

ROTHSCHILD • SAFARIS •

THE GREAT NAMIBIAN JOURNEY

Safari Snapshot

Date	Destination	#/Nights	Accommodations
Day 1	TRAVEL DAY - TO AFRICA		
Days 2 & 3	Sossusvlei	2	Little Kulala Camp, Kulala Desert Lodge or Kulala Wilderness Camp
Days 4 & 5	Swakopmund	2	Hansa Hotel
Day 6	Damaraland	1	Damaraland Camp
Days 7 & 8	Damaraland	2	Desert Rhino Camp
Days 9 & 10	Etosha National Park	2	Ongava Tented Camp
Days 11 - 13	Skeleton Coast	3	Skeleton Coast Research Camp
Day 14	TRAVEL DAY – TO USA		

KEY

B – Breakfast | L – Lunch | D – Dinner

Detailed Itinerary

DAYS 1 DEPART

Your safari begins today as you board your international flight to Africa.

DAYS 2 & 3 SOSSUSVLEI

Welcome to Africa! On arrival to Windhoek, Namibia, you will be met and transferred by road approximately 380 kilometers (km) to Sossusvlei where you will stay at one of the following camps (depending upon availability): Little Kulala Camp, Kulala Desert Lodge, or Kulala Wilderness Camp. Regardless of which camp you stay in, you can rest assured that your stay will be complete with luxury accommodation and delicious cuisine with excellent landscape and game viewing. Each camp practices ecotourism and conservation of the land and resources.

The Sossusvlei is located in Naukluft National Park in the Namib Desert and has some of the highest sand dunes in the world. Sossusvlei refers to the hard-surfaced depression (pan) that is surrounded by giant red dunes that prevent the waters of the Tsauchab River from flowing any farther. Sunrise and sunset are the most awe-inspiring times to view this sand sea as the colors are constantly changing. During your drives and walks, you will marvel at the unique Namib fauna and flora in this stark and unique environment. Desert-adapted wildlife abound including ostrich, springbok and gemsbok eke.

Activities: Nature walks, drives to scenic viewpoints in the private Kulala Wilderness Reserve

Optional Activity: Hot-air balloon safari with champagne breakfast (additional cost)

Overnight: Little Kulala Camp, Kulala Desert Lodge or Kulala Wilderness Camp (B, L, D & all beverages; laundry)

DAYS 4 & 5 SWAKOPMUND

Today you will travel by road 280km northwest via the dark and craggy Kuiseb Canyon and arrive at the Hansa Hotel for your two-night stay in the seaside town of Swakopmund.

The grand Hansa Hotel forms part of Swakopmund's architectural culture and dates back to 1905; it is said to be one of the oldest buildings in the town. It is ideally situated in the centre of Swakopmund within easy walking distance to the town and beach. The luxury of the hotel, its excellent cuisine, and friendly service are well known around Namibia and overseas.

While in the Swakopmund area, you will explore the ice blue Atlantic coast, from the port towns of Walvis Bay and Swakopmund to its incredible marine mammals. A private boat cruise at Walvis Bay and down the coast to Sandwich Harbour (weather permitting) provides a unique chance to see the diverse ocean-going birdlife, Cape fur seals, and rare Heaviside's dolphins up close.

Activities: Private boat-cruise at Walvis Bay; exploring the coast

Overnight: *Hansa Hotel (B, L, D)*

DAY 6 DAMARALAND

Today, you will travel approximately 280km, partly up the legendary Skeleton Coast (named for the numerous shipwrecks the treacherous shores have claimed over the years) to the Cape Cross seal colony with thousands of Cape fur seals. From here, your guide will drive the back roads through the game-rich Ugab riverbed, travelling north past the Brandberg Mountain – the second largest monolith on earth – to Damaraland. This all-day excursion ends with your arrival at Damaraland Camp for your one-night stay.

Damaraland Camp accommodates guests in 10 comfortable tented rooms, with en-suite facilities including flush toilets and showers with hot and cold running water. The dining room and lounge are combined under canvas, and an open fire is enjoyed on calm evenings. A lovely feature of the camp is its unique rock pool.

Damaraland is a land of stark desert beauty. Early morning mists, generated by the clash between the icy Atlantic Ocean and the warm desert air of the Skeleton Coast, drift inland along the canyons, providing sustenance to the flora and fauna of the region. Rare succulent plants abound in this harsh countryside. Wildlife abounds and includes the springbok, gemsbok, ostrich, and the unique desert-adapted elephant.

Activities: Game viewing activities on foot, by mountain bike, or 4x4 vehicles

Overnight: *Damaraland Camp (B, L, D & all beverages)*

DAYS 7 & 8

DAMARALAND

Today, you will depart Damaraland Camp and drive into the Huab riverbed to search for desert-adapted elephants, before heading north to the Palmwag Reserve in northwest Namibia to the Desert Rhino Camp for your two-night stay.

Desert Rhino Camp offers a level of privacy and wilderness experience that few places on the planet can surpass. The camp accommodates guests in seven large East African-style Meru tents, each with an en-suite bathroom and a classic bucket shower that is filled with hot water whenever needed. Lights are powered by solar panels and the tented dining room offers uninterrupted views of the desert and mountains.

The mountainous and rocky paradise of the private Palmwag Reserve has a number of freshwater springs that support healthy populations of animals including desert-adapted back rhino and elephant, as well as large populations of the rare Hartmann's mountain zebra, giraffe, gemsbok, springbok and kudu. The predator population is the largest outside of the Etosha National Park including lion, cheetah, leopard, and brown and spotted hyaena. Bird life is prolific and diverse featuring most of Namibia's endemics. Welwitschia plants (ancient and highly unusual succulents) dot the plain in front of the camp. The speciality of the area is its growing population of the rare desert-adapted black rhino, the largest concentration in the world outside a national park, which are monitored and protected by the Save the Rhino Trust.

Activities: Rhino tracking on foot or by vehicle, day and night nature drives

Overnight: Desert Rhino Camp (B, L, D & all beverages; laundry)

DAYS 9 & 10

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Today you will head eastward by road 350 km to Etosha National Park. Enjoy spectacular game viewing on the way to Ongava Tented Camp where you will stay for two nights.

One of Namibia's best-kept secrets, Ongava Tented Camp overlooks a waterhole where wildlife regularly congregates. The camp accommodates just 16 guests in large, comfortable Meru-style walk-in tents, each with en-suite facilities, including flush toilet and a hot shower. All meals are enjoyed in the thatched dining area and there is a small pool in which to cool off. Ongava Tented Camp is located within the private Ongava Game Reserve on the southern border of Etosha.

Etosha National Park is Namibia's premier wildlife destination and one of Africa's largest game reserves. Etosha means “place of dry water” and is centered around a huge flat pan. During most of the year it is dry, but even the smallest rain shower can bring thousands of birds and wildlife to the many waterholes. There are no fences between Etosha National Park and the Ongava Game Reserve and the wildlife move freely between the two areas. The Ongava Game Reserve is unique in that it is one of the few private game reserves in southern Africa where there is a chance of seeing both black and white rhino. Elephants, lions and other plains animals abound and you may also spot rare wildlife species such as the black-faced impala, tsesebe, and gemsbok.

Activities: Twice daily game drives, night drives, safari walks and hides

Overnight: Ongava Tented Camp (B, L, D & all beverages; laundry)

DAYS 11-13

SKELETON COAST NATIONAL PARK

This morning, you will enjoy a breathtaking scenic flight over dramatic desert landscapes to the exclusive Skeleton Coast Research Camp for your three-night stay.

Situated in a private concession in the Skeleton Coast Park off the Atlantic Coast, Skeleton Coast Research Camp comprises six Meru-style tents with large bedrooms and en-suite bathrooms. Built on an island in a dry riverbed, the camp is surrounded by pure wilderness and is truly remote.

Skeleton Coast National Park is one of the most inhospitable but hauntingly beautiful places in the world. It is desolate and unique and has everything from roaring sand dunes, windswept plains, towering canyons and salt pans to seal colonies and shipwrecks. Secret water seeps, which create freshwater springs, attract wildlife enabling you can see desert-adapted elephant, gemsbok, springbok, giraffe, ostrich, brown hyaena, Hartmann's mountain zebra and, occasionally, lion and cheetah.

Activities: Full-day drives in 4x4 Land Rovers, cultural visits to remote Himba villages

Overnight: Skeleton Coast Research Camp (B, L, D & all beverages; laundry)

DAY 14
DEPART

Today you will fly back to Windhoek where you will connect with your international flight back to the United States.

Great Namibian Journey, Safari Cost – 2010
From: \$6,926 per person sharing double occupancy

A Magical Journey Awaits!