



REMOTE NAMIBIA SAFARI

This stylish safari adventure offers an unrivalled wilderness journey set against a backdrop of stunning dunes and rugged mountains. Enjoy fantastic game viewing on the private Ongava Reserve and in Etosha National Park, marvel at the highest freestanding dunes around Sossusvlei, and explore wild areas of the remote and dramatic north-west Namibia, bordering the Kunene River. Escorted by some of the country's most informative and engaging guides you will see aspects of Namibia's most beautiful areas seldom visited by other travellers. You will stay in some of the country's top lodges, while the tented camps offer elegance, style and

all the comforts. Camps in private reserves allow you an almost exclusive safari experience.

Day 1 - Flight to Namibia

Begin your Remote Namibia Safari with a scheduled overnight flight from London Heathrow to Windhoek, via Johannesburg, with *South African Airways*.

Includes dinner on the flight.

Day 2 – Windhoek

After clearing Namibian customs you will be met and transferred to a comfortable guesthouse situated in one of Windhoek's leafy suburbs. Take time this afternoon to relax by the pool or set off to explore the town. Choose among Windhoek's many good restaurants for dinner.

Includes breakfast on the flight.



Day 3 – Namib-Naukluft National Park

After breakfast your guide collects you at the guesthouse to begin your journey through Namibia. Heading southwestward, you stop for a picnic lunch on the escarpment of the Khomas Hochland highlands and enjoy the sweeping vistas below, before descending to the flat coastal plain of the Namib Desert. Here you'll stay at one of the lovely Kulala properties situated on a remote private desert reserve.



Accommodation will be in spacious and comfortable chalets known as kulalas. Each en-suite chalet has a well-designed luxurious interior, panoramic view of the surrounding landscapes and a rooftop 'sky bed' for anyone who wishes to spend the night stargazing under a clear African sky. The camp's main area houses a small bar, a dining area and a reference library and there's a refreshing swimming pool nearby.

During the afternoon, with your expert safari guide, you look more closely at the Namib Desert's unique fauna and flora by exploring the private Kulala Reserve, before enjoying a delicious candle-lit dinner.

Windhoek to Kulala Reserve: approx. 5.5 hours (340km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Day 4 – Namib-Naukluft National Park

You are woken before dawn, and then drive deep into the Namib Desert's Great Dune Field as the rising sun casts a warm glow over the desert plains. You'll enter Namib-Naukluft National Park through a private gate and follow the course of the ephemeral Tsauchab River. Your end point is Sossusvlei, where the river's path is finally swallowed into the great mass of apricot sand dunes; some towering up to 300 metres high. Experiencing this area while the morning light is soft, you'll see one of Namibia's most photogenic landscapes at its best; it's totally magical. Those energetic enough to climb a dune are rewarded by a stunning view from the top.



As the desert heats up in the late morning, you leave Sossusvlei and retreat to the cool haven of your lodge. Your chalet has a great view over the valley and the mountains beyond. Here, you can enjoy a swim in the pool, and perhaps a nature drive or walk in the locale.

Kulala to Sossusvlei to Kulala: approx. 2 hours (140km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Day 5 & 6 – Swakopmund

Today you travel northwest, traversing the vast Namib-Naukluft National Park and the impressive Gaub and Kuiseb canyons. This route takes you right across the Namib Desert – beside striking sand dunes, through dark craggy canyons and across wide, flat gravel plains dotted with isolated inselbergs. It's a spectacularly varied and scenic drive, with a chance to see some of the desert's wildlife and unique *Welwitschia* plants. A picnic stop en-route allows you to soak up this remote wilderness. Your journey ends in the historic German town of Swakopmund where you stay at the colonial style Hansa Hotel, said to be one of this pleasant coastal resort's oldest buildings.

Your second day begins with a short drive along the coast to the port town of Walvis Bay. Spend the morning on a boat cruise within Walvis Bay harbour, in search of close encounters with the Atlantic Ocean's rich marine life and diverse birdlife. Favourites are always the playful Cape fur seals and the rare Heaviside dolphins. A private lunch is set up for your safari group at a remote spot along the beach; the delicious fare usually includes the fresh seafood for which this area of Namibia is well known.



After lunch you return to Swakopmund, where your afternoon and evening on this day of the Remote Namibia Safari is free simply to relax or to explore the town's cafes, restaurants, waterfront, art galleries, museums, gem stores and curio markets.

Kulala to Swakopmund: approx. 5.5 hours (370km)

Includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Day 5 (dinner is excluded on Day 6, the second night in Swakopmund).

Day 7 – Damaraland Camp

As you drive north from Swakopmund, you travel along the infamous Skeleton Coast, perhaps stopping at Cape Cross to visit a huge breeding colony of Cape fur seals. Then, turning inland, you head northeast, using back roads to travel across the windswept gravel plains around Brandberg, Namibia's highest mountain, and into Damaraland. This is an area of stark desert beauty typified by sandstone mountains, plateaus and rare succulent plants sustained only by the sea mists. Depending on time, you may stop to explore remote petrified forests and the Gai As spring with its archaeological stone circles. You arrive at the lovely tented Damaraland Camp in the late afternoon, ready for a chilled sundowner drink around the campfire.



Swakopmund to Damaraland Camp: approx. 7 hours (365km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Days 8 & 9 – Desert Rhino Camp, Palmwag



This morning you take time to explore the ephemeral Huab River on a safari drive in search of desert-adapted elephant, before heading north through the mountains and into the immense Palmwag Reserve. Your destination is Desert Rhino Camp, situated deep in this 4,047km² private reserve in northwestern Namibia. Your accommodation at this wonderfully remote camp is in one of seven large walk-in tents, each with an en-suite bathroom. Although the surrounding landscape appears parched, a number of freshwater springs support an amazing variety of wildlife, including desert-adapted elephant, the rare Hartmann's mountain zebra, giraffe, oryx, springbok and kudu. It is even possible to see lion, cheetah, leopard, brown and spotted hyena here too.

This remote Namibia reserve is also home to a growing population of black rhino, the largest concentration outside a national park found anywhere in the world. The rhino here are protected and monitored by *Save the Rhino Trust* and part of your safari is spent tracking these magnificent animals of foot. Other activities include day and night nature drives.

Damaraland to Palmwag: approx. 4 hours (110km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Days 10 & 11 – Etosha National Park

Continue on your luxury Namibia safari to the private Ongava Game Reserve, adjacent to Etosha National Park's southern boundary. Arriving in the early afternoon, you have two nights at the excellent Ongava Tented Camp, from where you can explore this superb park.

Etosha National Park covers 22,270km² and is one of Africa's top game reserves. Days usually begin with 4WD safari explorations of Etosha, whilst in the afternoon and





evening the focus shifts to the equally productive private Ongava Reserve. Within the latter you may also be able to enjoy a short walking safari and end with a spot-lit drive back to camp, keeping a lookout for shy nocturnal species. All the safari drives use open 4WDs, so expect unrestricted views of the reserve's game.

Palmwag to Ongava Reserve: approx. 5 hours (350km)
Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Days 12 to 14 – Kunene Region or Skeleton Coast

You leave the roads and your safari vehicle behind to take a breathtaking flight over Namibia's dramatic desert landscapes.

For safari departures between March and end-August 2012, your destination is the first-rate Serra Cafema Camp, one of Namibia's remotest camps. Situated in the beautifully wild Hartmanns Valley the camp is nestled amongst Albida trees overlooking the Kunene River; the only source of fresh water in an otherwise arid landscape. This luxurious camp has only eight open-plan rooms, built in such a way as to make the most of the views over the river. Each is linked by raised walkways to the main buildings which include indoor and outdoor dining areas, a lounge and swimming pool.

Activities from Serra Cafema revolve around the discovery of great dune seas, windswept plains and rocky mountains. Hartmann's Valley is one of the few places where the unusual, and as yet unexplained, fairy circle phenomenon can be seen. Explore by 4WD, quad bikes, boat and on foot. Despite the harsh environment, animals such as oryx and springbok can be seen here and crocodiles reside in the Kunene. A possible cultural visit to a remote village of the semi-nomadic Himba people, if they are in the area, rounds off a fantastic experience in one of the most hauntingly beautiful spots on the planet.



For safari departures after 1 September 2012, your destination will be the new Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp. Due to its planned location we expect the camp and activities offered from here to be as remarkable. The finer details of what the camp will be like are still in the planning stages. Speak to us for any updates.



Ongava to Serra Cafema: flight approx. 2 hours
Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Day 15 - Windhoek

After a leisurely morning you depart on a light aircraft flight back to Windhoek. Your Remote Namibia Safari ends here and you bid your expert guide and the group farewell. You arrive back at your guesthouse in the late afternoon. Dinner is at your own expense today so you have the choice of Windhoek's many restaurants or the option of ordering in at the guesthouse.

Serra Cafema to Windhoek: flight approx. 3 hours
Includes breakfast and lunch.

Day 16 – Flight to London

Enjoy some free time in Windhoek before you are transferred to the airport in time to check-in for your return flight to London.

Includes breakfast. Dinner is on the flight.

Day 17 - Arrive in London

SAFARI INFORMATION

This luxury safari to Namibia offers an unrivalled journey through the country's remote wildernesses, set against a backdrop of stunning dunes and rugged mountains. Staying predominantly in remote lodges and tented camps on private nature reserves allows you an almost exclusive safari experience. You'll explore the wonders of the Namib Desert, soak up the colonial charm of coastal Swakopmund, marvel at the vastness of the remote Hartmann's Valley and go off the beaten track as you discover Damaraland and Palmwag wilderness areas. Throughout the safari your guide will enlighten you on Namibia's flora, fauna, history, geology, cultures and much more.

Guide

The Remote Namibia Safari is led by a personable, fully trained and experienced professional guide. Their in-depth local knowledge gives you a valuable insight to Namibia's cultures, history, fascinating geological formations, flora and fauna; as well as making them adept at seeking out wildlife.

Accommodation

Whilst on this luxury safari you will stay in welcoming guesthouses, at some of Namibia's top lodges, and in comfortable permanent tented camps. Many of the lodges and tented camps are situated in remote private reserves, offering you an exclusive and exceptional safari experience.

Most of the lodges have facilities to charge batteries and electronics, either in the guest rooms or at reception. We recommend that you travel with a plug adaptor should you need to charge any equipment. Namibia and South Africa share the same type of plug point (15 Amp, 3 large round pins, 220V), for which adaptors are relatively easy to find – more universally marked as suitable for use in South Africa.

Vehicles

Whilst on the road you will be transported in a specially modified enclosed *Land Rover* safari vehicle. Each vehicle takes a maximum of eight passengers. The vehicles are designed so that passengers have good forward visibility and comfort whilst on long drives between areas. They have 6 large sliding windows in the main cabin and a roll down window by the front passenger seat next to the guide. There is also a pop top roof which is opened during game drives, allowing passengers excellent photo opportunities.

The safari vehicle includes a fridge to keep drinks cool, a 12 volt cigarette lighter charging point (you must bring your own charging adaptor to be able to use this), individual seats with armrests, seatbelts, seat pockets and a small library with reference books and field guides.

A different type of vehicle may be used for the airport transfers, and excursions based from the lodges are often run in open 4WD safari vehicles specifically designed for game viewing.

Language

The Remote Namibia Safari is guided in English. Many of the safari guides are multilingual so they may also give explanations in other languages should some of the guests not be fluent in English.

Costs

The Remote Namibia Safari includes transport in a 4WD safari vehicle or a light aircraft; the services of a professional safari guide; accommodation in guesthouses, lodges and tented safari camps; park entrance fees; airport transfers; some beverages and laundry service as detailed below; and usually three meals a day as specified in the itinerary.

Meals

Three meals are included on most days of this luxury Namibian safari, other than lunch and dinner in Windhoek on Day 2, dinner in Swakopmund on Day 6, dinner in Windhoek on Day 15, and lunch on Day 16.

Drinks

A good selection of drinks such as soft drinks, beers, house wines, spirits, mineral water and tea/coffee are included during your stay at Desert Rhino Camp, Ongava Tented Camp and Serra Cafema. Premium and imported brands such as French champagne or single malt whiskies are not included in the safari price but are generally available to buy at an additional cost. Complimentary still mineral water is provided whilst travelling in the safari vehicle.

Drinks are not included whilst staying in Windhoek, on the Kulala Reserve, in Swakopmund or at Damaraland Camp and will be payable locally by you.

Single travellers

Should you be willing to share a twin room and if we are able to pair you with another guest of the same gender, who is also willing to share, then we can waive the single supplement. However, the single supplement will apply if no suitable match can be found.

Age of travellers

The Remote Namibia Safari accommodates children from the age of 12 years. Families with children under 12 years are welcome to request a private tailor-made safari quote.

Luggage

The Remote Namibia Safari includes a light aircraft flight from Ongava Reserve to the Serra Cafema and on to Windhoek. Because of this, a maximum luggage limit of 20kg (44lbs) per person strictly applies, including hand luggage and camera equipment. Luggage must be packed in soft squashable bags with maximum dimensions of 25cm wide x 30cm high x 62cm long (10 x 12 x 24 inches) - no hard suitcases or bags with wheels can be transported as they physically cannot fit into the light aircraft.

The luggage limit is seldom a problem as light, casual clothing is all that is needed plus at least one warm jumper or fleece. Warmer clothing is necessary during the winter months (June to August) when temperatures can drop to freezing overnight. There is also a laundry service available at most camps. Speak to us if the luggage restrictions are concerning you because for an additional cost we may be able to book an additional 'seat' to allow for extra luggage allowance.

Passengers weighing 100kg (220lbs) or more must advise us in advance. In this case an extra seat will have to be costed into the package price for safety purposes to balance out the additional weight. Please speak to us for more information.

Laundry

A complimentary laundry service is available whilst staying on the Kulala Reserve on Days 3 & 4, at Desert Rhino Camp on Days 8 & 9, Ongava Tented Camp on Days 10 & 11, and at Serra Cafema on Days 12 to 14. A laundry service is available at the Hansa Hotel in Swakopmund for an additional cost payable directly. Due to limited time, laundry is not available on the one night stay at Damaraland Camp.

Visa & passport requirements

You must have a valid passport together with onward travel documents in order to be granted entry into Namibia for your safari. To verify that you are visiting as a tourist you may be asked to show a copy of your itinerary as well confirmation of your ongoing flight. Your passport must be **valid for no less than 6 months** after your travel date and must include a **minimum of 3 blank pages** to accommodate customs stamps. If you do not fulfill these requirements you may be denied entry into Namibia (the same regulations also apply for South Africa).

It is our current understanding that travellers with a Canadian, British, American, New Zealand or Australian passport do not need to pre apply for a visa to visit South Africa or Namibia. These nationalities are automatically granted a tourist visa on arrival, at no cost. However, it remains **your responsibility** to double check the necessary requirements with your nearest relevant embassy or high commission in good time before you travel. You are also welcome to speak to us for the latest information we have to hand.