



## Recommended 14 Day Itinerary ex Windhoek

(Northern & Southern Loop - Waterberg, Etosha Game Park, Damaraland, Coastline and Sesriem / Sossusvlei or reversible)

### Day 1 Windhoek – Waterberg (between 3 - 4 hours)

Leaving the capital on the Independence Avenue former “Historic Kaiserstrasse” take the B1 heading towards Etosha, where you will reach Okahandja after 70 km. Here you could buy curios along the way. Departing further on the B1 northwards for about 147km you will turn right on to the C22. After about 48 km on the C22 form you turn left on the D2512 and drive for 17 km on gravel road before you reach the Waterberg Nature Reserve to your left. Overnight.

Okahandja – Of historical interest are the war memorials, Rheinische Missionskirche (1876), Railway Station (1901), Augustine House and the graves of Herero chiefs. Every year, usually on the last Sunday in august, the Hereros hold a colorful ceremony at the graves of Samuel Maharero and other past chiefs.

The Waterberg Restcamp (also of historical interest) has an excellent campground with good barbeque areas. The Showers and toilets are very good. The camp has a Shop, restaurant, kiosk, filling station and a large swimming pool. The camp must be reached before sunset when the gate closes. There are daily-guided tours to the plateau and hiking trails are recommended.

### Day 2-5

#### Waterberg – Hoba Meteorite – Etosha (about 6 hrs)

Leaving the Waterberg turn left on to the D2512, which is a gravel road till you reach the main road to Grootfontein. Cross the main road - keep straight and proceed further on the D2860 were after about 10 km you turn left on to the D2850 for about 5 km. Turn left at the sign – Hoba Meteorite. Return to the junction and turn left and proceed further on the D2850 until you reach the tar road.

Turn left on to the C42, this is a tar road and drive for about 55 km before you reach the turn-off to Tsumeb (an old mining town). Proceed through town and follow the signs till you reach the junction B1 again. Here turn right and follow the road until you see the turn off to the C38. Turn left and follow the road until you reach the gate of the famous Etosha National Park. The first Restcamp, the historic “Fort Namutoni” (built 1906) lays 10 km from there.

Etosha has three Restcamps – Namutoni in the east, Halali in the middle and Okaukuejo in the west of the park. All three offer more or less the same facilities: powered (and unpowered) campsites with barbeque facilities for up to 8 people, restaurant, shop, petrol station, swimming pool. Firewood is also available. At each camp there is a waterhole for game watching –lighted after sunset. The roads through the park are gravel and the speed limit is 60 km/h and nobody is allowed to leave the vehicle other than requested by an park official or at a public toilet – see permit and map of Etosha. Camps open at sunrise and close at sunset – please see boards at various camps.

## Day 6

### Okaukuejo – Outjo – Palmwag (about 5 – 7 hrs)

Today you leave behind the Etosha and proceed on the C38 to Outjo. Here you have the opportunity to go to a Bank and also fill up your supplies again. Return on the C38 for about 10km and turn left on to the C40 towards Kamanjab. Proceed through the town and carry on the D2620 a gravel road, for about 120km before you reach the sign – Palmwag. Turn right and proceed through the gate to Palmwag around the corner.

## Day 7

### Palmwag – Khorixas (about 5 – 7 hrs)

Return to the junction, turn right and driving further on gravel road D2620 to Khorixas, take your time, the scenery is really worth it. Possible detours along this route are D3254 and D3214 to Twyfelfontein rock paintings and engravings further to the “Burnt Mountain”. Return to the D2620 where you will pass the “Petrified Forest” on your way to Khorixas. Overnight in Khorixas Restcamp just before entering the town.

There are camping facilities, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, shop, curio kiosk and a petrol station in town.

## Day 8

### Khorixas - Uis – Spitzkoppe (about 5-7 hrs)

Take the C39 towards Outjo for about 8Km before you turn right on to the C35 south, which is a gravel road. After a while driving you will see the “Brandberg Mountain” from a distance – highest mountain in Namibia – 2 570 m. As you pass by, you could visit the “White Lady” rock paintings. The next village is Uis. Here you get petrol and a shop is also available. From there you take the D1930 further south until you see the D3716 turn-off to the right. Follow this road (and the signs) to Spitzkoppe. This is one of the most scenic overnight spots in Namibia. Facilities are very basic, but adequate.

## Day 9

### Spitzkoppe – Henties Bay – Swakopmund (about 5 – 7 hrs)

Depart Spitzkoppe and proceed further on the D3716 southwards until the turn-off D1918. Turn right and continue until you reach the junction. This road is a good gravel road. At the junction turn right on to the C34 northwards. After about 46Km you will reach Cape Cross with its famous seal colonies. Return on the C34 southwards and drive for 55Km until you reach Henties Bay. From there your route is south along the Namibian coastline to Swakopmund.

Recommended overnight: Langstrand Campground – 15Km south, on the way to Walvis Bay.

## Day 10

### Swakopmund

A full day in to explore Swakopmund, the “most German town outside of Germany”. Obtain a permit from Nature Conservation in town and view the desert in the “Namib Naukluft Park”. There are many interesting places such as the “Welwitschia Mirabilis”, the “Moonlandscape”, and many more. For detailed information undertake this with a local Tour Operator. Swakopmund has a museum, a waterworld and many restaurants, pubs and bars.

## Day 11

### Swakopmund - Walvis Bay - Sesriem (about 5 - 6 hrs)

To travel to Walvis Bay, take the scenic B2 between high sand dunes and the Atlantic Ocean. From there proceed on the C14, through the south part of the Namib Naukluft Park (no permit required). At the end of the park, where the road crosses the Kuiseb Canyon, there is a beautiful picnic spot on the right – perfect for a break. The C14 proceeds over two mountain passes and then along the desert down to Solitaire. Turn right to Solitaire where you find a basic shop and petrol. From there you take the D36, which leads you to Sesriem.

Overnight. There is a good campground at the edge of the desert with normal facilities and pool. Petrol station and kiosk are close by. Booking recommended. Also nearby we recommend the Sossusvlei River Campsite situated on the D826 about 15km south of Sesriem gate. The following is offered: classic camping under Camelthorn trees, incredible dune and mountain scenery, ablutions with hot and cold water, firewood and cold beverages available, quiet and peaceful – no generators or other buildings nearby. Also activities which can be organized include horse riding, game drives, mountain hikes and hot air ballooning.

## Day 12

### Sesriem - Sossusvlei – Sesriem (about 3 hrs to 1 day)

High mountains and high dunes accompany you on both sides of the road to Sossusvlei. After 80 km the road ends for normal vehicles – only 4 wheel drive vehicles can proceed for the final 4-5 km. It is even nicer to walk that distance, enjoying the view. The highest dunes in the world are located here. Overnight Sesriem or as recommended.

## Day 13

### Sesriem - Rehoboth – Windhoek (about 5-7 hrs)

Return to the junction D36 and turn right. Drive for about 30 km before turning left on to the D854 where you pass the Naukluft Mountains at the south side. Drive until the junction and turn left for 1 km before turning right again on to the D1206. Proceed until the junction and turn left on to the D47 passing Klein Aub – a small mining town until you reach a junction. Here you turn left on to the B1 and after 3 km you reach Rehoboth. Proceed on the B1 northwards where after about 90 km you reach Windhoek. Enjoy the scenic landscapes of Namibia for the last time.

Overnight in Windhoek. Recommended Campgrounds are the Trans Kalahari Caravan Park (22 km on the B6 towards the Hosea Kutako Airport, Daan Viljoen Game Park (on the C28 west of town) or the Aerebush Campsite (south of town, next to the B1 to Rehoboth).

## Day 14

### Windhoek

Windhoek is certainly worth a day or two. The historic town combines African culture with modern living. Museums, shopping centers, craft markets, restaurants, pubs and beer gardens make sure you stay interested and enjoyable.