



## Stars, Stars, Stars

### 19 Days - Luxury Lodge & Camping Safari - Fly In Service

**19 day luxury lodge & camping safari with private 4x4 vehicle & guide and Fly In service. Experience the diverse natural backdrops of Namibia – from the desert to tropical rivers – overnight in wonderful lodges and spend a breathtaking night under the stars in a camp especially erected for you. This safari will open your soul to Africa .....**

#### 1. Day Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge - Namib Rand Nature Reserve

Welcome to Namibia! Your guide will be waiting for you at the airport. We immediately begin our journey into the vastness of Africa. We travel in a westerly direction over the Khomas Hochland (2000m), across a plateau into the unending horizons of the Namib Desert. En route we enjoy a picnic lunch. Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge is situated in the Namib Rand Nature Reserve. This 1500km<sup>2</sup> area, with its breathtaking vistas of dark mountain ranges, dune landscapes and open valleys is open to tourism for conservation purposes only. The Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge is the ideal start for your African adventure. Not only does it have an impressive wine cellar, but as an after dinner treat, you will be able to explore the incredible night sky with its Southern Cross through a 12 inch telescope. (420 km)

#### 2. & 3. Days Kulala Wilderness Camp - Sossusvlei

Today we travel along a picturesque route for approximately 1.5 hours until we reach the neighbouring Kulala Wilderness Camp. The Camp - in the heart of the Namib Desert – lies in the 21.000 hectare private Wilderness Reserve. It is fascinating to observe how the wildlife has adapted to the harsh conditions of the world's oldest desert. Springbok, Oryx, ostrich or batedared foxes are frequent companions en route. Scientifically Sossusvlei is a dry riverbed area and is one of the most kaleidoscopic dune landscapes in Namibia, with Sesriem Canyon as one of its highlights. Early settlers needed to tie six thongs together to draw water from ground pools, hence the name "Sesriem" or "six thongs". The next days are taken up with a host of activities: excursions to the world's highest dunes (300m), open vehicle game drives and, for those romantic adventurers, it is possible to do an early morning hot air balloon flight to watch the sun rise (not included in the price) followed by a champagne breakfast. (100 km)

#### 4. & 5. Day Swakopmund Hotel - Coast

Today we travel across desert gravel plains towards the coast. The road to Walvis Bay plunges down the Pass into the Kuiseb Canyon and offers spectacular views of this harsh layered landscape. The book "The Sheltering Desert" by Henno Martin describes how he and another German geologist, Hermann Korn, took refuge here for two years

during the Second World War to escape being interned. This book chronicles their exceptional experiences and also their love for the Namib. The beach and a rich German colonial history await us in Swakopmund. (380 km)

### **6. & 7. Days Camping / Jamies Camp - Damaraland**

From the coast we travel in a northerly direction into Damaraland. Our route crosses dry riverbeds as we search for desert elephant. We will stop for a picnic in the shade of an old Ana tree. A camp, especially erected for you in the wilderness, awaits your arrival at the foot of the Brandberg. We enjoy the sounds of an African night around the camp fire and candlelight with a gin tonic. The next day will be spent in the bush on the search for desert elephant, a visit to the White Lady or possibly an encounter with rhino. We again overnight in our bush camp under the stars. (240 km)

### **8. & 9. Day Mowani Lodge - Damaraland**

We continue from Jamie's Camp towards Mowani, lying in the midst of a giant's playground. The granite Inselberg landscape is fascinating and the stunning vistas from this beautiful lodge will take your breath away. Africa: so vast, so overwhelming and yet promoting a sense of security. The Lodge is an absolute highlight of the safari. Sundowners are served on the gigantic granite boulders around the Lodge and as the sun sets you hear the drum call to a candlelight dinner. The next day takes us to Twyfelfontein with its fascinating rock engravings. (110 km)

### **10. & 11. Day Palmwag Rhino Camp - Kunene**

From Mowani Mountain Lodge we journey through the bush to our next camp. Our route will be frequently punctuated by stops to view animals. Lunch will be a picnic on the road. We arrive at Palmwag Rhino Camp, which lies in a 400.000 hectare private concession area, in the afternoon. Springs sustain the rhino, elephant, zebra, giraffe, oryx, springbok and kudu that call this area home. The Camp works in close collaboration with the "Save the Rhino Trust", an organisation largely responsible for the survival of the black rhino in the region. (110 km)

### **12. & 13. Day Fly in Serra Cafema Lodge - Kunene River**

After breakfast your guide will take you to an airstrip in the bush, where a pilot is already waiting to fly you, via Kaokoland and the Marienfluss, to Serra Cafema Lodge in the north. Upon landing, a tour guide welcomes you and drives you to the Lodge. Serra Cafema has been built on the banks of the Kunene River, the boundary between Namibia and Angola. The reed-roofed chalets in the shade of old Ana trees provide a touch of romantic charm in the wilderness. Fall asleep to the sounds of the murmuring river and let the birds be your morning wake-up call.

Activities such as boat and quadbike tours are on the agenda for the next day. (2 hour flight)

#### **14. & 15. Day Fly in Omarunga Camp - Epupa Falls**

We travel by air to the Epupa Falls. The Epupa Falls on the Kunene plunge over a series of cataracts some 34m deep. There are several secure pools where you can bathe in the temperate waters. Omarunga Camp provides pleasant accommodation under palm trees on the banks of the Kunene. The chances of seeing Himba are good as they often water their livestock at the river. We also have the opportunity to visit one of their villages. The Himba are a nomadic people, at home in north-western Namibia and in the south of Angola. To date they adhere to strong traditions. Their animals, cattle and goats symbolise their wealth. The constantly lit holy fire, burns for their ancestors, and is always placed between the main hut and the kraal. (30min.)

#### **16. Day Hobatere Lodge - Kunene Region**

Today we travel southwards to Hobatere Lodge on the western boundary of Etosha National Park. Steve and Louise Braine have managed the lodge for some 20 years and Steve is regarded as one of the top birding experts in Namibia. Afternoon open vehicle game drives here are a wonderful experience with an abundance of wildlife. Or simply relax at the pool. With prior arrangement, we can book you into the tree house overlooking a waterhole. This experience is for the romantic at heart and is a perfect end to a great day in Africa. (200 km)

#### **17. & 18. Day Okaukuejo - Etosha National Park**

From Hobatere we travel through the Etosha National Park. We enter the Park through the western gate, an access not available to the public without a registered guide. Your visit to this part of the country and its wildlife will be infinitely better with your knowledgeable guide. Etosha means "land of dry water" or "large white place". This refers to the silvery white sand, which covers the salt pan as far as the eye can see and creates mirages in the midday heat. A mosaic of umbrella acacias and buffalo thorn, dot the endless plains. Before you get lost in your reveries, an elephant strides by, a hyaena lopes into the bushes, lions bask in the sun and zebra endlessly perform their greeting ceremony.

We overnight in the Park at Okaukuejo. The day ends with champagne at the floodlit waterhole. (210 km)

#### **19. Day Fly in Windhoek / Villa Verdi - Windhoek**

After breakfast you fly to Windhoek. In the afternoon you are free to shop or to enjoy some last sightseeing in the capital. For your convenience and comfort a day room has been booked at the Villa Verdi, where you can relax and enjoy a refreshing dip in the pool before leaving for the airport and your return trip home. (2 hours)