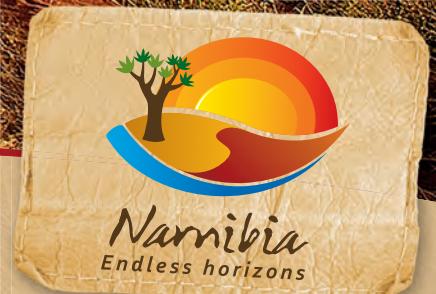
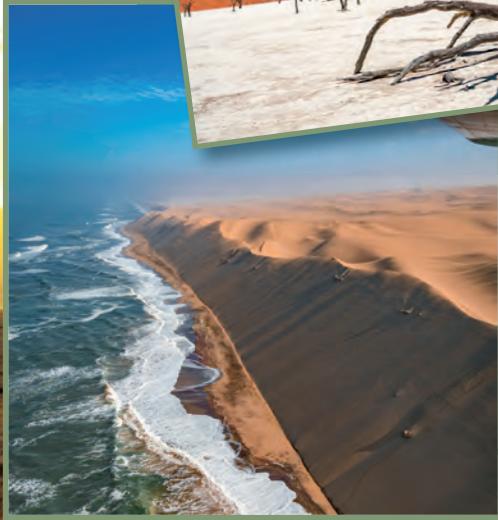


Explore Namibia

- National Parks rich in wildlife
- Lush river valleys
- Apricot coloured dunes
- Wild Atlantic coast
- Bizarre rock formations
- Nostalgic small towns
- Endless landscapes
- Rich cultural heritage
- Friendly people





"Namibia does not let go of your heart" – is a sentence often uttered by visitors to Namibia. Your heart could be captured by the ancient landscapes, the deafening silence or the illumination of the landscapes, drenched in gold when the sun's last rays disappear to make way for a night sky glittering with a thousand stars. It is no wonder that more than half of all visitors return again and again to this fascinating destination, which, blessed with over 300 days of sunshine, makes Namibia a destination to be visited all year around. No matter when you choose to visit, travelling to Namibia becomes an unforgettable experience.

Namibia is a young democracy, celebrating 32 years of independence in 2022 – a sign that political stability reigns. The excellent infrastructure within the country allows self-drive and escorted tourists hassle-free travels, whether by camper van, coach, car or aeroplane. Visitors to Namibia can get around comfortably, feeling safe.

Namibia is known as a land of contrasts and offers something special for every discerning person: spectacular landscapes, fascinating wildlife, a multitude of outdoor activities and a unique blend of African and European culture. English is the official language of Namibia, however thirteen ethnic groups live in harmony side by side, adding to the amazing cultural diversity. In no other African country is it possible to be drawn in by its inhabitants so quickly.

Inspiring

Reaching out to your soul



Arriving after a comfortable overnight flight, you will wake up to a world so different to anything you have ever known. Surprising and yet strangely familiar, fascinating and yet soothing to the soul, your arrival into Windhoek only gives a hint of what awaits in this amazing land of contrasts that is Namibia.

The variety of experiences Namibia offers its visitors is simply outstanding. Stand in awe as you look out over the amazing landscapes of Sossusvlei, boasting the highest dunes in the world, or travel south to the Fish River Canyon, thought to be second only in size to the Grand Canyon. Discover the four deserts of the south displaying a variety of ecological systems and life forms. Feel the icy breeze along the Atlantic coastline, which stretches over 1,500 kilometres along

Namibia's west coast. Thermal fountains, bizarre rock formations, waterfalls and the Skeleton Coast all invite visitors to experience an unforgettable adventure.

Landscapes in parts of Namibia are said to resemble those on the moon, yet in total contrast the Zambezi Region, forming the remote north-eastern area of Namibia, is a lush, fertile wilderness of ravine forests, flood plains, swamps and open woodland.

The intoxicating experiences that only these ancient landscapes can offer delve deep into the visitor's spirit. We urge you to spread your wings, and take in all that this land of contrasts has to offer.

Natural encounters

A rendezvous with nature



Conservation is firmly in the minds of the Namibian citizens and the leaders of the country.

Today, national parks, private nature reserves and communal conservancies cover over 40 percent of Namibia's surface area – an area as big as France. A magnitude of small and big game species

Namibia's environment and its natural treasures are conserved for future generations due to the close co-existence of the Namibian people and its animals.

have found refuge in Namibia, including the Big Five – elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion and leopard. All can be viewed in either national parks or private game reserves. The Etosha National Park, celebrated 110 years of conservation in 2017. This park stretches over an area of 22,000 km² offering excellent opportunities for game viewing and photography. The core of Etosha, meaning "great white place", is its saltpan of 5,000 km², which is completely without vegetation. At several waterholes on the edge of the pan, visitors have the opportunity to watch wildlife roam freely. Elephant, black and white rhino, giraffe, lion, herds of zebra and antelope are just some of the inhabitants of this immense National Park.

The Namib Naukluft Park in Namibia's south is one of the biggest national parks in Namibia. Promising a delight for the senses, here,



contrasts are pulled to the forefront. From the towering red dunes to the rugged deep canyons and mountains, this picture is complemented further with numerous species of antelope dotted throughout the park. All through the country you will find oryx, kudu, springbok, zebra and steenbok. Visitors can encounter more than 20 species of antelope in Namibia, showing off their horns crafted like works of art and their skins patterned in ways to make any designer jealous. They offer a feast to the viewer's eyes and to any photographer's lens.

Even at the coast many species of animal roam the beaches. Near Walvis Bay, thousands of seals bask on the beaches next to pink flamingos and white pelicans. Some seals even like to join in when tourists do a harbour cruise with champagne and fresh oysters, by briefly visiting the boats as you set sail.

Just as numerous are the animals in the waters of the Okavango and rivers of the Kavango – and Zambezi Region. This area in the remote north-east of the country sets itself apart scenically from the rest of Namibia by its rivers and bush lands. In this region, elephant, crocodile, hippo and buffalo have found an amazing natural sanctuary. The tropical vegetation of this region is in sheer contrast to the deserts of the south and west of Namibia.

Birdwatchers will be kept in awe during a holiday; Namibia has 630 species of bird to be identified with the help of a good book on southern Africa's birds.

Authentic

Meet the people



Namibia is one of the world's most sparsely populated countries.

Around 2.3 million people live in a country with an aerial surface of 824,292 km², which is about twice the size of France. The first signs of man in Namibia can be traced back to the Stone Age and today thirteen different ethnic groups exist side-by-side in Namibia. Visitors travelling through Namibia will experience a kaleidoscope of languages, cultures and ways of life.

In June 2007, Twyfelfontein was declared Namibia's first UNESCO world heritage site. Rock engravings and paintings are the silent evidence of the early inhabitants of this area, who were known

to be hunters. Amongst these inhabitants were the San people – also referred to as Bushmen – and the Damara. Today the ancient engravings and paintings, telling stories of bygone eras, can be viewed at Twyfelfontein and other sites in Namibia.

Just a few hundred years ago, herders and farmers from northern Africa joined the San and the Damara and towards the beginning of the 18th century people from South Africa and European missionaries and traders set foot on Namibian soil.

The far north of the country is home to most of its population, due to its perennial rivers and fertile grounds. Namibia's capital, Windhoek, with about 400,000 inhabitants, is the hub for experiencing city life



in all its facets, the Namibian way. The diversity of ethnic origins is fascinating to any visitor. Herero, Nama, Damara, Ovambo, Himba, San, Afrikaners, Namibians of European origin and many more live side by side. Although English is the official language, a further 28 languages are spoken.

Herero woman display their colourful Victorian dresses, Himbas keep to their traditional way of life, and Nama and Damara people are heard speaking with clicks in their language.

During one's travels it is easy to start a conversation with a local. Namibians are open for encounters with people from all countries. Whether you are in a town or in rural areas, Namibians are easily

approachable. A must for visitors wanting to experience the people of Namibia is a visit to a cultural village or a market in the suburbs. Be it in Mondesa (Swakopmund) or Katutura (Windhoek), here you will catch a glimpse of how a Namibian lives. It is suggested that you join a guided tour through one of the suburbs. This way interesting facts about Namibian history can be absorbed, colourful markets can be visited and local dishes can be tasted.

Infinite

Activities for all



Namibia is known for spectacular encounters with nature, but do not forget about its towns and cities. The capital, Windhoek, with its European-African atmosphere is well worth a visit. Swakopmund is a town where the Atlantic Ocean is its direct neighbour, boasting stunning colonial architecture and even further south Lüderitz, in Art Nouveau style, has its own charm to lure a visitor to wander about its streets to and explore the past and present.

Community Based Tourism projects act as the perfect introduction for those visitors wanting to find out more about the every-day-life of a Namibian, an excellent opportunity to explore the cultures and traditions of the different ethnic groups.

If you are in search of adventure, you have come to the right place. Namibia offers numerous fun-sports-activities including kayaking, quad biking, sand boarding, dune-skiing, wild water-rafting and keen adventure lovers can even enjoy hiking through Fish River Canyon.

Should adrenaline-pumping activities not be what you are looking for, consider viewing the country from above by joining a fly-in safari by small aeroplane or a balloon safari. Another way to explore is on foot or by car. Join a nature walk or game drive at your lodge. Giraffe, lion, elephant and antelope can be viewed in safety from a vehicle in their natural surroundings, with you being only a few metres away. The best sightings of game can be made in the early morning and late evening, as animals are more active when it is cool. In some of the national parks,



game can also be viewed on night drives, as many predators are active only at night, and nocturnal animals can only be sighted when the sun has set.

Self-drivers can watch animals at their own pace in the national parks. In many private reserves guided game-drives are offered, or visitors can join game-walks along the tracks of rhino and giraffe. At the end of the day a most amazing reward awaits you, as you lift your eyes up to the skies and a thousand stars glitter as bright as only the unpolluted skies of this soulful country can offer. Several observatories make stargazing of the highest quality possible.



To really take in the atmosphere and liberating effects that Namibia offers, travellers have to have one very important factor on their side, time.

Travellers, who adapt to the rural time of Namibia and leave behind the rat race of their lives at home, will truly experience the magic Namibia has to offer. To not be available on a mobile phone and to disappear in a surreal silence of desert landscapes can only be described as luxury in modern day life. Travellers can choose between numerous types of accommodation: wild but romantic camping sites, guest farms, lodges, hotels, guesthouses and tented camps all invite the visitor to dwell a while.

Those seeking personal encounters in familiar atmospheres should opt for smaller accommodation establishments such as guesthouses and guest farms. Guest farms in particular offer an insight into the life and activities on a working farm whilst offering comfortable accommodation in individually decorated rooms. The idyllic establishments are usually managed by their owners and offer an unforgettable experience for the guests who seek contact with Namibians. During dinnertime at a big table, information on everyday activities and life on a farm in Namibia is shared with the guests.

Guest farms offer ideal lodging for families with children: usually a variety of activities are offered like walks, safaris and outings to surrounding areas. Furthermore, these lodgings are affordable if the budget does not allow for exorbitant spending.

Warm welcome

Make yourself at home

Should one want to be pampered, Namibia is not short of luxury properties linked closely to nature, and lodges and hotels can be found throughout the country. Individual chalets and bungalows are equipped with everything a guest could wish for. Rooms tend to boast an African flair whilst offering unsurpassed views of nature directly from the guest's bed or the veranda. Showers can often be enjoyed under the stars and "wellness" offerings give you not only an "Out-of-Africa" feeling but often leave you with an "Out of this World" feeling.

The individual furnished lodges, often boasting only a few chalets, cater for every wish you may have. Guests will be spoiled with culinary delicacies in intimate but exclusive establishments, and can choose locally produced offerings of highest quality.



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Images: 263oben, erichon, Stephan Brückner, Jürgen Goetz, Alexander Heinrichs, Willem Kruger (title), Mowani Mountain Camp, Nambwa Lodge, Namibia Tourism Board, Okahirongo Elephant Lodge, Fabian von Poser, Paul van Schalkwyk, shutterstock, Frank Sillen, Gianluigi Sosio, Wolwedans Private Camp

