

The Women's Travel Group Draft Itinerary

Namibia

USA Departure August 24, 2019



Namibia is new on the tourist trail. Namibia is located at the SW corner of Africa. It was part of South Africa until 1990 and before was a German colony. Namibia is easy to visit, with smooth roads, hearty food, elegant lodges and we travel in peak season for game and weather. Namibia remains unspoiled with game, so plentiful you might see a lion walk across a highway as the one at left. 25% of all wild cheetahs live here.

Namibian scenery is magnificent; the highest dunes in the world, famous Skeleton Atlantic coast, red rock areas with ancient Bushmen engraving and tribes that maintain traditions and crafts. Lodges blend with the scenery; food is German fusion. A travel day is never taxing but is full of surprises.

If you wish to tack on a few days in Capetown, just ask us. Flights are either direct, or with one stop in Europe or in Johannesburg.

Day 1, Aug 25 - Arrive Windhoek

Arrive Windhoek, Namibia, be met and escorted to our hotel. Evening welcome buffet dinner at the hotel. Overnight modern centrally located AVANI Windhoek Hotel. (D)

Day 2, Aug 26 – Windhoek – (Na'ankuse) & City Sightseeing

Early morning **Optional visit** to the Na'ankuse Sanctuary for a behind the scenes tour about conservation of animals and tribal culture. Afternoon city tour of Windhoek. Overnight AVANI Windhoek Hotel. The uniqueness of Windhoek: a modern supermarket downstairs for snacks yet half clothed tribes people across the street selling crafts. (B)

Day 3, Aug 27 - Windhoek / Namib Desert - Sossusvlei

Depart Windhoek and travel into the Namib Desert with monumental dunes and ever changing colors. This is the oldest and driest desert on earth; nevertheless it supports a vast diversity of strange fauna and flora. Evening sundowner drive. Overnight Sossusvlei Lodge. (BD)

Day 4, Aug 28 - Namib Desert - Sossusvlei

Full morning exploring the Namib Desert – including a picnic breakfast in the desert. The best time to experience the area is at sunrise when light paints the dunes and plains deep red, apricot and purple. Travel into the heart of the Desert with the highest sand dunes on earth. Experience the majestic tranquil Sossusvlei or the surreal Dead Vlei on foot. Return to the lodge via a scenic drive through the gaping Sesriem Canyon. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight Sossusvlei Lodge. Our guide will point out insects, animals and birds each day as we travel. (BD)

Day 5, Aug 29 – Sossusvlei / Swakopmund

Travel to Swakopmund. Arrive in the charming coastal resort which represents the optimal place in Namibia for walking and shopping. Often fondly referred to as the “playground of Namibia”, enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Overnight The Delight Hotel, modern and near shops and

downtown. (B)



Day 6, Aug 30 - Swakopmund – Walvis Bay Catamaran Cruise & Living Desert

Morning Catamaran Cruise in the calm waters of the Walvis Bay Lagoon. Entertainment is provided by dolphins, a large seal colony at Pelican Point, some seals who climb onto the boat for a fishy snack, and wonderful photographic opportunities of low-flying pelicans. Afternoon Living Desert tour. Enjoy this unique tour through the dunes outside Swakopmund, discovering the abundant life in this desolate landscape. Once we arrive, tires are deflated, and the search is on for the little 5, spiders, bugs, snakes and more!. This experience was one of the most popular tours amongst our group. Overnight The Delight Hotel. (B)

Day 7, Aug 31 - Swakopmund / San People / Damaraland

An early start to Damaraland - one of the last true wilderness areas in Africa.. Afternoon Desert Elephant Drive offered by the lodge. Overnight Twyfelfontein Country Lodge. (BLD)

Day 8, Sep 1 - Damaraland

Full day exploring Damaraland region. We visit the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein and see the fascinating geological features of the Organ Pipes and Burnt Mountain. We also visit the Petrified Forest. We stop at the Damara Living Museum for a fascinating tour of local tribal life, dances, and traditions. Overnight Twyfelfontein Country Lodge. (BLD)



Day 9, Sep 2 - Damaraland / Etosha National Park

Morning travel to Etosha, on the border with Angola. Afternoon game drive in Etosha National Park, which surrounds a parched salt desert, Etosha Pan. The park is home to 4 of the Big Five - elephant, lion, leopard and rhino. Waterholes support a rich diversity of birds and mammals, including rare species such as blackfaced Impala, roan, cheetah and Namibia's smallest antelope, the Dik-Dik. Overnight Okaukuejo Camp. (BLD)

Day 10, Sep 3 - Etosha National Park

Morning travel along the vast salt-pan with stops at waterholes and game viewing en route to our lodge located on the Eastern side of the park. We visit Fort Namutoni before arriving to our lodge. Afternoon game drive in open safari vehicles. Overnight Mokuti Etosha Lodge (BLD)

Day 11, Sep 4 - Etosha National Park

Morning and afternoon game drives. Overnight Mokuti Etosha Lodge. (BLD)

Day 12, Sep 5 - Etosha / AfriCat Foundation / Windhoek

Morning departure to Windhoek. En route we stop at the AfricaCat Foundation. This evening farewell dinner at the hotel. Overnight AVANI Windhoek Hotel. (BD)

Day 13, Sep 6 - Depart Windhoek

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight. (B)

Here are more photos taken by our group in 2017.

