

## NAMIBIA 2014 TOURING

### WINDHOEK TOURING

**Windhoek City Tour** (3 hours – min 2 persons) - Enjoy this guided tour of Windhoek. You will be picked up from your hotel for a tour of downtown Windhoek as well as visiting the Old Cemetery and open market.

Return transfer back to your hotel. – **\$65.00 per person**

Return transfer to the airport – **\$85.00 per person**



### SOSSUSVLEI TOURING

**1. Ballooning Safari** (closed Jan 15-Feb 15) - Adding an exhilarating dimension to a Namib Desert excursion, is a trip in a hot air balloon - the oldest form of aviation known to man. This is the best possible way to experience the breathtaking beauty of the Namib Desert and to marvel at its geological diversity. Drifting high above the Namib, this desert viewing from the sky reveals a majestic panorama of contoured dunes and stark desert plains, and is celebrated at the landing sight with the traditional balloonists' champagne breakfast. The flight departs every morning at sunrise - weather permitting  
**Approx \$395.00 per person (Jan-Jul) / \$450.00 per person (Aug-Dec)**



**2. Eco Quad Biking** (3 hours). In the heart of the oldest desert in the world Sossusvlei eco quad of fers unforgettable experiences. Driving your semi automatic quad bike, set off with the desert breeze and throbbing engine and you will follow trails trough the dunes and mountains of this magical world and discover places inaccessible by 4x4 vehicles. (No one under 16 years old)

*Available at Kulala Desert Lodge. Approx \$65.00 per person* (booked and paid directly at camp).

Guests at *Little Kulala* - quad-biking is included (booked upon arrival at camp)



### **3. Horse Riding**

Explore the Namib Desert and plains on well -trained horses. Trails lead through the dry riverbed among unique fauna and flora, past small water pools and into the silence of the Sossusvlei. This wonderful experience can be enjoyed by even the inexperienced rider.

– Sunset ride with sundowners (approx 3 hr ride) – **Approx \$60.00 per person**



## **SWAKOPMUND TOURING**

### **1. Namib Desert Tour** (4 hour tour – min 3 persons)

On first glance it seems impossible that the arid desert can support life. Yet it holds some of the richest lichen fields in the world and these lichens take on deeply colored hues in the morning light. We depart Swakopmund at either 9:00am or 1:00pm to return at either 1:00pm or 5:00pm respectively. We travel to the Moon Landscape, where soft overlaying levels of earth, deposited some million years ago, were eroded to create this eerie crater filled area. In 1859 a botanist searching the Namib Desert found, what he later described “as the world’s strangest plant”. This trip goes in search of these “living fossils” the Welwitschia Mirabilis a botanic curiosity endemic to the Namib Desert and one of the most bizarre and intriguing plants on earth. **Approx \$75.00 per person**



### **2. Living Desert Tour** (4-5 hours – min 2 persons)

This half-day tour departs from Swakopmund at 08h00 and lasts 4–5 hours. The tour concentrates on exploring the local dune belt between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund. Special care is taken not to damage the gravel plains and cause unnecessary damage to the dune eco system. Your guide will stop continuously to look for tracks (know locally as reading the bushman newspaper), to determine which animals were active the previous night and wherever possible will try to catch some of them to show you. Great care is taken in sharing knowledge with you on each desert animal and plant, including emphasis on special adaptations and perfect design used for survival in the desert. **Approx \$65.00 per person**



### **3. Historian Dune, Living Desert & Toopnaar Dune Quad Tour** (3.5 hours – min 2 persons)

The prehistoric Kuiseb River is older than the Namib Desert (the oldest desert in the world) and therefore the tour promises to be filled with interesting sights and facts, allowing visitors the ability to enjoy the tranquility of being in a desert dune region.

The tour highlights and includes :

- Details on how the delta came into being, why the delta developed, what the area was like before the “Sea of Sand” succeeded to cross the river and why the river and the dunes are the reasons for existence for the underground fresh water aquifer.
- Details on the formation of Sandwich Harbour and Walvis Bay.

- Scientific information on the underground fresh water aquifer and why it is endangered by modern man.
- Visiting different kind of dunes that exist in the delta and detailed explanations of how the different shapes are formed, how much they move in a given time and what the gradient of a slip face is and why it never differs.
- Details and evidence of why the dunes have different colours.
- Evidence of five different stages as a dune moves over a tree as well as over a Narra plant.
- Examining the desert fruit, the !Nara and the Sirub, explaining how the plants adapted to this particularly harsh environment, sampling what the fruit tastes like (in season) and how it is harvested and used by the Topnaars (descendants of the ancient Khoi inhabitants) as well as by the animals.
- Details about the present day animals (brown hyena, jackal, elephant shrew, oryx, springbok antelope, etc.), birds (pale chanting goshawk, dune lark (endemic -see photo) & damara tern (endemic), reptiles (snakes, like the sidewinder, the dancing lizards, the desert chameleon & gecko's) and some of the insects (fog drinking beetles) that live in the delta. Mostly we are able to show them some of these living creatures.
- Visit and explore the different intact Khoi middens (old living places).
- View what these ancient inhabitants of Namibia ate, used as tools/implements and as body ornaments.
- Show physical evidence of petrified footprints of the ancient Khoi and their goats. These footprints, all discovered by Fanie du Preez, have been laser scanned by leading international scientists and age tested. You will learn more about this when you do the tour with Fanie.
- Show centuries-old ostrich eggshells that were used by the Khoi to keep their water in and have been preserved, being covered by dune sand for centuries.
- We also show them numerous petrified footprints of almost all the present land animals of Namibia e.g. Elephant, rhino, buffalo, eland, oryx, kudu, giraffe, spotted hyena, springbok, steenbok, etc.
- Visitors are shown amazing evidence why the Namibian coast is called the “Skeleton Coast”. These old skeletons of the ancient Khoi people are exposed and covered again, from time to time by the ever shifting dunes.
- A last highlight is a visit to a Topnaar (descendants of the Khoi) home in the dunes. Meet these people, who today still live their traditional lives in the dunes and whose whole live centres around one desert fruit. They have no money, no electricity, no mobile phones and no motor vehicles. They prefer not to live in town with its amenities. They get their water and their food from the earth and their light from the sun and the moon, yet they are fulfilled and always happy and friendly.

The tour is an unforgettable experience that will certainly make visitors realize that there is life in the desert regions. Stops are made frequently to give visitors ample time to drink in the immense beauty of this dune desert and to take photos. **Approx \$90.00 per person**



**4. Cape Cross Seal Colony** (approx 5 hrs – min 3 persons)

In 1486, Diego Cao landed on the coast of Namibia at Cape Cross. Here, 115 -km north of Swakopmund, he erected a cross in honor of King John 1 of Portugal. Today a replica of Diego Cao’s cross can be seen at the Cape Cross. But that’s not all - Cape Cross is one of the largest breeding seal colonies in southern Africa, fluctuating in numbers of about between 80,000 – 300,000 seals. Come and enjoy a trip to Cape Cross with an experienced guide. En route you visit Wlotkas Bake n and Henties Bay.

**Approx \$80.00 per person**



**5. Marine Dolphin Cruise** (3 hour tour – min 2 persons)

Cruise departs Walvis Bay Yacht Club and takes you through the harbor to Bird Island. You then cut across the lagoon to the moored Russian trawlers where inquisitive seals will swim up to the boats looking for something to eat. From there you head to Pelican Point where entertainment is provided by a large seal colony and pods of Heavyside and Bottlenose Dolphins swimming alongside the boats. For bird lovers, apart from seeing flamingoes, cormorants and pelicans, there are common sightings of the White Chinned Petrel, Wilson’s Storm Petrel, Black Oystercatcher and even the Jackass Penguin. To round off the trip you will be spoilt with fresh Walvis Bay oysters, snacks and cold sparkling wine served on board the boat. **Approx \$150.00 per person**



**6. Aerial Flight over the Skeleton Coast**

Take a morning or afternoon scheduled charter flight over and along the Skeleton Coast. You may fly south or north of Swakopmund and enjoy the scenes where the dunes meet the Atlantic Ocean, view shipwrecks, Sandwich Harbor and its famous lagoon, and the flamingos of Walvis Bay or the vast Cape Cross Seal Colony. **\$ please request**



### **7. Quad Biking** (1 hour – minimum 2 persons)

This is the best way to experience the pristine beauty of the Namib Desert and its magnificent dunes. No prior experience is needed and you can never be too old to do a guided Quad bike excursion.- (No one under 16 years old).

**Approx \$40.00 per person**

### **8. Sandboarding-lie down**

(Walking up the dunes - morning only – min 2 persons)

Tour departs at 9:30am and returns 1:30pm latest. Conquer the constantly shifting and powerfully towering beauties of the Namib Desert, the sand dunes, by zooming down the sheer slip faces on a traditional Swakopmund sand board. Rate includes a light lunch, refreshments, transfers, full safety equipment and instructions from experienced sandboarders – **Approx \$35.00 per person**



### **9. Sandboarding-stand up**

(Walking up the dunes - morning only – min 2 persons)

Tour departs at 9:30am and returns 1:30pm latest. Carve up the dune with style and skill on a snowboard adapted for sand. Rate includes a light lunch, refreshments, transfers, full safety equipment and instructions from experienced sandboarders - **Approx \$45.00 per person**



**NEW Combination** – 1 hr Sandboarding lie down + 2 hrs Quad biking – **Approx \$75.00 per person (minimum 2 persons)**

**10. Swakopmund Birding Tour** (5 hours – min 4 persons) On the gravel plains outside of Swakopmund you will search for Grays Lark, a species of lark only found in the Namib Desert and also stop at the Swakopmund Salt Pans, a haven for waders, including Chestnut banded Plover, gulls, lesser and greater flamingo's, gray herons, terns and huge numbers of Cape Cormorants. Time allowing you will stop also at the sewerage works for some unusual sightings. Depart at approximately 8:00am and return at 5:00pm. **Approx \$100.00 per person**

### **11. Walvis Bay Birding Tour** (5 hours – min 4 persons)

Walvis Bay is one of the premier coastal wetlands in Southern Africa and a stopover for most of the migrating birds traveling between Europe and Southern Africa. Between mudflats and artificial saltpans, it can be home to up to 100,000 water birds. The lagoon and surrounding wetlands are a RAMSAR site, no motorized activities are allowed on the water. You get a chance to see the birds in a calm and undisturbed environment. The bird watching tour departs from Walvis Bay at 8:30am in a 4x4 vehicle, as large parts of the route are inaccessible to normal vehicles. You take a slow drive around the lagoon towards the mudflats. Depending on the time of the year, we get a chance to spot up to 70,000 lesser and greater flamingoes at a time. The lagoon is also home to a wide variety of waders, including various sandpipers, different species of plovers and pelicans. You then enter sedimentation pans of the Walvis Bay Saltmines.

This area is very rich in nutrients in muddy plankton deposits that draw in many local breeding, as well as migratory birds. Chances here are good to spot Phalaropes, Grebes and a wide variety of Terns, including the endangered Damara Tern. From here you travel along the beach and head up to Pelican Point to view the large Cape Fur Seal Colony and possibly get a chance to see the resident Osprey, or a group of African Black Oystercatchers that frequent this area. Return time will be approx 12:30pm – 1:00pm. Afternoon departures can be arranged on request. Please note that weather conditions vary from day to day and most bird sightings are strictly dependent on weather and time of the year.

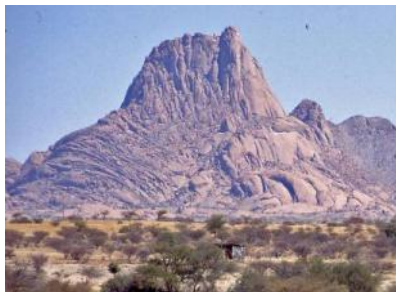
**Approx \$100.00 per person**



### **12. Spitzkoppe Birding Tour** (8 hours – min 3 persons)

You are visiting Namibia's "Matterhorn", the Spitzkoppe a granite inselberg rising 1784 meters above the surrounding plain which has actually eroded away leaving the "inselberg". The waterholes in the mountain attract a large number of birds such as the Herero Chat, an endemic bird, the near-endemic Carp's Tit, Brad Field's Swift, Montei's Hornbill and White-tailed Shrike. The Double banded Courser, Dusky Sunbird, Rose faced Lovebird, Yellow bellied Eremomela, Black headed Canary, Mountain Chat and Pale winged Starling also occur here. You will have a picnic lunch at Spitzkoppe before travelling along the back road through the Namib Desert to the coastal fishing resort of Henties Bay and then in a southerly direction to Swakopmund. Depart Swakopmund at 8:00am and return at 4:00pm.

**Approx \$220.00 per person**



**13. Kayaking** (half day tour – min 2 persons)

The tour departs the Walvis Bay Yacht Club at 7:45am and returns around 1:00pm. Drive with your guide in a 4-wheel drive vehicle to Pelican Point. Kayak past the lighthouse and around Pelican Point to the seal colonies. Enjoy excellent bird viewing, seals and Heavyside dolphins. **Approx \$85.00 per person**



**14. Dolphin Cruise and Sandwich Harbor Combo** (full day – min 3 persons).

This marine dune day gives you the ultimate combination of a leisure cruise on the Atlantic Ocean, a delicious lunch on the beach or in the dunes and a 4x4 ride in the breathtaking Sandwich Harbor area of the Namib Naukluft Park. The day starts with a marine cruise in the morning at 9:00am. You get a chance to see flying pelicans, seals, the Walvis Bay Harbour, old boat wrecks, dolphins and - during season - even whales and turtles. Around 11:30am, your skipper will drop you off at a deserted beach at the Jetty at Pelican Point where your Sandwich Harbour 4x4 guide will meet you with a Land Rover. Begin the Sandwich Harbour excursion to see the Kuiseb River Delta, flamingoes, the saltpans and the wetlands just north of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon.

If weather and tides allow, the drive goes right to the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon, one of Southern Africa's richest and unique wetlands. If vehicles cannot make it there due to tides, you will have the time to walk 4–5 kms. Alternatively, you will get a chance to see the Lagoon area from one of the many beautiful lookout spots. You will have plenty of time to take photos when the big dunes in Sandwich Harbour are crossed. En route, a light meal with snacks and salads as well as oysters and sparkling wine are dished up. The oysters here are amongst the best in the world! On the return drive to Walvis Bay, more giant dunes are crossed, including the big roaring dunes. Arrive in Walvis Bay at app 4:30pm.

**Approx \$160.00 per person**





**15. Catamaran Cruise** (3-4 hours – min 2 persons) Enjoy a sailing excursion on a catamaran based out of Walvis Bay. You'll depart at 8:45am and sail to Pelican Point where you see dolphin, seal colonies and a variety of birds. You will be served oysters, snacks and sparkling wine onboard. **Approx \$65.00 per person**



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