



REMOTE NAMIBIA SAFARI

This stylish safari adventure offers an unrivalled wilderness journey set against a backdrop of stunning dunes and rugged mountains. Marvel at the highest freestanding dunes around Sossusvlei, experience the stark scenery of the Skeleton Coast and explore wild areas of the remote and dramatic private Palmwag Reserve. 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 in private reserves offer elegance, style and all the comforts.

Day 1 – 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.

No meals included.



Day 2 – 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 Kulala Desert Lodge, 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, luxury, interior with panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes and a rooftop 'sky bed' for guests who wish to stargaze under a clear African sky. The lodge'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. End your day with a delicious candle-lit dinner.

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

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Day 3 – 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 desert valley and offers a great spot to relax in. During the afternoon you can enjoy a swim in the pool, and perhaps a nature drive or walk into the local area.

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

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.



Days 4 & 5 – Swakopmund

Board a light aircraft for a scenic flight over the Namib Desert and north along the coastline to Swakopmund Airport (weather permitting). A short road transfer will take you to 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. Start with a boat cruise in and around 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. Your skipper will drop you off on a deserted beach where you'll swap to a 4WD to explore the coastal dunes and salt pans.

After a private seafood 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. 90 minute scenic flight

Includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Day 4 (dinner is excluded on Day 5, the second night in Swakopmund).

Day 6 – Terrace Bay

As you drive north from Swakopmund, you travel along the infamous Skeleton Coast and into Skeleton Coast National Park. Your destination is Terrace Bay Resort; accommodation at the only lodge in this very remote corner of the wild coast is in much simpler, but still comfortable, en-suite rooms. On route you may stop to view the fascinating lichen plains at Wlotskasbaken, the ghostly remains of mining operations near Toscanini, and the remains of the *Zelia* shipwreck near Henties Bay and the *SW Seal* shipwreck near Ugabmund. It's a long drive through stark yet interesting landscapes.

Swakopmund to Terrace Bay: approx. 6.5 hours (380km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Days 7 & 8 – Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp

You delve deeper into the Skeleton Coast wilderness, driving through an area traversed by few visitors. Although you only cover about 140 kilometers today, the drive takes about five hours over little-used gravel roads. Pause at Mowe Bay where a park ranger maintains a small museum of shipwreck debris and records recounting the stories of shipwreck survivors. Other sights on route include the remains of the *Suiderkus* shipwreck, Klein Oase and Auses Springs hidden amongst the dunes, and an intriguing 'roaring' dune, all combined with whatever desert-adapted wildlife presents itself.



Spend two nights at the relatively new Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp (opened August 2014). Located in a broad valley at the confluence of two tributaries of the Hoanib River, the camp is surrounded by rugged scenery inhabited by plant and animal life that has adapted superbly to the harsh environment of mountains, vast plains, dunes and dry riverbeds. At night you'll stay in one of eight very smart en-suite tented rooms, and by day you'll seek out desert-adapted flora and fauna by vehicle or on foot.

Terrace Bay to Hoanib Camp: approx. 5 hours (140km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Days 9 & 10 – Desert Rhino Camp

It is a long yet interesting drive through the immense 4,047km² private Palmwag Reserve to Desert Rhino Camp. Your accommodation at this wonderfully remote camp is in one of eight 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 part of Namibia 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 by vehicle and then on foot.

Hoanib to Rhino Camp: approx. 8 hours (180km)

Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Day 11 – Windhoek

A last morning drive takes you to Doro Nawas Airstrip where 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.

Note: Talk to us about adding on a visit to the private Ongava Game Reserve, adjacent to Etosha National Park's southern boundary. Etosha National Park covers 22,270km² and is one of Africa's top game reserves. Days from

Ongava 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.

Two nights accommodation at either Ongava Tented Camp or Ongava Lodge and a flight transfer from Doro Nawas and on to Windhoek would cost about an additional GBP 1,389 / US\$1,753 per person from May to June or GBP 1,620 / US\$2,045 per person from July to November. Solo travellers incur a single supplement surcharge of GBP 171 / US\$215 from May to June; GBP 235 / US\$297 from July to November. The price includes meals, most drinks and all activities.

Rhino Camp to Windhoek: drive approx. 1.5 hours (85km) followed by flight approx. 2.5 hours
Includes breakfast and lunch.

Day 12 – Flight home

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

Includes breakfast.

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 Palmwag Reserve and go off the beaten track as you discover Skeleton Coast 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 seven 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 that 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.

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 1, dinner in Swakopmund on Day 5, dinner in Windhoek on Day 11, and lunch on Day 12.

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 Kulala Desert Lodge, Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp and Desert Rhino Camp. 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, in Swakopmund, and at Terrace Bay 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 some or all of 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 Kulala Desert Lodge to Swakopmund and from Desert Rhino Camp 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 may 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 at Kulala Desert Lodge, Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp and Desert Rhino Camp. A laundry service is available at the Hansa Hotel in Swakopmund for an additional cost payable directly.

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 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.