

# Namibia Highlights Lodge Safari

Trip Code: NHT

Version:



WILDLIFE



GUIDED GROUP



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- See the sunrise at the dunes of Sossusvlei and hike to the top of Dune 45
- Explore Cape Town, walk in the Cederberg and enjoy optional canoeing on the Orange River
- Witness the world-class game-viewing at the salt pans of Etosha National Park
- See the enormous Fish River Canyon and spend time in Swakopmund on the Atlantic coast

**AT A GLANCE**

- 14 days touring and sightseeing with some walking
- Max altitude - 2000 metres
- and over 3500km of overlanding in between
- Join at Cape Town, end in Windhoek

**ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS**

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

## Introduction

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With towering sand dunes, a wild Atlantic coastline, first-class game parks, a diverse cultural heritage and 300 days of sunshine a year, Namibia is an outstanding adventure travel destination. Our overland journey of some 3500km begins with an opportunity to explore one of the most picturesque and iconic African cities, Cape Town. On departure from Cape Town we head northwards across the Cederberg Mountains and into the dreamscape land of Namibia. On this classic discovery holiday circuit, we visit many of the major attractions, such as the striking dunes at Sossusvlei, the and the charming coastal town of Swakopmund with its German colonial architecture. After a free day at Swakopmund with optional activities, we continue our journey northwards beside the Skeleton Coast and beneath Brandberg (2573m), the country's highest peak. Our finale starts with 2 days at Etosha National Park with a chance to spot elephant, black rhino, lion and many other resident species of this world-famous park, before rounding this Southern African adventure off in the laid back capital of Windhoek. If you are looking for an unforgettable overland adventure holiday in Namibia, this is definitely one you should consider!

This itinerary is the first section of our longer [Cape Town to Vic Falls](#) itinerary which includes Botswana, the Okavango Delta and of course Victoria Falls.

If you would like further information on when to go to Southern Africa on safari and which trip suits you the best, please refer to our detailed guide [Which safari is right for you?](#)

### Is this holiday for you?

Everything in Africa is on a big scale, and to cover the ground necessary, your journey across Southern Africa includes several long drives accompanied by Africa's spectacular scenery. Such drives, including your game drives, can often be on dirt tracks, graded roads and also tar highways. The driving times are indicated on each day. These times do not include stops along the way. We ensure that regular comfort breaks are taken, and stops try to be scheduled to visit interesting towns or sights.

Included in the itinerary are a variety of walks. These walks can be on paved surfaces, uneven sandy dunes or rocky terrain and are always accompanied by your experienced guide. Each walk is paced with time for your guide to interpret the environment around you. On some walks, it is vital to keep within the group in case of an animal encounter.

The accommodation will range from chalet style through to permanent tented lodges with en-suite facilities. There may be a bar/restaurant available and some lodges may have a swimming pool. Many of the meals are prepared by the guides and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up on these days and this is usually done on rotation. This journey is suitable for the adventure traveller looking to experience some the best of Namibia.

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- Two professional and qualified guides
- Airport transfer on Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- National Park entrance fees
- All activities/excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional'

### What's not Included

- Travel Insurance
- Visas (if applicable) Airport transfer on Day 14 of the Land Only itinerary
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips for local staff
- Miscellaneous personal expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

### Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the group hotel in Cape Town.

On arrival transfers are provided on arrival from Cape Town Airport to the group hotel.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, airport transfers to Windhoek Airport are not included. We can provide private transfers at an additional cost. Taxis are also available and are often cheaper.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

### Meal Plan

13 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 8 dinners are included in the price of your holiday. Non-included meals are in Cape Town, Swakopmund and Windhoek where we try out local restaurants. We recommend you budget £10-15 for each of these meals.

## Food & Water

Water from the taps may not be drinkable in all locations on this trip - please check with your guide. We recommend taking water purification tablets and a reusable bottle with a filter such as [Water-to-Go](#), which can both be used to help make safe other water sources. Please note that we do not encourage the purchase of single use plastic bottles.

The majority of the meals are provided. Breakfast will be cereals and yoghurt, with coffee, tea, toast and the occasional cooked breakfast. Lunch will typically be picnic style - cold meats, cheese, salads, bread, rolls and fruit. Dinner will be potjies (traditional stews), braais (barbecue), stir fries, pasta dishes, curries etc. Very often cooking will be on an open fire. Fresh produce will be used wherever possible and fruit squash, tea and coffee will be served with breakfast and dinner. Many of the meals are prepared by the guides and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up on these days and this is usually done on rotation. Some meals are taken at the accommodation or in local restaurants. Special dietary requirements (vegetarian or allergies) can usually be catered for, but it is essential that this information is received on booking. There is one cool box available for the group to put your own drinks in. Stops at supermarkets are regular to pick up supplies such as alcohol and soft drinks.

## Accommodation

This holiday has 13 nights staying at variety of different guesthouses, lodges, chalets, tented lodges, tented/fixed camps and cabins. The rooms are twin/double and mainly have en suite facilities. Some of the guesthouses and lodges have a bar and a swimming pool.

Cabins / chalets are used in remote areas or national parks. These are simple structures with basic rooms and shared ablutions.

When at a tented lodge you will stay in a classic canvas safari tent with twin beds, en suite facilities. It is built on a permanent base (concrete or wood platform) and might have a thatch roof. There is usually a main lodge area with a bar, and possibly a swimming pool and small shop. A fixed camp is a similar arrangement, but it's more likely to have a canvas roof on the tent and less likely to have a bar or swimming pool.

When at the cabins, chalets, tented lodges and fixed camps there is a shared kitchen and dining area which will be used by the group and the guides during meal times.

All accommodation is subject to change without prior warning.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. A limited number of single rooms are available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotel are available on request.

### SAFARI TRUCKS

Years of safari experience into the design of the trucks. The trucks are built to comply with the latest South African transport and safety regulations. Your comfort is catered for with individual seats (with safety belts), ample legroom and large vertical sliding windows for unobstructed viewing and photography.

There are roof hatches for excellent "open" views and an integral cab and passenger compartment so contact with the driver is easy. Each truck also has large packing compartments, a built in kitchen, freezer, drinking water tank, interior lights and a gas stove (to minimise use of wood and destruction of forest areas). There is also a pullout set of steps into the passenger compartment, making access for clients easier. There is usually a bank of plug sockets in the vehicles. These plugs are the South African 3 round pin or 2 round pin with a hexagonal base. We also use minibuses for some small group safaris. All of our vehicles are bought new and serviced by Mercedes and Toyota agents, thus ensuring trouble free touring with backup support in practically every town in Southern Africa.

Where road conditions allow, such as South Africa and Namibia we may also use minibuses. On 5% of tours we may use minibuses with 12 seats and air conditioning (with trailer for equipment and baggage). The safaris often have several long days of travel providing for a beautiful journey on the way to exciting and varied destinations.

## Group Leader & Support Staff

Group leaders are the key to any successful safari. On this adventure safari, you will travel with two qualified and experienced, registered field guides (FGASA). Two guides as crew, not a guide and a driver, adds up to an informative and interesting small group holiday. Our guides have a passion for Africa, her people and wildlife, and they love nothing more than sharing their knowledge with you.

## Spending Money

We estimate that a total of around £300 per person (or equivalent in euros/dollars) should be allowed for personal spending. This amount should be sufficient to cover non-included meals and miscellaneous expenses, including tips to local staff. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs, considerable quantities of soft drinks / beer or undertake additional activities or excursions, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect). You can choose to take your money in pounds sterling, dollars or euros. There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at the airport (which we advise you to do) and your local leader will advise further places to change money en-route and at borders. Additionally, you will be able to get currency from bank ATMs in many of the towns that we will visit.

Many small traders will accept US\$, Euro or GBP. Your notes should be clean and undamaged. And please avoid USD\$100 and old issue 'small head' US\$ notes as they might not be accepted.

There are many optional activities which you can take part in on this holiday. Some of these are: Table Mountain Cableway \$35; Robben Island Cruise \$30 (depending on arrival time); canoeing on the Orange River \$20; Dune Boarding \$42. All optional activities should be booked on arrival with your leader and paid for locally. All prices are approximate and are subject to change without notice. All optional activities taken outside the KE holiday are at your own risk.

## Guidance on Tipping

Your tour leader also works extremely hard to ensure that your holiday runs smoothly and that you are happy. We suggest that a tip of £2-5 per client per day for your tour leader is reasonable. When it comes to tipping the guides that we sometimes use for various activities (e.g. game walks) we suggest that a tip of £1-3 per client per ½ day activity, or the local currency equivalent, is acceptable. As in all cases with tipping, the final decision of the amount tipped is up to the individual. It is up to you to decide if you thought the service was poor, or exceptional, and the amount tipped should reflect that. The amounts quoted above are guidelines for you to get an idea of what to tip.

## Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Your baggage will travel in the gear compartment of the truck with the group, and there is a finite amount of space. Please keep the weight of your main luggage to 12kg. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle.

## **Group Size & Holiday Status**

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

## **Group Members**

We sell this holiday in conjunction with our local operator in Southern Africa. This enables us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get the holiday up and running quickly. For this holiday the minimum age is 12 yrs, however it is unusual to have people under 16yrs.

## **South Africa Indemnity Form**

As a member of the South African Tourism Service Association, our ground agent in South Africa may require you to complete an indemnity form at the start of your holiday, which you will need your insurance details for. As a client of KE Adventure Travel, your rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Regulations (2018) are unaffected and KE Adventure Travel will remain liable for the actions of our suppliers.



# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

### Visa South Africa

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You must have 2 blank pages in your passport.

Rules on **travelling with children under 18 years** have been relaxed. Visa exempt children entering South Africa only need passports, and not birth certificates as previously required. This applies if the child is travelling with both parents, one parent or an adult who is not a biological parent, and school groups. There are some different requirements for unaccompanied children, and children who do not have UK passports or visa exempt passports. For full details please see the FCDO website.

### Visa Namibia

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You should carry a photocopy of your passport with you at all times when in Namibia for identification.

### Travelling with children under 18yrs - Namibia

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Namibia. For further details please see FCDO website.

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. Malarial prophylaxis are required. A certificate of yellow fever vaccination is required if travelling from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited for more than 12 hrs through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

## Currency

The unit of currency in South Africa is the South African Rand.

The unit of currency in Namibia is the Namibian Dollar. The Namibian and the the Southern African Rand have the same value, and the Rand is accepted everywhere in Namibia.

## Climate

Namibia's climate is typical of semi-desert terrain, hot days and cool nights. Daytime temperatures are likely to range between 20 and 30 degrees centigrade. The coastal regions are cooled by the cold Benguela current, causing fog and some rainfall. With 300 days of sunshine on average per year, Namibia is truly a sunny place. Only during the summer months from November to the end of March does rain occur, mostly as heavy thunderstorms. Winter is from May to September with wonderful warm days which are contrasted by very cold nights, when temperatures can drop close to freezing.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

## Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through one of our international partners. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

# Equipment Information

## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

### You should bring the following items:

- Lightweight walking shoes or trainers
- Sandals
- Socks and underwear
- Long lightweight trousers
- Shorts
- Lightweight waterproof jacket & trousers
- T-shirts
- Casual shirts with sleeves
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Sunglasses
- Buff/scarf for dusty days
- Small towel/Travel towel
- Daypack 20-25 litres

- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries (biodegradable soap is preferred)
- Antibacterial handwash
- Insect repellent
- Basic First Aid Kit including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, re-hydration salts (Dioralite), anti-nausea tablets and antihistamine cream/tablets.

### The following items are optional:

- Light cotton dress or sarong
- Swimwear
- Pen-knife (remember to pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- A selection of dry bags for daypack/kitbag
- Camera
- Binoculars (highly recommended)
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

### Notes:

Please be aware that in the Southern African the winter months, June-September, the nights can be cold with an average of between 0-5 degrees Celsius in some places, and the days can be warm between 20-30 degrees Celsius

Bright bold colours and white are not suitable for game viewing or bush wear as they attract insects and the attention of animals. Please do not bring camouflage or military style clothes as they can cause problems with local authorities.

Please dress appropriately for border crossings, village and market visits - ie: no bare feet, no bare chests, no bikinis and no hats. A few restaurants are also not keen on T-shirts and jeans either.

### Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

### Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining in Cape Town. Airport transfers are provided on arrival. This itinerary ends in Windhoek.

## Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Cape Town and returning from Windhoek. Arrival airport transfers are included.

Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving the next day (day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart in the afternoon on the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE?

Call and ask to speak to Michelle in our product team who travelled on this holiday. She loved it! Her two favourite places were Sossusvlei and Etosha.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change