

**NEW AFRICAN FRONTIERS
NAMIBIA**

TOUR CODE: NSC016

12 DAY - DUNES & DELTA 4x4 ADVENTURE SAFARI

SAFARI TYPE: Scheduled Tour – Camping – Guided Safari
DUARATION: 12 Days / 11 Nights
DEPARTURE DAYS: Mondays (see departure dates below)
DEPARTURE LOCATION: Windhoek – Namibia
TOUR ENDS: Livingstone – Zambia
COUNTRIES VISITED: Namibia – Botswana - Zambia

ROUTING HIGHLIGHTS:

Windhoek - Namib Naukluft Park – Sesriem – Sossusvlei – Swakopmund – Windhoek – Etosha National Park – Bushmanland – Okavango Delta, Pan Handle, Botswana – Susuwe - Bwabwata National Park - Caprivi, Namibia – Livingstone, Zambia

A safari of contrast - from the dry desert landscapes of the Namib and the huge red sand dunes of Sossusvlei, the wildlife kingdom of Etosha NP and tracking with a bushman, to the tranquillity of the Okavango Delta finishing at Livingstone close to the mighty Victoria Falls, this trip offers it all.

This safari is a combination of the (NSC005) 4 day Sossusvlei & Swakopmund 4x4 Adventure Safari & the (NSC010) 8 day Bushman and Delta 4x4 Adventure Safari

ITINERARY:

Day 1

Windhoek - Namib Naukluft Park

You will be picked up from your accommodation on the day of departure within the city limits. You must be ready at least 45 minutes prior to your safari departure. The tour will depart Windhoek around 08:30. Driving through the rugged Khomas Hochland mountain range we then descend to the desert floor via the Gamsberg Pass, an imposing flat topped mountain and one of the highest points in Namibia, which provides a dramatic back drop for our roadside lunch. After a short stop at Solitaire, we arrive at camp mid afternoon and set up your tents underneath the ancient camel thorn trees then enjoy a late afternoon walk across the desert to Elim's Dune on the edge of the famous sand dune sea with views across to the nearby mountains. We return to camp just after sunset to enjoy our dinner prepared by guide and camp assistant.

OPTION TO UPGRADE ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (LD)

Day 2

Namib Naukluft Park – Sesriem - Sossusvlei

A pre-dawn departure from our campsite to drive to Sossusvlei, a 65kms drive in the darkness witnessing first light and shadows on the sand dunes before arriving at the heart of the famous sand dune sea of Namibia. We watch the sunrise from this spectacular and unique area (dependent on opening time of inner park gate). We head up a dune close to Sossusvlei then walk to Dead Vlei with its large expanse of bleached cracked clay and skeletal camel thorn trees scattered around, contrasting with a backdrop of huge orange-red dunes that make for superb photographic opportunities. We enjoy a mid morning brunch after exploring this dramatic and desolate landscape before returning to camp for a swim and this afternoon explore nearby

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Sesriem Canyon on foot. Enjoy another spectacular sunset surrounded by this colourful desert and sleep under the bright stars of the southern hemisphere. Overnight camping and dinner prepared by guide and camp assistant.

OPTION TO UPGRADE ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (BLD)

Day 3

Swakopmund

Early morning departure from camp stopping at the one horse town of Solitaire before continuing through the desert with its endless views across the pastel-coloured gravel plains to the port town of Walvis Bay. We visit the lagoon, which is a protected RAMSAR wetland site, where we may see the many species of birds including Greater and Lesser Flamingos, pelicans, avocets, plovers, the endemic Damara Tern as well as a visit to the nearby salt farm. We continue onto the quaint town of Swakopmund, full of historic buildings and where your guide will assist those wishing to book **optional** adventure activities such as sand boarding, quad biking, scenic flights, parachuting, dolphin cruises to name but a few, which you have time for this afternoon and tomorrow morning. Overnight in comfortable twin/double rooms with en-suite bathroom close to the town centre. Laundry facilities are available here. This evening's meal is a group dinner in a restaurant at client's own expense

Accommodation: Dunedin Star Guesthouse (BL)

Day 4

Windhoek

After breakfast you have the morning at leisure to enjoy the town and have a coffee and cake in one of the many cafes or participate in one of the many **optional** activities such as sand boarding or a dolphin cruise. After lunch at your accommodation your vehicle will return to Windhoek via the Okahandja craft market. Overnight accommodation included on a twin share basis. Evening meal at own expense

Accommodation: Chameleon Guesthouse (subject to availability) (BL)

Day 5

Etosha National Park

Depart Windhoek around 08:00. After stopping briefly at Otjiwarongo for fresh supplies we have lunch at the entrance to Etosha National Park, one of the best game reserves in Africa. We game drive to camp and if time permits game drive before sunset. Overnight camping. Dinner prepared by the Guide and Apprentice Guide and evening is spent around the campfire or at the floodlit waterhole by the camp, which is often frequented by the endangered black rhino. (BLD)

OPTION TO UPGRADE ACCOMMODATION

Accommodated: Rest Camp in Etosha National Park (BLD)

Day 6

Etosha National Park

Early morning and late afternoon game drives seeking the many species of animals found in this huge park including elephant, lion, leopard, the endangered cheetah, black and white rhino, and giraffe as well as many species of antelope and over 340 species of bird, a wildlife enthusiasts dream. We spend the hottest part of the day at camp either by the waterhole or the swimming pool before heading to Etosha Pan, one of the translations meaning "Great, White Place" to marvel at the shimmering mirages and distant horizons. Overnight camping. Dinner prepared by guide and camp assistant and evening spent around the campfire.

OPTION TO UPGRADE ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation: Onguma Camp (BLD)

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Day 7

Bushmanland

After breakfast we travel via Lake Otjikoto to Tsumeb for fresh supplies. A short lunch is taken at Hoba Meteorite – the largest meteorite in the world then we continue through to Grootfontein to refuel before entering the Kalahari. We arrive at our camp mid afternoon and walk with a San tracker to collect bush foods and learn how the traditional Bushmen collect and gather food – generally a fascinating experience for westerners where we are able to ask questions of how they survive in today's modern world. This evening we join the local community around the campfire for singing and dancing. Dinner prepared by guide and camp assistant

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (BLD)

Day 8

Okavango Delta, Pan Handle - Botswana

An early morning departure from camp takes us into the Kalahari basin via Tsumkwe and into our neighbouring country, Botswana. The sandy track takes us through the heart of the Kalahari to the panhandle section of the Okavango Delta. The last 13kms are 4x4 only and some pushing maybe required, but the jewel of the river edge awaits us at the end of the day and this wetland lies like an oasis in an otherwise harsh environment. Overnight camping and evening meal prepared by the guide and camp assistant.

Accommodation: Guma Lagoon Camp (BLD)

Day 9

Okavango Delta, Pan Handle - Botswana

We take only what we need – each of our guests can take only 1 small day pack and depart early morning initially in a motor boat and then in a mokoro (dug out canoe), we relax while our polers push us through this beautiful and unique area enjoying the tranquillity of the delta until we reach an island camp, our destination for the night. We'll have the opportunity to game walk and learn about this fragile and unique ecosystem. Overnight bush camping under a million stars with no facilities and evening meal prepared by the guide and camp assistant.

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (BLD)

Day 10

Okavango Delta, Pan Handle - Botswana

We enjoy more game walks and mokoro rides before we return to the luxury of our camp early afternoon for hot showers and toilets. Overnight camping close to the river and evening meal prepared by the guide and camp assistant

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (BLD)

Day 11

Susuwe - Bwabwata National Park - Caprivi, Namibia

An early morning start to cross the border back into Namibia and on to Mahango Game Reserve. This little jewel of a game reserve is home to many unusual species such as roan and sable antelope, buffalo, large herds of elephant, hippo and many aquatic birds not found in many areas of Namibia. We leave the park and have lunch overlooking Popa Falls before continuing through the Caprivi Strip to Susuwe National Park. This is a wild park where we camp without fences and spend an exhilarating night listening to the night sounds of the animals and maybe get the chance to enjoy "close up" encounters, please note that there are no fences and that wild animals such as hyena may wander through camp. Overnight camping and evening meal prepared by the guide and camp assistant

Accommodation: Overnight Camping (BLD)

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Day 12

Livingstone, Zambia

Breakfast and short game drive before heading through to Katima Mulilo. This busy and bustling town is the last frontier of Namibia and we glimpse our first sight of the mighty Zambezi River. We cross the border into Zambia and have lunch at a scenic location along the roadside. We arrive at Livingstone mid afternoon and we drop you at your accommodation. (B,L)

Approx total distance 3200kms

**2007/8 DEPARTURE DATES:
Every second Monday**

2007		2008											
Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
05	03	14	11	10	07	05	02	14	11	08	06	03	01
19	17	28	25	24	21	19	16	28	25	22	20	17	15
	31						30						29

**LOCAL PAYMENTS – N\$7150/PERSON + N\$1320 local payment in cash (South African Rand or Namibia Dollars ONLY payable on morning of safari departure)
+ US\$240/person/cash for Delta package**

OPTION OF UPGRADING ACCOMMODATION IN SESRIEM, OKAUKUEJO AND ONGUMA BUT DEPENDS ON AVAILABILITY.

TOUR NOTES:

ZAMBIAN VISAS – can be obtained through pre-booking an accommodation package in Livingstone. Please check with our safari office for more information. Should you book your own accommodation in Livingstone directly, you may be required to pay for a Zambian visa on arrival at the Zambian border. Please note this is a service that is offered but cannot always be guaranteed.

The Vehicles – 4x4 camping safaris

Our Safaris use 4x4 custom built Toyota Land Cruisers and a VW Minibus. All Toyota Land Cruisers are 9-seater vehicle with comfortable individual bucket seats fitted with seat belts for your safety. All our vehicles have a cool box on board with ice (when available) for your own drinks and is accessible whilst the vehicle is travelling. We use custom built off-road trailers to carry your luggage and other equipment required for the duration of your safari.

The camping equipment

We are using two types of tents on our safaris depending on the season you want to travel: During the wet season which normally starts from November and ends in April, we are using canvas tents, dome type, very easy to put up, spacious (250cm x 250cm x 200cm) and waterproof.

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During the dry season May through to end October we use mosquito netted dome tents (210cm x 210cm x 190cm) with 60cm high canvas from the floor for your privacy and comfort. These tents are perfect for sleeping under starry African skies safe from creepy crawlies. We also provide 6cm thick high density mattresses and a little pillow for your comfort.

Our scheduled safaris are conducted on the basis of limited participation, which means you are only required to erect and dismantle your tent. All other camp chores will be dealt with your guide and apprentice guide.

All camping equipment is supplied EXCEPT sleeping bags. These can be hired from us whilst you are on safari. The tents are 2 man dome tents with full mosquito netting with flysheet and we supply 6cm thick high density foam mattresses.

On safari we supply three meals per day (except for evening meals in Swakopmund and on your first and last days). All other snacks and drinks must be supplied by you.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT is not charged on this safari. If you single and travelling alone we ask you to share with another single traveller of the same sex. If there is no other single traveller of the same sex you will not have to share.

TAP WATER is safe to drink almost everywhere in Namibia. Whilst on safari your guide will advise when the drinking water is not safe, alternatively you can buy bottled water at your own expense.

HEALTH – Malaria does occur in parts of Namibia, Botswana and Zambia. Please consult your physician prior to leaving home or email us for more information. Your physician may also recommend other injections for your travel and advice should be sought.

GENERAL NOTES:

PASSPORTS must be carried with you at all times whilst on safari and in the vehicle. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your safari finishes/you leaving the country. You may not be allowed into Namibia if your passport does not have the required 6 months; we cannot accept any responsibility or refund on a safari in this scenario.

CURRENCY – The Namibian Dollar (N\$) is tied permanently 1-1 to the South African Rand (SAR). SAR notes and coins are legal tender in Namibia. Credit cards are widely accepted at ATM's. Traveller's cheques can be changed only in major towns but it is advisable to carry a limited amount of cash with you.

PERSONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE is not included but is compulsory when travelling on any safari. Travel insurance is for your own protection and we consider it to be an essential part of modern international travel. Please consult your travel agent prior to leaving home or contact us.

VISA REQUIREMENTS – Visas are your own responsibility; persons arriving without the relevant visa for their safari will not be refunded in this scenario.

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