



"Namibia Highlights Tour 2010"

Day 1: Windhoek

Upon arrival at Windhoek International Airport you will be greeted by your Cheetah Tours & Safaris tour guide. A road transfer takes you to Windhoek, the nation's capital, where the offices of Cheetah Tours & Safaris are located; here we will gladly answer any questions you might still have about your safari. From the Cheetah Tours & Safaris offices you will be taken to the Relais & Chateaux Hotel Heintzburg, where you have time to freshen up. In the afternoon you can get a first impression of Windhoek on a 3-hour city tour. Windhoek's "continental" atmosphere can be ascribed to its architecture – historical buildings dating back to German colonial rule – as well as to its cuisine, culture, dress, educational institutions and even lifestyles, all of which reflect the European influence. At the same time Windhoek is very much a vibrant African capital in which people from different backgrounds mingle freely, street vendors sell everything from socks to beautiful wood carvings to colorful cloth to hot dogs, and stores and streets are host to a cacophony of sounds and smells. Well-maintained green spaces such as the "Tintenpalast" and Zoo Park offer respite from the heat and the hustle bustle of the city life. Lunch and dinner are at your own expense. Overnight on a bed and breakfast basis at Relais & Chateaux Hotel Heintzburg.

Day 2: Windhoek - Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch

Today you leave Windhoek at 10 am – the day's destination is Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch, located amongst the huge red sand dunes of the southern Kalahari. The Kalahari is both an ancient living desert, a harsh land of scorching sunshine and tearing wind, a landscape of great thirst and mystery and - after the first rains - a land transformed into an Eden of exquisite beauty. Bagatelle combines true African spirit coupled with unashamed luxury and style, creating timeless memories for the discerning world traveller. After lunch and a refreshing siesta, you have the opportunity to experience this exceptional landscape on a scenic drive in an open off-road vehicle. You return to the lodge at sunset. Overnight on a fullboard basis at Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch.

Day 3: Bagatelle – Fish River Canyon

This third day of your safari takes you via the southern towns of Mariental and Keetmanshoop to the Fish River Canyon, the world's second-largest canyon. Seemingly endless vistas and roads dominate this often harsh part of Namibia. Enroute you stop for lunch and to pay a visit to the quivertree forest near Keetmanshoop. You arrive at Cañon Lodge in the late afternoon. Enjoy the lodge's unique setting amongst huge boulders until it's time for dinner. Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Cañon Lodge.

Day 4: Fish River Canyon – Lüderitz

Today your journey leads past Seeheim, where the 167 meter long Fish River Canyon begins and from there in a westerly direction through the southern Namib Desert to Lüderitz. Lunch today consists of lunch packs enjoyed somewhere enroute. Once in the old port-town of Lüderitz, you can explore not only the town but also its surrounding area and rocky bays. The sheer isolation of Lüderitz, the curious way in which its colonial style buildings cling to the rocks overlooking the bay - on some days a deep iridescent blue, on others grey and stormy - the crisp fresh air, the fishing boats bobbing up and down on the Atlantic horizon, the penguins and seals diving beneath the waves, all give the town a curious other-worldly allure.

Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Lüderitz Nest Hotel

Day 5: Lüderitz - Aus

In the morning you visit the peculiar ghost-town of Kolmanskop. The location of Namibia's very own "diamond rush", Kolmanskop was once a bustling little town with a butchery, a bakery, a furniture factory, a soda water and lemonade plant, a four-skittle alley, a public playground, and even a swimming pool. Probably because of the very isolation and bleakness of the surrounding desert, Kolmanskop developed into a lively little haven of German culture, offering entertainment and recreation to suit the requirements of the affluent colonialists for whom large, elegant houses were built. When richer diamond deposits were discovered further south, operations were moved to Oranjemund and Kolmanskop was reclaimed by the desert. Today only crumbling ruins bear witness to Kolmanskop's former glory. From Kolmanskop you continue inland to Klein Aus Vista, famous for sightings of Namibia's wild horses. Once again you enjoy lunch packs in the environs of the grandiose Namib Desert. The afternoon at Klein Aus Vista is at own leisure. Unwind in your chalet or take a walk along one of the numerous pathways. Overnight on a dinner, bed, and breakfast basis at Klein-Aus Vista Eagle's Nest Chalets.

Day 6: Aus- NamibRand Nature Reserve

We continue our journey in a northerly direction, through the Neiseb valley, along the D707 to the magnificent NamibRand Nature Reserve. Lunch consists of lunch packs and the opportunity to stretch your legs somewhere enroute. You arrive at Wolwedans Dunes Lodge in the early afternoon. After having freshened up, you depart on a scenic drive in one of the lodge's open, all-terrain vehicles. Knowledgeable guides convey fascinating facts and snippets of the area's fauna and flora. Overnight on a fullboard basis including activities at Wolwedans Dunes Lodge.

Day 7: NamibRand Nature Reserve

You spend the day in the unique beauty and inimitable atmosphere of the NamibRand Nature Reserve. Soak up this environment on one of the wonderful scenic drives that take you along, past, and over red sand dunes covered with golden grass tussocks, past eerie fairy circles, rugged mountains bluish in the desert air, and past bizarre rock formations. At sunset you can enjoy a cool drink clicking of the geckos in your ears. Overnight on a fullboard basis including activities at Wolwedans Dunes Lodge.

Day 8: NamibRand - "A little Sossus Lodge"

Today's departure is leisurely, as you head north to "A little Sossus Lodge", where you arrive for lunch. "A little Sossus Lodge" lies surrounded by the Nubib and Tsaris mountains. The open landscape can be crisscrossed to look for plants and animals endemic to this semi-arid area such as Hoodia plants, sand grouse, guinea fowl, and ground squirrels. Accommodation is in rustic stone chalets connected by footpaths; meals are served in the main building, modeled on a typical Namibian farmhouse. Overnight on a fullboard basis at "A little Sossus Lodge".

Day 9: Sossusvlei – Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge

Today you depart very early for your excursion to Sossusvlei. Sossusvlei, a large, dry clay-soil depression, is surrounded by up to 300m high apricot-coloured dunes, gigantic star-shaped mountains of sand sought-after by artists and photographers alike. After a visit to 'dead vlei' and the Sesriem Canyon - so called because it took the early settlers six rope lengths to reach the water in its water pools - you enjoy a picnic lunch in the shade of ancient camelthorn trees before you depart for Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge. Set amidst 12 000 hectares of awesome scenery and inspiring stillness, the lodge's intriguing rock igloos were constructed to have minimal visual and ecological impact on their surroundings, all-the-while reflecting the colour and ambience of the Namib itself. Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge.

Day 10: Rostock - Swakopmund

You can wake up early to do one of the 'sunrise-walking trails' (optional) - just the right way to get a head start into the day – or you can ease into the morning. After breakfast you depart for the Namib Naukluft Park. Enroute you view the Kuiseb Canyon and the Welwitschia plains – the latter with many examples of this well-known desert plant. With some luck you can see ostrich, springbok and oryx antelope, all exceedingly well-adapted to the desert environment. Another stop is at the eerie, outer-worldly moon valley. Light picnic lunch enroute. You arrive at the Hansa Hotel in Swakopmund in the afternoon. The Hansa Hotel, a timeless classic in Swakopmund's architectural culture, is renowned for its outstanding cuisine, its personalised service, and elegant style. After a refreshing shower you can stretch your legs on a short exploratory walk around this most German of Namibia's towns. A dinner at the Hansa Hotel's excellent restaurant rounds off a day filled with new impressions aplenty. Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at the Hansa Hotel.

Day 11: Swakopmund

After breakfast you depart for Walvis Bay to partake in one of this harbour city's well-known and rewarding bay cruises. With a little luck inquisitive seals and schools of dolphins will swim next to the boats as cormorants, sea gulls, and pelicans fly overhead. After the cruise you return to Swakopmund, where you have the afternoon at leisure. While your tour guide is available for tips and to arrange any optional activities for you, you are free to explore Swakopmund on your own. Founded in 1892 during the period of German colonial rule, Swakopmund served as the territory's main harbour for many years. Today the ambience of this curious desert town, hedged by desert and sea, is enhanced by lush green lawns, palm trees and carefully tended public gardens. Lunch and dinner at own expense. Overnight on a bed and breakfast at the Hansa Hotel.

Day 12: Swakopmund – Doro !Nawas

After an early departure from Swakopmund, today's journey takes you along the coastal road to the salt pans of Pantherbaken, where sea salt is harvested and processed; the pans are also home to thousands of flamingoes and cormorants. From Pantherbaken you drive inland via Uis to the Twyfelfontein area. You'll visit the famous Twyfelfontein rock engravings, a large open-air art gallery, Burnt Mountain, a panorama of desolation with coloured rocks contrasting vividly against the grey-black surroundings, and the Organ Pipes, a mass of basalt slabs in a ravine gouged out by a river. Picnic lunches are enjoyed en route. In the late afternoon you continue along dry riverbeds to Doro !Nawas Camp. With some luck you might just spot some of the rare desert dwelling elephants that frequent these riverbeds for food.

Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Doro !Nawas Camp.

Day 13: Doro !Nawas

The day is spent at Doro!Nawas Camp. Activities revolve around the game found in and along the riverbeds and valleys. The camp, a joint venture with the local community, is situated on the edge of the dry Aba-Huab River and offers views of the Etendeka mountain range to the north and the sandstone cliffs of Twyfelfontein to the south. The landscape beyond the riverbed is diverse and ranges from boulder-strewn floodplains to curious rock formations surrounded by sand dunes. The Damaraland is home to black rhino, giraffe, mountain zebra, springbok, oryx, small carnivore species such as jackal and hyena, the shy bat-eared fox, as well as a variety of bird species. A highlight of every stay here is a sighting of the elusive desert elephants, which frequent the area's dry riverbeds. Overnight on fullboard basis including activities at Doro !Nawas Camp.

Day 14: Doro !Nawas – Huab Lodge

Today's journey takes you in a northerly direction. You travel via the Grootberg Pass to Huab Lodge, situated on the south-western edge of the magnificent Kaokoland. After lunch you have the rest of the day at your perusal. Drives on all-terrain vehicles and nature hikes with professional guides bring the wilderness to you. Birding is superb and the mineral-rich thermal pools offer pure relaxation. Spacious and comfortable bungalows, with terraces overlooking the scenic Huab valley, offer peace and comfort in the middle of the African bush. Overnight on a fullboard basis at Huab Lodge.

Day 15: Huab Lodge - Ongava Game Lodge

After an early morning walk and breakfast the road takes you to Ongava Game Lodge, where you arrive in time for lunch. In the afternoon you can take part in one of the game drives that often bring the wilderness so close...you might want to wish it somewhat farther away. Night drives and walks in the private game reserve can also be enjoyed; Ongava Game Reserve, which borders the Etosha National Park to the south, has resident White and Black Rhinos.

Overnight on a fullboard basis at Ongava Lodge.

Day 16: Etosha National Park

After breakfast you venture into the world-renown Etosha National Park. Etosha owes its unique landscape to the Etosha Pan, a vast shallow depression of approximately 5 000 square kilometres. A series of waterholes along the southern edge of the pan guarantee rewarding and often spectacular game-viewing. As you traverse the park in an easterly direction, you have the opportunity to spot numerous antelope species, giraffe, elephant, rhino, lion, cheetah, hyena, smaller carnivores, various bird species, as well as ever-elusive leopard, comical warthog, long-legged ostrich, and droll baboons. Lunch is somewhere enroute. You arrive at Mushara Outpost in the late afternoon. Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Mushara Outpost.

Day 17: Etosha National Park

You can spend the day on guided game drives in the park. Alternatively you can take a break from "all that wildlife" and soak up the tranquil atmosphere at Mushara Outpost. Relax in your own tent or in the main lodge, modelled on an old farm house with tall walls, corrugated iron roof, and a large, wrap-around veranda. The ambiance is that of a well lived-in house: friendly, warm and extremely comfortable with a homely atmosphere. Dinner is enjoyed under the African stars; breakfast and lunch are taken on the veranda and in the house. A wide refreshing pool is a welcome relief after a hot day in Etosha. Lunch. Overnight on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Mushara Outpost.

Day 18: Etosha National Park – Okonjima

Today's journey takes you south again as you drive via the towns of Tsumeb, Otavi and Otjiwarongo to Okonjima. Tsumeb has quietened down since mining activities all but ceased here, but the town nevertheless has quite a lot to offer and is commonly known as Namibia's garden town with streets lined with jacarandas, flamboyance and bougainvillea in summer. Otjiwarongo is the commercial center of the Waterberg region. After lunch you have time for a siesta and in the afternoon you will get an introduction into the workings of the AfriCat Foundation.

Overnight on a fullboard basis at Okonjima Bush Camp.

Day 19: Okonjima – Windhoek – GocheGanas

After the morning activities and a wholesome brunch you drive via Okahandja to Windhoek and continue to GocheGanas, a unique combination of Wildlife, Nature and Wellness. Here you have the afternoon completely at your leisure. Situated on a hilltop, the lodge and the private suites offer uninterrupted and spectacular views over the surrounding Reserve. All treatments and activities at GocheGanas are optional. Overnight on a fullboard basis at GocheGanas.

Day 20: GocheGanas – Windhoek International Airport

Today you say farewell to Namibia. Check-out is at 10 am; a business-class transfer to the International Airport will be arranged as per your return flight. A dayroom and/or tour extension arranged on request (optional).

<i>Departure dates arranged as per individual request</i>

Minimum number of participants: 1, maximum 5

The tour price per person sharing is: (valid from 01 Nov 2009 until 31 Oct 2010)

with 2 participants: N\$ 98.500,00

with 3 participants: N\$ 81.500,00

with 4 participants: N\$ 72.300,00

with 5 participants: N\$ 67.700,00

Single supplement: **N\$ 9.040,00 net**

Please be advised that price changes may occur due to fluctuations in currency exchange rates, as well as increases in taxes, tourism levies, and the price of petrol.

Included:

- All accommodation as stated in the itinerary (short-notice changes may be done at any time)
- All meals as stated in itinerary
- All entry fees and permits for specified activities and excursions
- Non-alcoholic beverages while on travelling in the tour vehicle
- (all transport costs) The tour is conducted in an air-conditioned Volkswagen 4-motion Multivan or similar
- Gratuities for porters
- Experienced German/English-speaking tour guide for the duration of the tour
- Transfer to/from Windhoek International Airport on Day 1 and Day 20
- Detailed travel documentation
- 15 % V.A.T.

Not included:

- All travel insurances
- All not specifically mentioned meals
- Drinks
- Gratuities for waiters, tour guides and rangers
- All personal expenses

Please note: Luggage is restricted to 20 kg per person in a duffel bag or similar – no suitcases
Recommended dimensions per luggage piece: 60cm long x 30cm high x 30cm wide

With 2 participants: two to four pieces of luggage per person

With 3 participants: two to three pieces of luggage per person

With 4 participants: two pieces of luggage per person

With 5 participants: one piece of luggage per person

(In the VW T5 Multivan, 10 pieces of luggage can only be transported if clients adhere to the dimensions as stated above)



P.O.Box 23075, Windhoek, Namibia;
Tel: 00264-61-230287; Fax: 00264-61-230286
E-mail: cheetour@iafrica.com.na

www.cheetahtours.com