Namibia

Wilderness areas of the north
Trip Summary & Routing

TRIP SUMMARY: 10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS

**NAMIBIA**

| Day 1 & 2 | Little Kulala Lodge, Kulala Wilderness Reserve, Sossusvlei |
| Day 3 & 4 | Doro Nawas Camp, Damaraland |
| Day 5 & 6 | Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp, Skeleton Coast |
| Day 7 & 8 | Little Ongava Lodge, Etosha National Park |
| Day 9 & 10 | Serra Cafema Camp, Marienfluss Conservancy, Kaokoveld |
| Day 11 | Depart for home from Johannesburg International Airport |

**LEGEND:**
- Game Reserves/National Parks
- Windhoek Airport - Namibia
- Johannesburg Airport – South Africa
Safari starts in Johannesburg, South Africa

Scheduled commercial flight to Hosea Kutako International Airport, Windhoek followed by light aircraft transfer to Kulala Wilderness Reserve

Kulala Wilderness Reserve – Little Kulala Lodge – 2 Nights

Included: All meals, local beverages, laundry service, daily activities, private guide & private vehicle* (*with private tour option).

Sossusvlei – Namib-Naukluft National Park

One of the oldest, driest and most pristine areas on Earth, the Namib Desert is a world of vast spaces, endless horizons, dramatic desert-scapes and jagged mountain heights. Known as “The Living Desert”, the dunes of the Namib abound with desert-adapted beetles, spiders, lizards, gerbils, golden moles and other creatures, all leaving their tell-tale tracks in the fine sand. The plains and dry watercourses are home to oryx, springbok, plains zebra, kudu, ostrich and giraffe. The fascinating desert-adapted wildlife, combined with the endless space, utter tranquility and extraordinary light, make this one of Africa’s most compelling wilderness regions.

Sossusvlei, located in the red dunes of the Namib, is a pan that has formed where the natural course of the ephemeral Tsauchab River is blocked by the mass of sand that originally came up from the south. This ‘sand-sea’ stretches for 400km (240 miles) in a narrow band about 100km (60 miles) wide between the icy cold Atlantic Ocean to the west and the escarpment to the east. The cold Benguela current flowing up along the coast ensures that there is no rain, hence the dunes reach the sea in one of the most inhospitable areas of the world. The path of the Tsauchab is flanked by some of the tallest dunes in the world, some of which rise majestically to over 1000ft above the surrounding plains, before ending as a ‘blind’ river at a salt-encrusted pan named Sossusvlei. This is one of a number of spectacular pans in the area that are surrounded by dunes and often have their surfaces studded by the ghostly figures of 500-year old dead Camelthorn trees.

The Kulala Concession on which the lodge is situated encompasses an area of over 80 000 acres of remote desert landscape to the east of (and with private entrance to) the famous Sossusvlei area of the National Park. Activities include morning visits to the massive dunes and salt pans at Sossusvlei, nature walks and nature drives during which you can enjoy the spectacular desert scenery and learn more about the sparse, but wonderfully adapted fauna and flora of the area. Activities at extra cost include hot air balloon trips over the concession (weather dependent), horse-riding and quad-bike rides in the desert. If you are lucky enough to visit when the moon is not too bright, then you will witness spectacular night skies.
Little Kulala is a luxurious desert retreat situated in the private 27 000-hectare (67 000-acre) Kulala Wilderness Reserve. Accommodation consists of 11 climate-controlled, thatched “kulalas” (the word means ‘to sleep’) which merge impeccably into the desert landscape, each with private plunge pool, both indoor and outdoor showers and a rooftop star bed for romantic star gazing. An elegant entertainment area includes a library, wine cellar, craft boutique, lounge and dining areas. Activities include game drives as well as a walk to Dead Vlei and the Sesriem Canyon. Little Kulala Lodge Website

Light aircraft transfer to Damaraland.

Damaraland – Doro !Nawas Camp – 2 Nights

Included: All meals, local beverages, laundry service, daily activities, private guide* (*with private tour option). No private car available.

Doro !Nawas Concession, Damaraland

The magnificent Aba-Huab River Valley of Damaraland in NW Namibia is a land of dramatic beauty, with rugged, scarred mountains, open grasslands and the ancient trees of the riverbed all competing for attention. From atop the arid, rocky outcrop upon which Doro !Nawas Camp is built, the stark, harsh beauty of the Doro !Nawas Concession stretches as far as the eye can see. This is prime desert elephant country, with Doro !Nawas Camp boasting panoramic vistas of the Etendeka Mountains to the north and the red sandstone cliffs of Twyfelfontein in the south. The latter is a World Heritage Site, with the prehistoric rock art of the San (bushmen) offering a fascinating insight into Africa’s ancient heritage.
Doro Nawas Camp comprises 16 units: a mix of stone and canvas walls with wood and glass doors, shaded by a thatch roof. Each unit, designed to blend into the hillside, consists of a bedroom, en-suite bathroom (with outdoor shower) and a veranda for star-gazing or sleep-outs. The main area is perched atop a rocky knoll offering unspoilt panoramic views from the indoor and outdoor dining areas, pool area, bar and a local curio area. A staircase to the flat roof leads to a place perfect for relaxing sundowners and star-gazing.

Activities include nature drives that take in the spectacular views and desert scenery. Wildlife viewing concentrates on the game found in the riverbed and along the valleys that sometimes fill with floodwater in the rainy season, with desert elephants being the focus. A highlight is the fascinating expedition to Twyfelfontein (World Heritage Site) with its renowned San art engravings, and one of the largest collections of petroglyphs rock art in Africa.

Doro Nawas Camp Website

Light aircraft transfer to the Skeleton Coast.

Skeleton Coast – Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp – 2 Nights

Included: All meals, local beverages, laundry service, daily activities, private guide & private vehicle* (*with private tour option).
Skeleton Coast
This treacherous coast - a foggy region with rocky and sandy coastal shallows - has long been a graveyard for unwary ships and their crews, hence it’s forbidding name. Early Portuguese sailors called it As Areias do Inferno (The Sands of Hell), as once a ship washed ashore, the fate of the crew was sealed. This protected area stretches from Sandwich Harbour, south of Swakopmund, to the Kunene River, taking in around 2 million hectares of dunes and gravel plains to form one of the most inhospitable but hauntingly beautiful places on the planet.

Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp is scenically located in a broad valley at the confluence of two tributaries of the dry Hoanib River in the northern part of the private Palmwag Concession. Its location thus straddles the Palmwag area and the iconic Skeleton Coast National Park, in one of the most remote areas of the Kaokoveld. The camp consists of seven large tents and one family unit, each comprising stylish en-suite bedrooms with shaded outdoor decks. Flanked to the east and west by rugged hills, the camp looks out over stunning, starkly beautiful scenery and offers guests all the luxuries and amenities for an unforgettable stay. Activities include drives in search of desert elephants and other wildlife in the riverbed, nature walks, and a day-trip to the coast that will reveal the ‘roaring dune’, an oasis and a Cape fur seal colony. Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp Website

Light aircraft transfer to Etosha National Park.
Etosha National Park – Little Ongava Lodge – 2 Nights
Included: All meals, local beverages, laundry service, daily activities, private guide & private vehicle* (*with private tour option).

**Ongava Game Reserve**
The 70 000 acre Ongava Game Reserve forms a buffer on the south-western part of the Etosha National Park and is home to impressive concentrations of big game and plains antelope in addition to being one of the largest rhino custodianships for the Namibian government, having both black and white rhino. Etosha Pan, the largest single salt pan in the world, is the result of a geological shift that dramatically changed the course of the Kunene River. Its 1.25 million acre surface area was formerly an ancient lake where salt deposits were left after all the water dried up. Today the Pan is mostly dry (occasionally being covered with a few inches of water in certain areas after heavy rains) and the parched white surface is known as the ‘Great White Place’ by the local Herero people. The waterholes that fringe the pan are excellent spots to view the game. Proximity of the lodge to Etosha also allows for a game drive into the National Park where there is a very good chance of seeing elephant, a variety of general game species, jackals and lion.

**Little Ongava**
Designed for privacy, luxury and an intimacy with the land, Little Ongava is set on a high hill with pristine views across the plains. A long boardwalk meanders over rocks and trees, connecting the beautiful main lounge and dining area with one of three breathtaking, secluded thatch-roofed bungalows. Each bungalow is like a home, featuring a large sitting room with a fireplace, a private deck, infinity pool and sala. Activities at the lodge include game drives (including at night with a spotlight) and nature walks. [Little Ongava Lodge Website](#)

**Light aircraft transfer to Kaokoveld.**
Marienfluss Conservancy, Kaokoveld – Serra Cafema Camp – 2 Nights

**Included:** All meals, local beverages, laundry service, daily activities, private guide & private vehicle* (*with private tour option).

**Marienfluss Conservancy**
This protected conservation area is the result of a partnership between the local indigenous inhabitants and private enterprise to ensure sustainability of the ecosystem and its wildlife in addition to empowering the people. The area is a mammoth 600 000 acres in extent and is dominated by soft sands, vast, ancient valleys that in good years have a covering of grass, fold mountains (metamorphic) and granite inselbergs. Wildlife is sparse but the sheer feeling of isolation and the unique birdlife and cultural possibilities make this a destination to be remembered.

**Serra Cafema Camp**
Undoubtedly one of the most remote camps in southern Africa, Serra Cafema is located in the extreme north-west of Namibia on the banks of the Kunene River in the Hartmann’s Valley. Serra Cafema is an intimate, peaceful camp inspired by the area’s Himba people, with a unique mix of rustic and luxury elements. Accommodation consists of eight en-suite Riverside wood, canvas and thatched villas on spacious, elevated decks blended smoothly into the picturesque surroundings. The main area, comprises indoor and outdoor dining areas, a sunken lounge, library, curio shop and a swimming pool.

Activities include nature walks, birding (there are a number of very rare species here because of the unique habitat in the desert), boating on the river and carefully guided drives and quad-bike excursions that tread lightly on the dunes. A big highlight of this area is the possibility of seeing the nomadic Himba people (if they are in the area), arguably the last remaining truly nomadic people left in southern Africa. Guests would then have the opportunity to learn about their lifestyle and traditions. [Serra Cafema Camp Website](#)
Light aircraft transfer to Windhoek for connection to a scheduled commercial flight to Johannesburg International Airport. The Safari ends in Johannesburg.

End of services
Tour is inclusive of the following:

- Private safari guide services for the entire itinerary (on private tours)
- Private vehicle at all safari destinations (on private tours)
- Shared vehicles at all destinations (on standard tours)
- All accommodation costs
- All meals, beverages, game-viewing activities and excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- Laundry costs where this service is included
- Internal / regional economy / coach flights* and shared charter flights
- Airport departure taxes for commercial flights
- All road transfers to / from hotels, lodges and airports
- Park and conservation fees
- Local taxes and levies

* Please advise if you would prefer business class seats on regional flights – the costing will then be adjusted accordingly.

Tour is exclusive of the following:

- Flights to and from Africa
- Private trip and medical insurance cover
- Visa costs
- Personal purchases
- Telephone, internet, business centre and room service charges
- Meals as noted such as lunch and dinner at city hotels
- Premium beverages (unless otherwise noted)
- Excursions not detailed on the itinerary
- Laundry costs where this service is not included
- Airport departure taxes not included in air ticket cost
- Gratuities
- Any other costs of a personal nature
- Credit Card Fees
- New taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases that are beyond the control of Beat About The Bush Safaris.

Tour is offered in the following options but can be customised for differing party sizes*

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* Please enquire for confirmed prices due to currency fluctuations.