha National Park, Afternoon game viewing with your guide	200
7	Mokuti Etosha Lodge	Breakfast	Full day Etosha game drive in tour vehicle with Sense of Africa Guide	300
8	Mokuti Etosha Lodge	Breakfast	Full day Etosha game Drive in tour vehicle with Sense of Africa Guide (<i>optional open game drive vehicle can be booked with the lodge</i>)	200
9	Windhoek	Breakfast	Travel back to Windhoek where your guide will drop you of at the airport or individually booked hotel	540

Alternative accommodation may be used

TOUR SUMMARY:

DAY	ACCOMMO-DATION	MEAL BASIS	ACTIVITIES	KM
1	Sossusvlei Lodge	Dinner	Transfer to the heart of the Namib Desert, Optional afternoon activities	320
2	Sossusvlei Lodge	Breakfast, light lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)	Excursion to Sossusvlei, visit the surreal Dead Vlei on foot followed by a desert breakfast, Sesriem Canyon excursion	120
3	Strand Hotel	Breakfast, Light Lunch	Scenic drive through Gaub and Kuiseb Canyons, visit RAMSAR Walvis Bay lagoon	350
4	Strand Hotel	Breakfast	Catamaran marine cruise with fresh oysters and sparkling wine is served	80
5	Twyfelfontein Country Lodge	Breakfast, Light Lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)	Travel along the skeleton coastline towards Damaraland, afternoon Excursion to Twyfelfontein and Living Museum of the Damara	330
6	Etosha Oberland	Breakfast, Light Lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)	En-route to the Etosha National Park visit the Petrified Forest, Afternoon Etosha game drive in tour vehicle with Sense of Africa Guide	340
7	Onguma Collection	Breakfast, Light Lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)	Full day Etosha game Drive in tour vehicle with Sense of Africa Guide	360
8	Onguma Collection	Breakfast, Light Lunch, Dinner (incl. Selected Beverages)	Full day Etosha game Drive in tour vehicle with Sense of Africa Guide (<i>optional open game drive vehicle can be booked with the lodge</i>)	250
9	Windhoek	Breakfast, Light Lunch	Travel back to Windhoek or extend your stay in the Auas Mountains near Windhoek	540

Alternative accommodation may be used