



## 2021 & 2022 - SCH 6 day Taste of Namibia Camping safari (Schedule Sat departure)

*Etosha South - Onguma Game Reserve - Etosha West - Etosha National Park - Etosha East - Windhoek - Sesriem - Sossusvlei - Central Namibia*

*6 Days / 5 Nights*

*Group Size: Minimum 1 guest Maximum 14 guests*



### Introduction

Two nights spent camping in the vicinity of the famous Etosha National Park - an area rich in fauna and flora and quite unlike other National Parks on the continent. Our full day in the area is spent game driving through the National Park. Return for one night in Windhoek before heading to the Namib Desert where we spend two nights camping within the Namib Naukluft National Park, gateway to places with names such as Dune 45, Big Daddy and Sossusvlei!

**Departs:** from Windhoek every Saturday morning.

**Ends:** in Windhoek on a Thursday evening.

Can this tour be combined with others: Yes, it can!

- Include Botswana and Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) by joining the 9 day Delta falls – departs on selected Fridays.

Start	Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Day 1	Etosha Village Campsite	Etosha South	L&D	1x Group Campsite	<b>1 Night</b>
Day 2	Onguma Tamboti Campsite	Onguma Game Reserve	FB	1x Campsite	<b>1 Night</b>
Day 3	The Utopia Boutique Hotel	Windhoek	B,B&L	1x Standard Room	<b>1 Night</b>
Day 4	Sesriem Oshana Campsite	Sesriem	FB	1x Campsite	<b>2 Nights</b>

### Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

B,B&L: Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

L&D: Lunch and Dinner

FB: Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Price

Valid: 01 November 2020 - 31 October 2021: NAD15 600.00

Valid: 01 November 2021 - 31 October 2022: NAD16 380.00

Pricing is per person sharing – as tours tend to run full, we have limited packing space on the vehicles, tents are bulky items and as such we do require people of same gender to share.

Single tents may be supplied for those with valid health reasons, no single supplement payable.

### Included

- Professional guide
- Camp assistant
- All transport whilst on tour
- Meals as specified
- Camping equipment (does not include sleeping bag / pillow / stretcher)
- National Park entrance fees
- Campsite fees

### Excluded

- Sleeping bag – can be rented for a daily fee of NAD45.00
- Stretcher - can be rented for a daily fee of NAD55.00
- Pillow
- Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks & bottled water
- Personal travel insurance – **compulsory**

## Day 1: Etosha Village Campsite, Etosha South

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Located just south of the boundary of Etosha National Park in north-western Namibia, Etosha South makes up the southern region of this wild paradise. Ongava Private Game Reserve shares the southern boundary with Etosha National Park and offers an array of luxury lodges overlooking picturesque landscapes dotted with abundant wildlife. The national park can be accessed via the southern entrance at Andersson's Gate. Visitors can catch a glimpse of a variety of wildlife including: lion, giraffe, elephant, white and black rhino, and a multitude of plains game. Popular activities include: game drives, tracking rhinos on foot, guided nature walks, or watching the sunset over the magnificent African landscape.

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### Day Itinerary

#### Day 1 - Saturday

Route: Windhoek to Taleni Etosha Village (outer border of Etosha National Park)

Distance: 440 km

Collection time: 08h00 – 08h30 from any accommodation within the City of Windhoek

Journey: leaving Windhoek we travel via the town of Okahandja, founded around 1800 by two local groups, the Herero and the Nama it is known as the Garden town of Namibia. The road north to Otjiwarongo passes through commercial farming area – and on a clear day the Waterberg may be seen off in the distance, an area of historical importance to the Herero People. Heading north west we pass through Outjo, our intention is to arrive at our campsite mid-afternoon, after setting up camp we head into the National Park for some late afternoon game viewing.

#### Overnight: Etosha Village Campsite

The Etosha Village Camp Site is nestled in the spectacular green and gold Mopani forests surrounding Etosha National Park, and caters for both Groups as well as Individual travellers.

The 2 spacious Group Camp Sites are ideal for larger groups and can accommodate a maximum of 25 – 30 tents. These sites are equipped with Power Outlets, Running Water, Lights, Barbeque area and separate Ladies and Gents Bathroom facilities each featuring toilets, wash basins and showers.

The 4 Individual Camp Sites are also equipped with Power Outlets, Running Water, Lights, Barbeque and a well-kept shared ablution.

Inspiring cuisine can be enjoyed at the Etosha Village Restaurant situated walking distance from the Camp Site. On-site facilities include swimming pools and a bar area with a big-screen television as well as a fully stocked utility and curio shop. Guided excursions to Etosha and sundowner drives can also be booked at reception.

#### Group Campsite

2 spacious Group Camp Sites are ideal for larger groups. Can accommodate a max of 30 persons. Sites are equipped with Power Outlets, Running Water, Lights, Barbeque area and separate Ladies and Gents Bathroom facilities with showers, toilets & basins.

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#### Included

Meals: Light Lunch and dinner – camping style

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## Day 2: Onguma Tamboti Campsite, Onguma Game Reserve

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Situated east of Etosha, bordering Fisher's Pan, Onguma Game Reserve is one of Namibia's best-kept secrets. The reserve offers visitors the opportunity to experience Africa in all her beauty and diversity. Onguma Game Reserve features over 34000 hectares of protected land scattered with a variety of wildlife including plains game, black rhino, kudu, giraffe, zebra, lion, cheetah, leopard and more than 300 bird species. The seasonal rains attract thousands of migrating birds to the Fisher's Pan wetland area. The neighbouring Etosha National Park is home to a rich array of wildlife, including four of the Big 5. Visitors can enjoy game drives, guided walks and rhino research drives within the private reserve as well as wildlife safaris into Etosha National Park to view abundant game in the largest national park in Namibia.

## Day Itinerary

### Day 2 - Sunday

Route: Through Etosha Okaukuejo to Namutoni Area (Talení to Onguma)

Journey: Up before dawn, we need to be at the Andersson Gate for sunrise which is when the entrance gates open, one of the best times for game viewing is the cooler morning hours and late afternoon. We make use of today on an extensive game drive in search of black and white rhino, elephants, lion, cheetah and the numerous species of plains game. The drive will give you an overview of the National Park including its birdlife, flora and geology. A stop will be made at Halali, the most central of the resorts.

### Overnight: Onguma Tamboti Campsite

The 15 sites are all nestled in the trees of the Onguma Reserve, and each camper is ensured privacy and space to enjoy the bush. Each campsite has a private ablution facility with spacious shower room, separate toilet and covered washing-up areas with lots of space to unpack and organize. Each unit also has ample plugs to ensure cooler boxes keep cool and cameras get charged.

There is a stunning main area with a restaurant where guests can enjoy a hearty meal while looking out across the waterhole. The supply store stocks essentials and the deep verandas ensure there is shade to relax in.

## Activities

Morning	Etosha West
Morning	Etosha Pan
Afternoon	Etosha East

### *Etosha West*

Situated in the western part of Etosha National Park, a world-famous wildlife sanctuary in the north-western part of Namibia, Etosha West is the wilder western region accessed through Galton Gate. Visitors to Etosha West can look forward to exploring the magnificent scenery of this remote north Namibian landscape characterised by lush undulating terrain and a reddish-brown soil, which is a stark contrast to the white dusty clay soil of Etosha East's flat expansive plains. This area is home to several species not found in the rest of the park: baboons, Mountain Zebra, and Brown Hyena, as well as several unique plants. The area also boasts numerous waterholes attracting elephant, rhino, leopard, lion, a variety of buck, and around 300 bird species.

### *Etosha Pan*

Aeons ago, Etosha Pan was the bed of a vast lake; today what remains is a glittering, silvery-green salt pan that stretches across roughly 5000 square kilometres. Etosha is protected by the Etosha Pan National Park surrounded by savannah plains and woodlands supporting large herds of elephants. When dry, the pan sustains little life except for

the algae that gives it its distinctive colour, and migratory birds that use it as a pit stop, but with heavy rain it becomes a shallow lake where flamingos breed, pelicans wade and feed, and a variety of mammal species come to quench their thirst, including leopards, lions, white rhinos, hunting dogs and antelopes.

### ***Etosha East***

Located in North-western Namibia, Etosha East is a protected sanctuary in the eastern part of the world-renowned Etosha National Park, known as one of the most accessible game reserves in Southern Africa. Etosha East boasts vast open plains scattered with semi-arid savannah grasslands dotted with watering holes and secluded bush camps. An impressive 5000-square-kilometre Etosha salt pan makes up a large area of the eastern side of the park and can even be seen from space. This remote area teems with abundant wildlife such as lions, elephants, black rhinos and giraffes, as well as a variety of birdlife featuring flamingos, ostriches, eagles, hornbills, and owls.

### **Included**

Meals: Breakfast, light lunch and dinner – camping style

## **Day 3: The Utopia Boutique Hotel, 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.

### **Day Itinerary**

#### **Day 3 - Monday**

Route: Onguma Game Reserve to Windhoek

Distance: 545 km

Arrival in Windhoek: Between 15h00 – 17h00

Journey: Today we start our return journey to Windhoek with a stop in Tsumeb, the town is notable for being the site of a deep mine and is renowned amongst mineral collectors. A straight drive back to Otjiwarongo and Okahandja, where we will stop at one of the craft markets, this is an important centre for woodcarvers from the north who sell their carvings on a co-operative basis. Arrival back in Windhoek will be late afternoon, accommodation tonight is included at Windhoek Gardens Guest House / similar. Dinner for own account tonight.

### **Overnight: The Utopia Boutique Hotel**

The modern N/a'ankusê@Utopia establishment has allied with the neighboring Pension Bougainvilla and offers serene rooms and luxurious suites situated amid beautiful, green lush gardens. The hotel is conveniently located in the tranquil suburb of Klein Windhoek.

Utopia combines business and leisure in a modest manner, simultaneously welcoming modern travelers and tourists in need of relaxation. Boasting 14 standard rooms, 7 luxurious suites and 1 executive suite, N/a'ankusê@Utopia creates an ideal hideaway.

**Standard Room**

All rooms are equipped with a plasma screen TV's, DSTV, free Wi-Fi access and air-conditioning.

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**Included**

Meals: Breakfast and light lunch – camping style

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**Excluded**

Dinner

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**Day 4: Sesriem Oshana Campsite, 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.)

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**Day Itinerary****Day 4 - Tuesday**

Route: Windhoek to Namib Naukluft Park

Distance: 310 km

Collection time: 08h00 – 08h30 from any accommodation within the City of Windhoek

Journey: we leave Windhoek travelling via the gravel roads and the Khomas Hochland mountain range, this area is one of farming communities till we reach the end of the escarpment (crossing the Tropic of Capricorn) where we descend via the Remhoogte Pass to the settlement of Solitaire. The terrain varies dramatically as we travel to our campsite where arrival is due mid to late afternoon. Set up camp and visit Elim dune – a great place for sundowners with the dunes behind us and the Naukluft Mountains in the distance.

**Overnight: Sesriem Oshana Campsite**

Sesriem offers ten (10) self-catering camping facilities with each campsite having its own private toilet and shower, washup kitchenette with hot and cold water and 220V electricity. Campers have full access to the shop, bar, restaurant and swimming pool at Sesriem (NWR).

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**Included**

Meals: Breakfast at guest house, light Lunch and dinner – camping style

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**Day 5: Sesriem Oshana Campsite, Sesriem**

## Day Itinerary

### Day 5 - Wednesday

Route: Sesriem – Sossusvlei - Sesriem

Journey: We'll need to be on the move an hour before dawn as we make our way through a dry riverbed and across the gravel plains towards the Namib Dunes. We'll stop at Dune 45 before making our way to Sossusvlei with age old sands said to be around five million years old. Dead Vlei with its white pan and contrasting black scorched trees is also on our visit list. Whilst this region appears to be lifeless there are a variety of animal species that have adapted to these conditions and if we're lucky may see Oryx antelope, ostrich, springbok and don't forget about the birdlife and reptiles that inhabit the area. Return to our campsite for lunch, late afternoon visit to the Sesriem Canyon where the ephemeral Tsauchab River has shaped the area over millions of years.

#### Activities

Morning	Dune 45
Morning	Sossusvlei
Morning	Dead Vlei
Afternoon	Sesriem Canyon

#### *Dune 45*

Named for its location 45 kilometres past the town of Sesriem, Dune 45 is renowned for its elegant shape, which – along with its position close to the road – have earned it the distinction of 'most photographed dune in the world'. If you're not keen for the strenuous hike to the top of Big Daddy, Dune 45 is a more forgiving alternative, standing at only 80 metres and featuring a much gentler gradient.

#### *Sossusvlei*

Located in the scenic Namib-Naukluft National Park, Sossusvlei is where you will find the iconic red sand dunes of the Namib. The clear blue skies contrast with the giant red dunes to make this one of the most scenic natural wonders of Africa and a photographer's heaven. This awe-inspiring destination is possibly Namibia's premier attraction, with its unique dunes rising to almost 400 metres - making them some of the highest in the world. These iconic dunes come alive in morning and evening light and draw photography enthusiasts from around the globe. Sossusvlei is home to a variety of desert wildlife including oryx, springbok, ostrich and a variety of reptiles. Visitors can climb 'Big Daddy', one of Sossusvlei's tallest dunes; explore Deadvlei, a white, salt, claypan dotted with ancient trees; or for the more extravagant, scenic flights and hot air ballooning are on offer, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime champagne breakfast amidst these majestic dunes.

#### *Dead Vlei*

This ancient clay pan was once an oasis, studded with acacias and fed by a river that suddenly changed course, leaving the earth to dry up along with the trees it previously supported. So dry were the climatic conditions that the trees never decomposed – instead they were entirely leached of moisture so that today, 900 years later, they remain as desiccated, blackened sentinels dotting the pan's cracked surface. Surrounded by the red-pink dunes of the Namibia Desert, they create a surreal spectacle that is a photographer's dream.

#### *Sesriem Canyon*

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.

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**Included**Meals: Breakfast, light lunch and dinner – camping style

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**Day 6: End of Itinerary**

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**Day Itinerary****Day 6 - Thursday**

Route: Sesriem to Windhoek

Distance: 335 km

Arrival in Windhoek: 15h00 – 17h00

Journey: Our route today takes us back towards Solitaire from where we travel to the town of Rehoboth, an area of natural hot water springs, before arriving back into the city of Windhoek, this will be late afternoon, please do not book any outbound flights for this afternoon.

**Activities**

Afternoon	Rehoboth
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***Rehoboth***

Located in Hardap, Namibia, about 90 kilometres south of Windhoek, Rehoboth is surrounded by camel thorn, sweet-thorn and candle-pod acacia and dotted with several natural hot springs. The area is known not only for its striking natural beauty but also its rich heritage - the ancient Baster community, who came across the river to settle here in 1870, have a long and interesting history. Plant lovers will be interested to find that some of the Acacia Trees here date back around 2000 years. History enthusiasts will delight in the interesting town museum. Rehoboth makes for a convenient base for reaching popular destinations such as the Fish River Canyon, Sossussvlei, and Hardap Dam.

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**Included**Meals: Breakfast and light lunch – camping style

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