

Australia 1300 888 225 New Zealand 0800 440 055 info@odysseytraveller.com

From **\$12,715** NZD

Single Room \$13,693 NZD Twin Room \$12,715 NZD

Prices valid until 30th December 2024

10 days

Duration

Namibia Destination

Level 2 - Moderate Activity



Sep 12 2024 to Sep 21 2024

Namibia Wildlife Tour

Odyssey offers easy, convenient, and relaxed escorted <u>small group</u> tours across Namibia and beyond into Africa. We explore Namibia's incredible natural beauty and some truly spectacular scenery along the way. This and more is all waiting to be explored on one of Odyssey's small group tours of Namibia, designed for the senior traveller, and led by experienced, and enthusiastic like minded people





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This Namibia wildlife and cultural tour explores a country that shares its borders with Angola and Zambia to the north, Botswana to the east, and <u>South Africa</u> to the south and east. Wedged between the Kalahari and the South Atlantic, Namibia is home to the oldest desert of the Earth. Despite its parched reputation, Namibia is one of the world's best wildlife destinations. This escorted small group tour exploring the wildlife and culture of Namibia may be taken on its own or combined with other tours. The tour can also be an extension to Odyssey's <u>Southern Africa</u> Wildlife Adventure or Madagascar tour.

Itinerary: focused on Namibia wildlife and culture

The small group tour to Namibia for 9 days begins in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. The charm of Windhoek lies in its harmonious blend of African and European cultures and its people's friendliness. Ever since the country achieved independence in 1990, it has been characterised by a vitality born of a sense of freedom and pride in self. Windhoek is one of the cleanest capitals in Africa. It offers all modern amenities that conform to some of the world's highest standards.

- Our first stop is Namib Naukluft National Park.
- The remainder of our tour explores the West coast of Namibia, then Etosha, and then back to Windhoek.

Other highlights of this tour of the wildlife and culture of Namibia includes;

- strolling among the rock art at Twyfelfontein. This gained <u>UNESCO World Heritage</u> status in 2007,
- marvelling at Sossusvlei's gigantic star-shaped mountains of sand.
- We also discover the unexpected proliferation of German-style buildings and the European cafe culture of Windhoek,

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• as well as enjoying a cruise of Walvis Bay, a wide lagoon with innumerable sea birds, pelicans, and flamingos.

This escorted small group tour to Namibia is for the senior or mature couples or solo traveller seeking to learn about and understand Namibia's cultural heritage, history, it's people and their way of life, as well as see the wildlife.

For more details about the Namibia wildlife and culture tour, then please click the 'Top 5' or 'Itinerary' buttons above! If you're keen to experience this tour, <u>please call</u> or <u>send an email.</u> Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.

Tour Notes

- Due to flight schedules, most Australian cities may require 1 additional night in Johannesburg.
- Group size limited to 12

Highlights

- Discover the wealth of animal and plant life at Etosha National Park.
- 2. Explore the remarkable sights of the Namib Desert.
- 3. Marvel at Sossusvlei's gigantic star-shaped mountains of sand.
- 4. Discover the unexpected proliferation of German-style buildings and the European cafe culture of Windhoek.
- 5. Visit the port town Walvis Bay, situated at a wide lagoon with innumerable sea birds, pelicans, and flamingos.

Itinerary





Locations: Windhoek

Overview:

Today we arrive at Johannesburg airport for our flight into Windhoek International Airport Here we meet our English Speaking Driver and transfer to the hotel.

Welcome dinner at the hotel.

(D)

Accommodation:

Hilton Hotel or similar

Day 2

Locations: Windhoek - Sossusvlei

Overview:

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast we meet our local guide and depart Windhoek, driving southwest through the scenic Khomas Hochland highlands before heading down the Great Escarpment into the Namib Desert below, stopping for a picnic lunch at a scenic location along the way.

We will arrive at our lodge in the mid-afternoon.

If there is still time today, we will visit Sesriem Canyon, a nearby geological attraction. However, if you prefer, you can just relax and soak in the scenic and tranquil surroundings at the lodge.

Dinner at the lodge.

(B, D)

Accommodation:

Moon Mountain Lodge or similar

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Locations: Sossusvlei

Overview:

Breakfast at the lodge.

This morning you will rise early for a magical excursion with your guide into the Namib Naukluft National Park.

We will enter the Park gates at sunrise to capture the dunes whilst the light is soft and shadows accentuate their towering shapes and curves. This area boasts some of the highest free-standing sand dunes in the world. Your guide will give you an insight on the formation of the Namib Desert and its myriad of fascinating creatures and plants that have adapted to survive these harsh environs.

Once you have explored to your hearts content you can enjoy a relaxing picnic breakfast under the shade of a camel thorn tree.

Return to Namib Naukluft lodge in the early afternoon for a late lunch, stopping off to view Sesriem Canyon if you haven't already done so the day before.

The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure (from experience, this is usually welcomed after an exhilarating morning in the dunes).

Dinner at the lodge.

(B, L, D)

Accommodation:

Moon Mountain Lodge or similar

Day 4

Locations: Swakopmund

Overview:

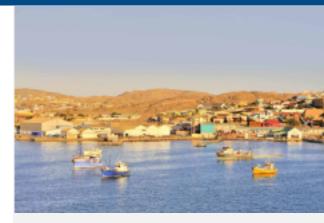
Breakfast at the lodge.

The fascinating drive today takes you northwest through awesome and ever changing desert landscapes of the Namib Naukluft National Park, including the impressive Gaub and Kuiseb canyons.

You will meet the coast at the port town of Walvis Bay and then continue north to Swakopmund where you can enjoy the pleasant seaside

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location and cooler coastal air.

There will be time this afternoon to explore the town and wander along the waterfront on foot

Dinner will be at The Tug, a popular restaurant which specialises in fresh seafood.

(B, D)

Accommodation:

Swakopmund Hotel or similar

Day 5

Locations: Damaraland

Overview:

Breakfast is at the hotel.

Continuing on our safari today, the road takes us north and east into the wonderful and diverse region of Damaraland.

We'll pass Namibia's highest mountain, the Brandberg which peaks at 2,573 m above sea level, and take time to view game and absorb the vastness of the scenery along the way. Damaraland is typified by displays of colour, magnificent table topped mountains, rock formations and bizarre-looking vegetation.

The present day landscape has been formed by the erosion of wind, water and geological forces which have formed rolling hills, dunes, gravel plains and ancient river terraces. It is the variety and loneliness of the area as well as the scenic splendour which will reward and astound you, giving an authentic understanding of the word 'wilderness'.

If time allows this afternoon our guide will take us to visit the nearby attractions and geological sites of the pre-historic Twyfelfontein rock engravings (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) – if not, there is plenty of time to see them tomorrow.

Dinner at the camp.

(B, D)

Accommodation:

Damaraland Camp (Adobe-styled Thatched Units) or similar

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Locations: Etosha Heights

Overview:

After an early breakfast at the camp, you set off on your journey to the Etosha Heights area, travelling via the scenic Grootberg Pass.

Along the way our guide will take us to visit a local Himba settlement

We may have to search for a while as the semi-nomadic Himba people sometimes move location with no notice. They are one of the last truly traditional peoples of Namibia and have little time for conventional practices.

Here we will learn about the customs and traditions of this very proud nation, and will be given insight into their beliefs, way of life and everyday routine. We will also visit the Grootberg Primary School.

After visiting the Himba and school we will head east through the small town of Kamanjab before heading on towards tonight's destination at Safari Hoek on the southern border of Etosha in the early afternoon.

The rest of the day can be spent relaxing at the camp's floodlit waterhole whilst contemplating the fascinating impressions of the day. Later you will join an afternoon drive on the private Safari Heights Reserve.

(B, D)

Accommodation:

Safarihoek Lodge or similar

Day 7

Locations: Etosha Heights

Overview:

Breakfast at the lodge.

Today we will be treated to an exciting morning game drive into the private Etosha Heights Game reserve to see more of the wide variety of game and bird species that are to be found there before returning for

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lunch.

Lunch at the lodge.

There is then time to relax by the refreshing swimming pool before we head out again for an afternoon game drive.

We also have the option to simply relax and watch game come and go from the lodge's hides overlooking the active waterhole. This makes for some good photographic opportunities.

Dinner at the lodge.

(B, L, D)

Accommodation:

Safarihoek Lodge or similar

Day 8

Locations: Omaruru

Overview:

Breakfast at the lodge.

Today you depart Safarihoek Lodge and make your way back to Windhoek.

Time permitting we may detour via the Etosha National Park for late morning game drive inside the park and picnic lunch.

You then return by road to Windhoek, arriving late afternoon in time for your farewell dinner with your guide included.

Dinner at the lodge.

(B, L, D)

Accommodation:

Hilton Hotel or similar



Locations: Windhoek

Overview:

Breakfast at the lodge.

Day at Leisure

(B)

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel or similar

Day 10

Locations: Windhoek - Johannesburg

Overview:

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today we transfer to the airport for our flight back to Johannesburg. Our tour concludes on arrival at Johannesburg airport.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- Return flights from Johannesburg to Windhoek in economy class.
- 9 nights of mixed accommodation.
- 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 7 dinners.
- Entrance fees at all parks visited in Namibia.
- Mineral water on board the vehicle.
- Transport in air-conditioned coach.
- English-speaking guide.

What's not included in our Tour

• International airfares and departure taxes.

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- Additional charges may apply to passengers who are not participating in both the Southern Africa Wildlife Adventure and Namibia.
- Meals not specified.
- All visits and activities that are optional or not stated on itinerary.
- All personal expenses such as drinks, telephone, laundry, etc.
- Travel insurance.

Level 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.