

UNTAMED NAMIBIA (UN)

13 Days

Windhoek to Windhoek

TRAVEL WITH A PURPOSE!

Untamed Namibia lets you experience our diverse cultures in the regions while visiting the unique highlights of Namibia. Whether it is taking a walk and stretching your legs in some remarkable landscapes and environments, or following off the beaten tracks through majestic geological formations, seeing wildlife up close – this tour gets to touch Namibia under its skin. Meet people and follow their way of traditional living, learn about the survival strategies of the last few remaining nomadic tribes. Combined with the traditional highlights, Etosha's wildlife kingdom, the ever-changing landscapes and the world's highest dunes at Sossusvlei, this is a safari into the heart of Namibia, its people, its wildlife and its land.

Classification	Explorer	
Small Group Travel	2 – 16 guests	
Vehicle	Minibus or Coach	
Languages	English / German / French	
Driver / Tour Guide	Services of registered driver guide throughout the tour	
Included	Meals: All meals as specified in the itinerary 12 x Breakfast; 1 x Dinner Entrance Fees: Etosha National Park; Himba Village; Twyfelfontein; Living Museum of the Damara; Namib Naukluft National Park Portages Still Mineral Water on bus Activities as specified Accommodation as specified Tourism levy & Government Taxes where applicable 24hrs Medical Evacuation Insurance	
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	- Additional Excursions / Activities on request	
Meal Options	- the tour can be booked as Bed & Breakfast or - on Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (<i>Excluding Swakopmund</i>)	
Departure Dates		
	Tour Language: Bilingual	
	Departure Days: WEDNESDAY	
2020	November	4, 18
	December	2
2021	January	6
	February	10
	March	3
	April	7
	May	5
	June	9
	July	7, 21
	August	4, 18
	September	1, 15, 29
	October	13, 27

- Same day flight departures out of Windhoek International are only possible after 19h00

Day 1 | Wednesday

CENTRAL NAMIBIA

Meet your guide at the Airport or upon collection at your pre-booked hotel in Windhoek. He will be your first contact during the forthcoming safari and unforgettable vacation to some of the most spectacular places in Namibia. Leaving Windhoek we head north through Okahandja and through one of the biggest private game reserves Namibia offers, traveling through beautiful farmland and scenic mountain bush land. Before reaching your hosts for the first night in Namibia your guide stops along the scenic road and welcomes you in typical Namibian fashion with refreshment and some snacks while taking you through the adventures lying ahead. You immediately feel free and welcome in the country we call home. Arriving at the Guestfarm located directly on the banks of the Omaruru River, you have the afternoon at leisure to engulf the serene atmosphere, sitting around the evening campfire getting to know the fellow travelers.

Klein Eden Guestfarm

Day 2 | Thursday

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Our first Safari is awaiting us! We travel to the border of the famous and well-renowned wildlife haven - Etosha National Park. The afternoon is devoted to the abundant wildlife found in the National Park, which surrounds a parched salt desert known as the Etosha Pan. Despite the size of the Etosha National Park, only the edges of the pan are accessible to visitors. Game viewing in the park is primarily focused 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 the visitor an opportunity to do a real game viewing safari throughout the park as each different area will provide various encounters. Late afternoon we will exit the park for our accommodation located outside the Park.

Mondjila Safari Camp - Breakfast

Day 3 | Friday

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Today your guide takes you on a game drive exploring the Etosha National Park. We may encounter wildlife we have not seen the previous day. Dominating the Etosha National Park is the endless salt pan desert, which is nearly completely enclosed by the park. It is roughly 130 km long and as wide as 50 km in places. During Etosha's notorious dry spells the pan is an eerie place, lying parched and cracked under the unforgiving 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 camp, where we enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure recalling the sightings of the last two days. It is possible to optionally book a game drive with an open game drive, your guide will be of assistance to you with making a booking.

Mondjila Safari Camp - Breakfast

Day 4 | Saturday

KAOKOLAND

We cross the park towards the Galton Gate to explore the northwestern parts of the park. We continue travelling north towards the Kaokoland, where we reach our country lodge situated on a hilltop just outside of Opuwo, the bustling capital of Kaokoland, providing comfortable accommodation and endless views across the mountainous bush land of northern Namibia. Enjoy the vista from the terrace of your room or from the edge of the refreshing pool.

Opuwo Country Lodge – Breakfast

Day 5 | Sunday
KAOKOLAND

After waking up to the sounds of untouched nature the day will take you exploring the local Himba culture. Your Hotel is in exclusive agreement with the Local Authority and Himba Chief to visit his traditional homestead. There are about 11 traditional villages in the vicinity of Opuwo. Here you are able to meet and greet the Himba people with your guide / interpreter. You will have ample time to ask questions; interact and photograph one of the last remaining nomadic tribes of Africa, while our guide answers and explains the Himbas intricate traditions, customs and beliefs. The Himba have managed to maintain much of their traditional lifestyle, perhaps since the land they inhabit is extraordinarily harsh and unyielding that the colonialists and commercial farmers have rarely covered it. Today the Himba live as they have for centuries. We then proceed back to modern comforts at our hotel to enjoy the remaining day cooling of in the sparkling swimming pool.

Opuwo Country Lodge – Breakfast

Day 6 | Monday
DAMARALAND

After an early breakfast and the cultural highlight we travel further south past the western border of the Etosha National Park and through Kamanjab to the Clay Terraces of the Ugab River in Damaraland, one of the least populated areas on earth. From the elevated terrace of our lodge we enjoy endless views onto the Ugab terrace and Mopane savannah.

Ugab Terrace Lodge - Breakfast

Day 7 | Tuesday
DAMARALAND

We depart the clay terraces lining the Ugab River, which we will meet again further downstream in a complete different setting later in the afternoon. On route, our stops today include the Petrified Forest and a stop at the Twyfelfontein UNESCO Heritage sight, before visiting the Living Museum of the Damara. After a short journey we arrive on the banks of the Ugab River, which is home to the elusive desert elephant and our accommodation for the night. We recommend the participation in an optional nature drive in the striking Ugab river bed in search of desert elephants that reside in this fragile eco-system. Returning to the lodge enjoy a sundowner on your terrace or from the lounge offering unmatched views of the Brandberg.

Brandberg White Lady Lodge - Breakfast

Day 8 | Wednesday
SPITZKOPPE

While enjoying a steaming cup of coffee relax and enjoy the nature waking up to the rising sun and enjoying a delightful breakfast we have the option to stretch our legs walking on one of the walking trails taking us to the White Lady Bushman painting before continuing through Uis, past the Erongo Mountain range and towards the Matterhorn of Namibia - the Spitzkoppe. Here we spend the night in a unique and local Damara community run Tented Camp at the foot of the Spitzkoppe. This allows us easy access to walk along the Spitzkoppe and its magnificent boulders, setting the perfect scenery for an unforgettable Namibian sundowner.

Spitzkoppe Mountain Tented Camp – Breakfast

Day 9 | Thursday
SWAKOPMUND

On the previous evening your guide will have approached you to discuss today's proceedings as you have the option of starting a bit later and after breakfast explore Bushmans paradise on a walking trail taking you into the Spitzkoppe mountains or depart early to the coastal town of Swakopmund and stop at a local laid back café too enjoy a relaxed brunch before checking into your hotel. Departing the greater Erongo region you continue traveling towards the Atlantic Ocean. Reaching the coast, we arrive in 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 climate and long stretched beaches attract anglers and surfers from all over. 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 colorful, it is vibrant, but most of all, it is fun.

Swakopmund Plaza Hotel – Breakfast

Day 10 | Friday

SWAKOPMUND

Swakopmund is often fondly referred to as the "playground of Namibia", as 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 undulating dunes and expanse of the desert on a living desert 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 natural materials used.

Swakopmund Plaza Hotel - Breakfast

Day 11 | Saturday

NAMIB DESERT

Today we continue south into the heart of the Namib Desert, the seas of sand of which have also been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site. Our journey takes us via two geologically interesting canyons (*Kuiseb and Ghaub*) and endless desert plains into the vicinity of Sossusvlei. Our Eco Camp, in harmony with its surroundings, is located close to Sesriem, the gateway to Sossusvlei, Dead Vlei and Sesriem Canyon, offering genuine Namibian hospitality within the magnificent desert vistas.

The Elegant Desert Camp / Lodge - Breakfast

Day 12 | Sunday

SOSSUSVLEI / NAMIB DESERT

The morning demands an early start. Entering the Namib Naukluft National Park with 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. Enjoying our breakfast snack in the shade of one of the ancient camelthorn trees we visit the Sesriem Canyon, a life-sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert. We then return to our desert hideaway and enjoy stunning views of the wide-open plains during sunset. The evening and tour is concluded with an **exceptional dinner experience**. Set not far from the lodge we meet for dinner under the open starlit sky and enjoy a traditional **"Namibian braai dinner"**

The Elegant Desert Camp / Lodge – Breakfast, Dinner

Day 13 | Monday

DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we travel back through an ever-changing landscape of the Naukluft Mountain range, from white gravel plains to shrub bush vegetation to bushland savannah, until we reach the capital in the center of the country. 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.

Breakfast

TOUR SUMMARY:

DAY	ACCOMMODATION	MEAL BASIS	ACTIVITIES	KM
1	Klein Eden Guestfarm		Pick up by the guide at your Windhoek Accommodation. Optional afternoon bush walks along the Omaruru River	320
2	Mondjila Safari Camp	Breakfast	Afternoon Game Drive into Etosha National Park with SOA Guide & Vehicle	310
3	Mondjila Safari Camp	Breakfast	Full Day Game Drive into Etosha National Park with SOA Guide & Vehicle	250
4	Opuwo Country Lodge	Breakfast	Morning Game Drive through Etosha National Park with SOA Guide & Vehicle, on route to the capital of Kaokoland	400
5	Opuwo Country Lodge	Breakfast	Visit an authentic Himba village	150
6	Ugab Terrace Lodge	Breakfast	Continue south into Damaraland where our lodge offers spectacular views onto the Ugab clay terraces	410
7	Brandberg White Lady Lodge	Breakfast	Explore ancient fossilized trees, cultural history at Twyfelfontein and the Damara Living Museum, Optional afternoon game drive in search of Desert Elephants in the Ugab River	300
8	Spitzkoppe Mountain Tented Camp	Breakfast	Walking trail to the popular White Lady Rock Painting before traveling onwards to the iconic Spitzkoppe where your guide spoils you with an unforgettable Sundowner before returning to Camp	150
9	Swakopmund Plaza Hotel	Breakfast	Either enjoy an early morning walk to Bushman Paradise or depart early towards Swakopmund escaping the heat to enjoy a brunch at one of the coastal cafes, Afternoon at leisure	160
10	Swakopmund Plaza Hotel	Breakfast	Optional Activities in Swakopmund & Walvis Bay such as Kayaking, Quad Biking, Fat bike dune rides, Living Desert Tour or Marine Cruise in the lagoon of Walvis Bay	150
11	The Elegant Desert Camp / Lodge	Breakfast	Scenic Drive through Ghaub and Kuiseb Canyons into the heart of the Namib Desert In the afternoon you can join any of the optional activities offered at the lodge	390
12	The Elegant Desert Camp / Lodge	Breakfast, Dinner	Excursion to Sossusvlei, visit the surreal Dead Vlei on foot, Sesriem Canyon Excursion, Traditional Namibian Farewell braai	220
13	Departure	Breakfast	Return to Windhoek via the central Plateau.	440

Alternative accommodation may be used.