

# 13 Southern Namibia Hiking Self-drive Safari Tour (Lodging)

# **Physical fitness required**







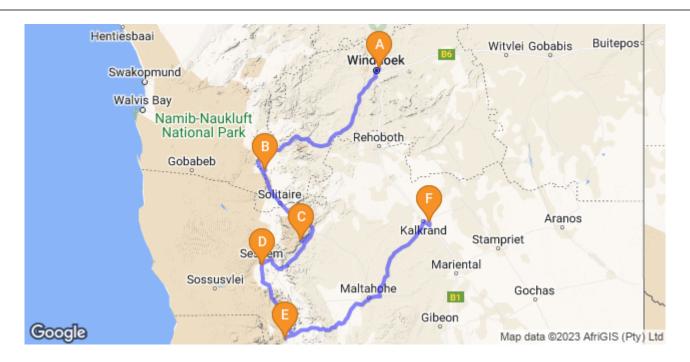






# 13 Southern Namibia Hiking Self-drive Safari Tour (Lodging)

Windhoek - Solitaire - Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park - Sesriem - NamibRand Nature Reserve - Kalahari Namibia



**Click here to view your Digital Itinerary** 

### **Introduction**

This 13 day tour will give you the opportunity to experience the fascinating, unpopulated nature of the Namib and the Kalahari with many hikes and excursions. This active trip is focusing on Namib, Naukluft and Kalahari which gives you plenty of time to absorb the extremely impressive varied nature of Namibia and forms a contrast to many other Namibia safaris, aiming at ticking off as many tourist highlights as possible.

You'll spent much less time driving than on the usual Namibian tours. The guided and un-guided hiking trails are diverse and can be classified as easy to moderate. You should have a certain level of fitness.

### Overview

- • DEPARTURE: This tour departs from Windhoek
- • COUNTRY ('S): Namibia
- • TOUR CODE: 13A-NA-SOL-NNR-KAL
- • RETURN: To Windhoek
- • PASSENGERS: Minimum 1 Traveler and a Maximum of 24 Travelers per group
- STYLE: Lodging
- • MEALS: BB: Breakfast and D: Dinner
- VEHICLE: 2-3: Double Cab 4x4/ SUV
- 4 7 guests: Toyota Quantum/Landcruiser with a purpose-built trailer
- 8-14 guests: Toyota Dyna truck (a modified safari vehicle) / Iveco Daily 24-Seater

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Haus Sonneneck or similar	Windhoek	B&B	1 Night
Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge or similar	Solitaire	B&B	2 Nights
Naukluft Camp or similar	Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park	B&B	2 Nights
Sossus Dune Lodge or similar	Sesriem	B&B	2 Nights
Tok Tokkie Trails or similar	NamibRand Nature Reserve	B&B	2 Nights
Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge or similar	Kalahari Namibia	B&B	3 Nights

# Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

## Day 1: Haus Sonneneck, Windhoek (45km)

After your arrival at the Hosea Kutako International Airport approx. 45 km east of Windhoek, you will be welcomed by the car rental company and taken to Windhoek where you will take over your vehicle with all the necessary instructions and information. Afterwards you will drive to your accommodation where you are able to freshen up and rest. In the afternoon you will be picked up by your guide from Bwana Tucke-Tucke for an interesting Windhoek city tour, during which you will get to know historical buildings and the township of Katutura. In the evening you can go out for a relaxing dinner. We can recommend Joe's Beerhouse, Cape Town Fish Market or The Stellenbosch.

#### Included activities

Historical visits

## **Optional activities**

You can visit Alte Feste an old fort and the 1896 Christuskirche Christ Church.

## Overnight & Haus Sonneneck or Similar

#### Windhoek

Situated in Central Namibia, the cosmopolitan city of Windhoek serves as the capital of the country. It is home to an international airport and a plethora of restaurants, shops, entertainment venues and accommodation options. The city is clean, safe and well-organised, with a colonial legacy that is reflected in its many German eateries and shops, and the widespread use of the German language. Windhoek has an interesting mix of historical architecture and modern buildings, many of which are worth a look, including the Alte Feste an old fort, the 1896 Christuskirche Christ Church, and the more contemporary Supreme Court.

## **Overnight: Haus Sonneneck**

Situated in the Eros Hills, it enjoys proximity to Restaurants, a Shopping Centre and the City, while retaining the quiet of a country estate.

The spotless rooms are spacious and include every possible comfort for your personal freedom and relaxation.

All rooms have en-suite facilities with a cosy and comfortable atmosphere, making your stay most enjoyable.

The heart of Sonneneck is the area around the sparkling swimming pool, surrounded by large, shady trees and a lush garden, where you can absorb the warmth of the Namibian sun.

Whether you are visiting our capital for business or pleasure, Haus Sonneneck is the perfect stop-over prior to your excursion into our beautiful country.



#### **Basis**

### Day 2: Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge, Solitaire (252.4km)

After breakfast you can buy some supplies at the supermarket. Through the rugged Khomas Highland (Road C26) you drive westwards to the Namib Desert. A little picnic for lunch can be held at one of the viewpoints on the way to the Gamsberg Pass. Via the picturesque pass you'll descend to the lower plains of the Namib Desert. After a few kilometres you turn left onto the C14 in a southern direction. After a short drive you'll reach Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge. A one-hour sundowner walk will top off your day.

#### Included activities

Sundowner walk

Overnight & Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge or similar

#### Solitaire

Situated in the Khomas region of Central Namibia, the desert town of Solitaire serves as an oasis in the Namib Desert. The town provides an important stop on the way to the ancient dunes of Sossusvlei, allowing travellers to stock up on essentials as they make their way further into the wilderness. Solitaire also has a small bar and is renowned for its famous apple pie - said to be the best in the country. Enjoy a scenic sundowner with views of the spectacular Namib Desert, hike and bike through the unspoilt natural surroundings, or visit the wonderful local Cheetah Sanctuary.

## **Overnight: Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge**

The Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge, located on a 12,000-hectare property on the edge of the Namib Desert, consists of unique, semi-subterranean rock "igloos" aesthetically integrated with the natural surroundings. Accommodation consists of

16 fully equipped standard double rooms and 3 suites with views over the desert. Aside from lying by the pool and enjoying the spectacular view activities include hiking to the natural springs in the Gaub and Ubib canyons, 4 hour 4 x 4 drives to the rock art cave paintings or simply enjoying a 2 hour sundowner drive.



#### **Basis**

Bed and Breakfast

## Day 3: Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge, Solitaire

Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge offers many different walking trails, varying from one-hour, light trails to whole day walking excursions to the rock paintings of the San (Bushmen). At the reception you will receive all information regarding length, difficulty and routing of the trails. We recommend to do the early sunrise trail followed by a lovely breakfast. Afterwards you are free to do one of the longer hikes. The afternoon can be spent at the refreshing pool with grand views.

#### Included activities

Sunrise Hike

## **Optional activities**

•	walking excursions to the rock paintings of the San (Bushmen) and early
	sunrise trail

Overnight & Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge or similar

## **Basis**

### Day 4: Naukluft Camp, Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park (75km)

The journey continues along the scenic C14 through the Namib Desert. In the little one-horse-town Solitaire you can get fuel and basic stuff from the little shop. Solitaire's apple crumble is quite popular and people liking apple crumble claim "rightly so". Strengthened and satisfied you'll continue on good gravel road until you reach Naukluft Rest Camp. The contrast between the never-ending expanse of the desert and the ruggedness of the Naukluft Mountains couldn't be bigger. After a lunch break there is enough time to hike the "Olive Trail", which takes about 4 hours. The level of difficulty is rated medium to difficult. Breath-taking views, impressive landscapes If you don't feel like climbing along a chain over a relatively steep cliff, you can also take a walk to a natural swimming pool up in the mountains here you have several superb swimming possibilities in crystal clear mountain spring water unique in Namibia.

#### **Included activities**

hike at the Olive Trail

Overnight & Naukluft Camp or similar

### **Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park**

Located north of the Namib Naukluft National Park, the Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park boasts a rich history, spectacular landscape, and abundant desert wildlife. The strikingly beautiful Naukluft Mountains are known for their interesting geology, as well as for their fauna, which includes leopards, Hartmann's mountain zebras, and varied birdlife. Three separate layers of rock – the oldest of which is thought to date back some 2000 million years – form steep cliffs rising to a flat plateau that can be reached via walking trails and 4x4 routes. A particular highlight of the Naukluft region is the series of freshwater pools located near the Kudusrus campsite. Visitors can enjoy exploring this magnificent Namibian landscape on various safaris.

**Overnight: Naukluft Camp** 

#### **Basis**

Bed and Breakfast

## Day 5: Naukluft Camp, Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park

Today a whole day hike, the "Waterkloof Trail" is on the program. Along perennial streams of the Naukluft Mountains the trail takes you 17 km through beautiful, diverse nature with several opportunities to take a quick refreshing dip in between. The trail takes about 6-8 hours and is rated medium to difficult. You should have endurance, be physically fit and have hiking experience.

On the trail you can not only enjoy wonderful landscapes, but with some luck – especially when you walk quietly – you can spot different wildlife. The Naukluft Mountains are home to mountain zebras, klipspringers, kudus, baboons and rock hyraxes. Numerous species of birds can be found including raptors and owls.

#### Included activities

Hike to Waterkloof Trail

Overnight & Naukluft Camp or similar

#### **Basis**

### Day 6: Sossus Dune Lodge, Sesriem (99.7km)

In the morning you bid farewell to the Naukluft and take a relaxing one-and-a-half-hour drive to the Sossusvlei. It is advisable to pay the entrance fee for next day's excursion into the Namib Naukluft Park upon arrival and to enjoy the sundowner from the first dune to the right of the road – the Elim Dune. Here you have beautiful vistas of the sea of dunes to the west and the mighty Naukluft Mountains to the east.

#### Included activities

Visit to Elim Dune, Sundowner

Overnight & Sossus Dune Lodge or similar

#### Sesriem

As there is no accommodation at Sossusvlei, visitors to this desert wilderness are likely to end up staying at Sesriem, 65 kilometres away, where camps and lodges serve as a base from which to explore the dunes. Sesriem Canyon, a deep chasm carved through the rocks by water, is a striking natural feature of the area that is best explored on foot. Stony walls rise up sharply on both sides of the canyon, while birds roost in its crags and lizards dart along the ledges. The canyon's name was coined when early settlers used it as a water source, using six lengths of leather ('ses riem – six thongs) tied together to lower buckets into the water at the base of canyon.)

## **Overnight: Sossus Dune Lodge**

Namibia Wildlife Resorts launched the first lodge in the Namib-Naukluft Park, the Sossus Dune Lodge, in June 2007. Built in an environmentally sensitive manner,

primarily from wood, canvas and thatch, in an attractive 'afro-village' style, Sossus Dune Lodge offers guests an evocative and life changing experience. Situated within the park, guests benefit from being able to reach Sossusvlei before sunrise, and stay until after sunset, and on their return after an exhilarating day, relax in the tranquillity and splendor of the Namib Desert, under the spectacular African sky. Sossus Dune Lodge offers professional guided tours, fully unleashing the beauty and biological diversity of the desert environment to visitors, and offers the best beds in the desert.



**Basis** 

### Day 7: Sossus Dune Lodge, Sesriem

Today an early rise (approx. 1 hour before sunrise) is advisable. The spectacle of colours of this natural wonder is best seen during sunrise with the additional advantage of cooler temperature than later in the day. You drive 80 km through dune landscapes on good tar road. The last 4 kilometres take you through thick sands where you will have to engage your 4x4.

The Dead Vlei with its numerous dead camelthorn trees as well as the famous Sossusvlei offer an unbelievable impressive natural setting. Take your time to just let your soul stray whilst climbing the Big Daddy, the tallest dune in the surrounding. Depending on your state of fitness and sand conditions the climb will take about 1 – 2 hours. The way down is usually much quicker and the more adventures can run down the steep slip face into Dead Vlei – this takes less than a minute.

Before the heats starts burning your soles away you should start to make your way back. At the park entrance we recommend a visit to the Sesriem Canyon before returning to your accommodation to spend the afternoon in the cool swimming pool.

#### Included activities

• Visit the Dead Vlei, climb the big Daddy Dune and visit Sesriem Canyon

Overnight & Sossus Dune Lodge or similar

#### **Basis**

## Day 8: Tok Tokkie Trails, NamibRand Nature Reserve (125km)

After breakfast you continue south out of the state owned Namib Naukluft Park and into the private NamibRand Nature Reserve. More breath-taking landscapes and numerous wildlife species await you.

At the Tok-Tokkie farm house a light lunch is served and you will be introduced to your desert guide, who will accompany you the next two days. A short introduction to the trail is given after lunch before starting your hike in the early afternoon.

The Tok Tokkie Trail is easy to walk, as you only have to carry a day pack – all other luggage is transported by car to the overnight camp – and the speed of walking is adjusted according to the group. The maximum number of participants is eight, so that the groups are always small and that the guide is able to individually respond to the guest's preferences.

In the evening you'll enjoy the obligatory sundowner and a little later a three-course menu. You'll sleep on cosy field beds amidst the dunes underneath a million stars – a very special experience!

#### **Included activities**

A walk to Tok Tokkie Trail, sundowner

Overnight & Tok Tokkie Trail or similar

#### **NamibRand Nature Reserve**

Spanning an area of 172,200 hectares and encompassing four distinct ecosystems, the NamibRand Reserve of southern Namibia is among the largest privately owned game parks in Southern Africa. Founded to conserve the unique environment and wildlife species of the Namib Desert, the park's mix of dunes, mountains, rocky outcrops, sandy flats, and gravel plains provides habitats for a diversity of mammals,

including hyenas, jackals, foxes, antelopes, and various wild cats. A plethora of bird species, reptiles, insects, and frogs also have their home here, alongside an array of plant species. Discover the mysterious 'fairy circles', unexplained bare patches in the sand, or enjoy a night of sublime stargazing - having been named Africa's first International Dark Sky Reserve, it is one of the least light-polluted areas in the world.

## **Overnight: Tok Tokkie Trails**

Tok Tokkie Trails takes you close to the desert's stunning beauty. Is there a better way to immerse in nature than on foot? Whilst walking, you will discover many secrets of the Namib that cannot be experienced when driving and you will get to feel different aspects of the desert – from mountainous terrain to sandy dunes. Let your experienced guide explain all this to you, relax with a sun downer and enjoy a three-course dinner before falling asleep under the stars...



#### **Basis**

## Day 9: Tok Tokkie Trails, NamibRand Nature Reserve

The next morning you wake up before sunrise so you have time to enjoy the sunrise in this pristine landscape. After breakfast we start with the reading, the morning "newspaper", which means that your guide will explain the fresh tracks in the sand left by the desert inhabitants to you as you go along

These inhabitants of the Namib, the oldest desert in the world, have adapted to the arid climate in an astonishing way. Your experienced guide will tell you a lot about the mammals, birds, reptiles and insects found here and will probably be able to lure one or the other desert inhabitant in front of your camera.

The hot midday hours are spent at the shady lunch spot. Here you have time to relax, to have a bite for lunch and to reminisce about the last days. Once the temperatures cool down a bit towards the afternoon you embark on the last leg of the second day. The route takes you pass fairy circles and over small hillocks with unbelievable views onto the gras-covered, orange-red dunes of the Namib.

Once more you'll sleep in warm field beds right amidst the dunes! Included activities

Hiking

Overnight & tok tokkie trail

#### **Basis**

### Day 10: Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge, Kalahari Namibia

Once more you awake with the rising sun surrounded by a sea of dunes. The hike today is easy going and you will arrive around 10:00 at the Tok-Tokkie farm house. Time to say good-bye to your guide and the friendly Tok-Tokkie staff and to drive into the Kalahari.

The last highlight of your journey, the Trans Kalahari Hike is awaiting you. Check in is from 2 pm and your guide is already awaiting you with the necessary information. The evening is spent at the Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge.

#### Included activities

Trans Kalahari Hike

Overnight & Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge or similar

#### Kalahari Namibia

Spreading across Botswana, South Africa and Namibia, the Kalahari meaning 'the great thirst' is an exceptionally beautiful living desert. The landscape is characterised by a large semi-arid sandy savannah draped over a gently rolling inland sea of sand covering most of Botswana and large parts of Namibia and South Africa. It is also the last bastion of the indigenous San people with the modern world having enveloped all the other areas they once roamed. The Namibian portion is made up of red sands covered in thin, wispy, mostly golden grass and dotted with acacia trees and wide-ranging wildlife including gemsbok, impala, jackals and cheetah.

## Overnight: Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge View iBrochure

KALAHARI RED DUNES LODGE, a lodge designed with a lot of passion for details, is located in the impressive Kalahari landscape characterized by red sand dunes and camel thorn trees. Its "Luxury of Solitude", offers ample space and privacy.

The main house, consisting of reception, lobby, restaurant and bar, pool and shaded deck is situated in a dry lake (vlei). A wooden boardwalk connects the main building with the chalets which are nestled around the 'vlei', where often animals can be observed. Each chalet has a thatched roofed tented and a stoned section as well as a private terrace. During the Nature/ Game Drives and nature walks guests can experience the breathtaking beauty of the Kalahari with it's up to 30 m high red dunes and a huge variety of game.

The suites with their thatched roofs are each decorated in an individual style and are connected to each other by a paved walk-way.

The vastness of the African Savannah can be experienced on the 2-day TRANS KALAHARI WALK. This guided hike leads through desert-like sceneries and their habitat of giraffes, zebras and antelopes and offers one overnight stay in a luxury tented camp in the dunes.



#### **Basis**

### Day 11: Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge, Kalahari Namibia

An early rise allows you to enjoy the sunrise on a Kalahari dune with a hot cup of coffee. Afterwards the hike commences. Experience the orange-red dunes of the Kalahari and the bush and tree savanna so typical for Namibia. After a picnic lunch you will reach the exclusive, luxurious Kalahari Dune Camp with shady Lapa and view deck in the afternoon. The camp's waterhole is often visited by giraffes and antelopes. A small pool is at your disposal to clean yourself from dust and sweat of the hike. In the evening a barbeque awaits you at the campfire. Most of the time a clear sky allows a fabulous starry sky. You overnight in tents, each with own bathroom and hot shower.

#### **Include activities**

Hike

Overnight & Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge or similar

#### **Basis**

Bed and Breakfast

## Day 12: Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge, Kalahari Namibia

After an early breakfast in the dune camp with a view of the waterhole, you hike back to the Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge, where the Transkalahari Walk ends around midday. The rest of the day is spent relaxing in the lodge by the pool or on a short trip to the dunes if you haven't got enough exercise. In the late afternoon you can take part in a sundowner 4x4 game drive to get to know the Kalahari from a different perspective.

## **Included activities**

• Hike to Kalahari Red Dune Lodge

Overnight & Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge

## **Basis**

## Day 13: End of Itinerary (back to windhoek) (243.7km)

The Trans Kalahari Walk ends around noon at the Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge. It is the last day of your safari. Bid farewell to the Kalahari and to Namibia! Depending on your return flight you can plan a bit of time for souvenir shopping in Windhoek.

The drive to Windhoek takes about two hours. You return your vehicle in Windhoek at the car rental and are transferred to Hosea Kutako Airport, as agreed upon at the beginning of your safari already.

## **SELF-DRIVE INFORMATION:**

Emergency Services: Emergency evacuation services are included.

Drivers: A valid and unendorsed license must be produced by all drivers. The minimum age for authorized drivers is 23 years.

Fuel: The renter will receive the vehicle with a full tank of fuel. Upon the return of the vehicle/termination of the hire, the vehicle will be refilled at the renter's expense.

Insurances: The rental vehicle includes Zero Excess

Rental Agreement: Upon renting the vehicle the renter and additional drivers will be required to complete a standard rental agreement with the car rental company. A valid credit card is required for the rental deposit.

Health: It is the client's responsibility to ensure that he/she is medically fit and able to embark on the tour.

Force Majeure: We do our utmost to conduct the tour as described in the program; however, we cannot guarantee it. Unfavourable weather conditions, rivers in flood, organizational problems, unforeseen events, or other factors may force us to change the course of the tour. We apologize for the inconvenience.

## **INCLUDED**

- 1. Toyota Hilux 4x4 DC/ Nissan NP300 4x4 D/C/ Ford Ranger 4x4
- 2. Zero Excess Fee
- 3. GPS & latest Track4Africa software
- 4. 12-220v inverter with USB
- 5. Fridge
- 6. Airport transfers
- 7. 24/7 Support
- 8. If Driver needed it can be arranged

## **EXCLUDED**

- 1. Excludes International Flights
- 2. Excludes Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- 3. Excludes Park Fees
- 4. Excludes Drinks
- 5. Excludes Upgrades on accommodations
- 6. Excludes Fuel
- 7. Excludes Park Fees

# **Urgent Contact Numbers**

Company	Telephone	Email Address	Contact
Name			Person
Safari World Tours	+264818211521	consultant@safariworldtours.com	Clarence Goagoseb
Safari World	+264 81 821		
Tours -	1521		
Emergency			
Contact			

# **Service Provider Directory**

Service Provider	Ref. Number	Telephone	Address
Haus Sonneneck		+264 61 22 4045	
Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge		+264 61 24 0020	Main Road, B1 8km south of Kalkrand No postal code for Location ID: 2176
Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge		+264 64 69 4000	
Tok Tokkie Trails		+264 61 26 4521	

#### **Travel Information**



Located in southwestern Africa, Namibia boasts a well-developed infrastructure, some of the best tourist facilities in Africa, and an impressive list of breathtaking natural wonders. Visitors can explore the capital of Windhoek and discover the lovely coastal town of Swakopmund boasting remnants of the country's German influence, reflected in the architecture, culture, cuisine and the annual Oktoberfest celebrations. To properly appreciate this extraordinary country, you will have to venture out of the cities to explore the remarkable natural landscapes Namibia has to offer. These include: the impressive Fish River Canyon; the vast Etosha National Park teeming with abundant wildlife, such as lions, desert-adapted elephants and the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra; the hauntingly beautiful Kalahari Desert; and of course the Namib Desert stretching for over 2000 km along the magnificent Atlantic Coast. Namibia is an ideal destination for travellers seeking an unforgettable African experience in a uniquely beautiful untamed wilderness.

#### **Terms and Conditions**

#### **Safari World Tours Terms and Conditions**

- 1. A 30 % non-refundable deposit of the full amount due is required to confirm any reservation and is to be done by the agent or client by fax or e-mail.
- 2. The Company must receive the balance of the contract price no later than 60 Days prior to departure.
- 3. If the Company does not receive the full contract price 45 days before the departure date, the Company may cancel the reservation and retain whatever deposit or other funds it has already received from the client or his agent.
- 4. The payment can be done via Bank Transfer or Paypal into Enrico's Tours and Safaris
- 5. Differences due to currency fluctuations will not be accepted.
- 6. Namibian Dollar is not an international trading currency and will encounter larger handling fees due to conversions
- 7. Any cancellation of a confirmed booking must be done in writing (email) to the Company.
- 8. If the booking is cancelled, the following fees apply relative to the amount of notice given:

$\ \square$ 60 Days before tour 80% refundable of amount paid
□ 45 days before: 50% of invoiced amount refunded
□ 15 or less days: No refund

9. If a booking is changed to an earlier date than originally reserved, the Company will endeavour to change it. But if changed to a further date there will be a charge of 5% on invoice value.