



Discovering Our Planet Together



Wild Namibia Photo Safari

Photograph Namibia's Unique Desert Wildlife & Stunning Landscapes in Remote Seclusion



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Trip Details:

Days:
11 Days

Price:
From \$12995
(+ Air)

Physical Requirements:
Easy to Moderate

Wild Namibia Photo Safari

Photograph Namibia's Unique Desert Wildlife & Stunning Landscapes in Remote Seclusion

Namibia is one of Africa's best-kept secrets for photographers. Less well known and less visited than the game parks of East and South Africa, Namibia's treasures remain more hidden, revealed to those in search of a truly distinctive safari adventure. Here amid one of the world's greatest deserts, we find a surprising collection of hardy wildlife that has managed to adapt to its harsh environs. Yet this is also an arrestingly beautiful land. From soaring sand dunes to broad, dry rivers, from jumbled rocky mountains to lonely beaches, photographers will find Namibia profoundly alluring. A more civilized highlight is our luxury camps, replete with amenities and enveloped by silent wilderness.

Trip Highlights

With guidance from our Expedition Leader, photograph desert-adapted wildlife, including elephants, against a varied backdrop of Namibia's striking topography

Capture striking landscapes and unique wildlife on the vast private reserves of Kulala and Ongava—plus the remote Skeleton Coast—where scenic drama and silence prevail

On two dawn excursions to Sossusvlei, photograph the world's tallest sand dunes as the rising sun plays on their surface, altering color and contrast



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Itinerary At A Glance

- Day 1**
Windhoek, Namibia
- Day 2-4**
Kulala Private Reserve—Sossusvlei Sand Dunes
- Days 5-7**
Palmwag Concession—Skeleton Coast
- Days 8-10**
Ongava Private Reserve—Etosha National Park
- Day 11**
Windhoek / Depart

Wild Namibia Photo Safari Itinerary

Photograph Namibia’s Unique Desert Wildlife & Stunning Landscapes in Remote Seclusion

Day 1: Windhoek, Namibia

Our Namibia photo safari begins in Windhoek, the country’s contemporary capital whose eclectic skyline is peppered with German castles, glass skyscrapers and cathedral spires. We meet our Expedition Leader on arrival and settle in to our boutique hotel in one of Windhoek’s leafy and tranquil neighborhoods. Over a leisurely welcome dinner, get acquainted with fellow travelers and learn about the vast landscapes and wildlife we’ll be photographing during an orientation overview.





Day 2–4: Kulala Private Reserve—Sossusvlei Sand Dunes

After breakfast, a mid-morning flight by light aircraft lands us at Little Kulala, a luxury desert retreat within the private 90,000-acre Kulala Wilderness Reserve at the edge of Namibia's great sand sea. The word *namib* in the Nama language means "vast," an apt name for this ancient arid expanse—the world's oldest desert. From this profoundly secluded vantage point, we'll have a chance to photograph some of Africa's most arresting vistas, including vermilion sunsets and black skies glittering with stars. We rise early each morning on dawn excursions to Sossusvlei, Namibia's most legendary landscape. This flat salt and clay pan surrounded by Earth's tallest sand dunes is a nature photographer's fantasy, as the changing light continually alters the dramatic scene before us. Wildlife drives at sunrise take us into the shape-shifting, ochre-colored dunes at the Namib Desert's lonely center. Framed by intense blue skies, the dunes glow deep red, transfiguring to burnished orange, then ochre and gold, changing minute by minute as the sun ascends. Inside are diamonds, tucked into the sand mountains by currents, waves and wind.

While wildlife is sparsely distributed in this austere landscape, we have a chance to capture photos of desert species including oryx, ostrich, springbok, spotted and brown hyena, aardwolf and bat-eared fox. The rare dune lark's entire range is confined to this habitat. We discover the desert's subtle magic on short walks and safari drives, plus there is an opportunity to soar in an early-morning hot air balloon flight over the dunes, a thrilling chance for photographers to capture dramatic aerial views of this wondrous landscape in the rosy glow of sunrise.

Days 5–7: Palmwag Concession—Skeleton Coast

Fly north toward Namibia's Skeleton Coast, whose evocative name references the dried bones of wrecked ships that lay half-buried on beaches battered by fierce Atlantic storms. Our destination, Hoanib Skeleton Coast, is a hospitable outpost amid one of Africa's last great wildernesses. Set in one of the most fragile ecosystems on Earth, the low-impact camp enjoys a scenic location at the confluence of two tributaries of the dry Hoanib River in the northern part of the private million-acre Palmwag Concession, next to Skeleton Coast National Park. Few safari locales offer the level of isolation found here in one of the most remote regions of the Kaokoveld.

We spend three days immersed in these rugged mountains, vast plains, dune fields and dry riverbeds, with one excursion to the coast itself. A range of activities is designed to maximize photography opportunities, and we explore via 4x4 drives and hides for wildlife viewing. Our bewitching environs are inhabited by a remarkable array of desert-adapted plants and animals, with surprising photo subjects at every turn. Almost miraculously, a multitude of species thrives in the stark inland environment, including Namibia's largest population of desert elephant. With cameras poised, we hope for sightings of giraffe and lion, oryx, springbok and steenbok. On a guided bush walk (safety permitting), look for scrub hare and inquisitive ground squirrels. During our stay we have one opportunity to visit the Skeleton Coast, driving out and flying back (weather permitting; coastal fog is a regular presence here). A colony of Cape fur seals is often present on shore, and we may spot black-backed jackal and elusive brown hyena near the beach. Birdlife is diverse, with many southern African endemics, and we're likely to spot jaegers and skuas.



Days 8–10: Ongava Private Reserve—Etosha National Park

Transfer by light aircraft to the Ongava Reserve on the border of Etosha National Park. The Etosha Salt Pan is the remnant of a huge lake that existed here two million years ago. Bare and dry today, the depression offers Namibia's best wildlife photography opportunities, with elephant, black and white rhino, lion, leopard, cheetah, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, hartebeest, springbok, oryx, kudu and the diminutive dik-dik drawn to its life-sustaining waterholes. Birdlife is abundant, and we may see ostrich and raptors. We stay on the private reserve adjacent to the park, far from any other accommodations. From camp we take guided walks (safety permitting) and night drives on the reserve, venturing into the park by day to photograph wildlife and scenery.

Day 11: Windhoek / Depart

Our grand Namibia photo safari concludes today as we fly from Ongava back to Windhoek to connect with flights onward.



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Accommodation Details:

Olive Grove Guest House

Kulala Desert Lodge

Little Kulala

Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp

Ongava Lodge

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/africa/namibia-photo-tour/accommodations/

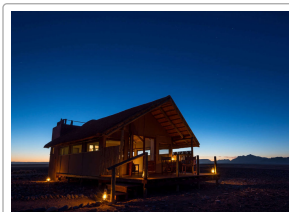
Wild Namibia Photo Safari Accommodations

Photograph Namibia's Unique Desert Wildlife & Stunning Landscapes in Remote Seclusion



Olive Grove Guest House

This intimate and elegant guesthouse is located close to the center of Windhoek, yet enjoys a tranquil location with 11 guestrooms that have lavish bathrooms and private verandas incorporating extensive local stone.



Kulala Desert Lodge

Tucked at the foot of the majestic Sossusvlei dunes, Kulala Desert Lodge provides guests with their own private entrance into Namib Naukluft...



Little Kulala

Inside a private reserve with direct access to the towering sand dunes of Sossusvlei, 11 thatched villas offer magnificent scenery, private plunge pools and rooftop skybeds for stargazing.



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Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp

On the private Palmwag Concession in one of the Kaokoveld's most remote areas, understated elegance permeates the seven-tent camp in this tiny outpost overlooking a stark and mesmerizing landscape.



Ongava Lodge

A luxurious hilltop lodge with 14 rock-and-thatch units inside a private game reserve with resident white and black rhino, the camp includes an inviting pool and meals served within sight of the busy waterhole.



What Makes This Namibia Photo Safari So Special?

You won't find many dedicated photography safaris to Namibia. But of those you will find, few if any can match the slate of special features we include. Take a look at what sets this safari apart:

1

Maximum Group Size Just 8 Travelers—4 Per Safari Truck!

An authentic encounter with nature is hard to achieve outside of a small group. While Namibia's tarmac road system in developed areas encourages a more "bus-like" safari approach, we limit our groups to just eight guests, with only four travelers per vehicle, facilitating access to remote areas that mini buses can't get to...as well as a more personalized safari experience with limited impact on fragile environments.

2

Chartered Flights for More Time on Safari

We arrange light aircraft transfers to maximize your time on safari with wildlife, rather than negotiating rough and dusty roads between destinations. Furthermore, from the air, you'll gain a whole different scenic perspective on Namibia's vast and dramatic landscapes.

3

Private Reserves Offer Seclusion & Special Activities

Private reserves are essential to an optimal Namibia safari. From the remote and rarely visited Skeleton Coast to the Ongava and Kulala wilderness reserves (both are private concessions adjacent to national parks), we are able to explore in solitude and view an abundance of wildlife without the presence of other visitors. When we do visit the national parks, we can quickly enter prime wildlife-viewing areas and return to our private enclaves for a much quieter and more remote experience. We also enjoy exclusive activities not permitted in the national parks, such as safari walks, a wildlife hide and night drives in search of nocturnal animals.

4

Exclusive Opportunities to Explore on Foot

Guided bush walks are available on private reserves—rare opportunities to stretch your legs while on safari. An optional climb up the sand dunes at Sossusvlei offers for a whole different perspective on this dramatic landscape that most safari-goers confined to vehicles miss.

5

Two Sunrise Excursions to Photograph the Sossusvlei Dunes

Most Namibia safaris spend just one day at the magnificent dunes of Sossusvlei, the tallest sand dunes in the world. We have built in two full excursions here, for double the opportunity to photograph this iconic landscape by the day's first, best light.



6 A Rare Visit to the Skeleton Coast

Few Namibia safaris include this exceptionally wild and remote destination, one of the longest, loneliest and wildest stretches of ocean coastline on Earth. From Hoanib Skeleton Coast camp, we have unusual access to this region, with multiple possibilities (weather permitting, since fog frequently is present here) to photograph wildlife, including large colonies of Cape fur seals, jackals and hyenas that roam the shore; misty dunes that front the beach; and shipwrecks and relics left behind by ill-fated crews.

7 Remote Luxury Accommodations in Harmony with the Land

The isolated luxury camps we've chosen for this safari are truly exceptional. Each is seamlessly integrated into the natural environment in a way that allows you to be fully absorbed into the stunning and diverse landscapes we visit. Each tent or chalet also has a private veranda, to maximize personal wildlife viewing opportunities. And from Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp, you'll be able to explore the wild and rugged terrain of Namibia's notorious northwest coast, and the wildlife that inhabits it, in superb comfort.

8 Africa's Most Outstanding Safari Photography Guides

We are proud to provide the personalized service of some of Namibia's most outstanding naturalist guides. We employ only the most highly trained and experienced Expedition Leaders, who will accompany your group from start to finish. Furthermore, your safari guide is also an accomplished photographer, whose expertise and tips will help you get superlative photos. Our NHA Expedition Leaders average 15 years' experience, with additional resources provided by WWF's leading researchers.

9 Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Superior Namibia Safari

With Natural Habitat Adventures, you receive our exclusive guarantee, which clearly states that we will meet the lofty expectations we set in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company.

10 Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

11 Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our adventures, World Wildlife Fund—the world's leading environmental conservation organization—has named Natural Habitat Adventures as its worldwide travel partner, a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!





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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Prices:
From \$12995
(+ Air)

Location:

Group Size:
Limited to 8
Travelers

Physical Requirements:
Easy to Moderate

Wild Namibia Photo Safari Dates, Pricing & Info

Photograph Namibia's Unique Desert Wildlife & Stunning Landscapes in Remote Seclusion

2020 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Oct 30, 2020	Nov 9, 2020	
Nov 10, 2020	Nov 20, 2020	
Nov 21, 2020	Dec 1, 2020	

2021 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Oct 31, 2021	Nov 10, 2021	
Nov 10, 2021	Nov 20, 2021	
Nov 21, 2021	Dec 1, 2021	



Pricing

2020 Prices

▶ Trip Price

\$12995 (+internal air)

Internal Air Cost: \$2495 per person (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Single Occupancy: For a single room add \$2295. to learn how you can avoid the single supplement.

Deposit: \$500 per person (nonrefundable)

Other Notes: Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars.

2021 Prices

▶ Trip Price

\$13695 to \$13995 (+internal air)

Internal Air Cost: \$3886 per person (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Single Occupancy: For a single room add \$2595. to learn how you can avoid the single supplement.

Deposit: \$500 per person (nonrefundable)

Other Notes: Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars.



Group Size

Limited to 8 Travelers

A key feature of our Namibia photo safaris is the limited group size, as nature photography expeditions are best with fewer travelers. You'll have quieter, more authentic wildlife encounters, and our environmental footprint is lighter, too.

Specialized 4x4 Land Rovers and Land Cruisers

An essential element that makes this safari successful is our use of various specialized vehicles designed to provide unmatched wildlife viewing opportunities. During our time in the Sossusvlei and Skeleton Coast regions, we explore in closed 4x4 Land Cruisers or Land Rovers that provide protection from the wind (and the sand that travels with it) in these vast, sandy landscapes. In other regions, we will use open 4x4 Land Rovers or Land Cruisers with a unique suspension system and an open-top, open-sided, tiered seating arrangement designed to maximize wildlife viewing and provide a comfortable and safe ride over the often uneven terrain of Namibia's desert environs.

The open vehicles have 10 cushioned passenger seats, one in front next to the driver, followed by three



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rows of three seats each, though we limit our capacity to four travelers per vehicle during our wildlife drives, again for maximum comfort, viewing and photo opportunities. The closed 4x4 vehicles have eight cushioned seats with a spacious interior providing plenty of room for travelers and their belongings. Both vehicles have a mini-fridge stocked with cold drinks and a small library with reference books and field guides. Each custom-built vehicle sports front bull bars and runner boards, as well as a full recovery kit, including spare tires and a high lift jack. Vehicles are updated or replaced regularly and meticulously maintained to provide our guests with an unmatched safari experience.

Included

- ▶ **Trip price includes:** Accommodations in luxury safari camps, services of Nat Hab's professional Photography Expedition Leader(s), local guides and camp staff, premier open-sided 4-wheel drive Land Cruisers or Rovers, additional aircraft weight allowance for photo gear, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some alcoholic beverages, most gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.
- ▶ **Internal air cost includes:** All light aircraft flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Physical Requirements

Easy to Moderate

To participate in this trip, you must be able to walk unassisted at a steady pace for at least one mile over uneven terrain, climb steps to get into and out of our raised safari vehicles, and be able to tolerate daily outdoor excursions that may last 4-5 hours or even a full day at a time, sometimes in hot, windy and/or dusty conditions. Wildlife drives pose a particular type of physical demand on the body, as they require long hours of sitting and take place over terrain that is often very rough and bumpy, including dirt roads with many ruts and potholes. Travelers with back or neck problems, or other health issues that could be exacerbated by such conditions, should take this into consideration. While any walking safaris are considered optional, travelers must be able to walk unassisted to and from the vehicle to our camp accommodations, sometimes walking over uneven ground or on boardwalks and you will get the most out of your safari experience if you can walk a mile or two over uneven ground and rough or steep terrain without assistance. Climbing the sand dunes of Sossusvlei will be the most strenuous activity offered on this safari, but other more moderate walks without incline are also available, which still allow for enjoyment of the dunes. Days spent on safari are often long, as mornings typically start before daybreak and evening meals are served after sundown. In general, safari accommodations and vehicles are not climate-controlled and, depending on the season, temperatures can range from quite cold to extremely hot, so it is critical that travelers come prepared.

Important Information About This Trip



This photo adventure encompasses the magic of Namibia's vast and varied landscape, from the world's tallest sand dunes to the stark Skeleton Coast to wildlife-rich Etosha National Park, without having to make long, hot, dusty drives that have traditionally been a part of a Namibia safari. A major benefit of this flight-based photo safari are the unbelievable views from the air. Towering dunes, endless desert and rocky coastlines reveal Namibia's natural diversity. Also by flying, we maximize our time on safari, rather than in transit. While the scenery—and the entire experience—is tremendous, the animal encounters in Namibia tend to be somewhat less plentiful than in some other safari destinations, though the Etosha portion is fantastic for wildlife.

Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas you will travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for this program. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat Adventures, we require that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We recommend that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least \$250,000 in medical evacuation coverage. Please note that we will add the cost of Natural Habitat Adventures' medical evacuation policy (currently \$48 per person) to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company's name, phone number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests' safety.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

Getting There & Getting Home

Please plan to arrive Windhoek by 5 pm on Day 1 and you may depart Windhoek anytime after 1:55 pm on the final day.

We can best serve you if our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk makes your reservations, as our staff is intimately familiar with the special requirements of these programs and can arrange the most efficient travel. Please call us at 800-543-8917. Note that while we offer you the best possible rates available to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may find special web rates or better fares online.



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Extension Details:

Okonjima AfriCat Extension

Cape Town Extension
4 Days / Year-Round, From \$1595

Wild Namibia Photo Safari Extensions

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Okonjima AfriCat Extension

Join the AfriCat Foundation for close-up photography and interactions with Namibia's wild felines on this private 55,000-acre wildlife sanctuary dedicated to carnivore rehabilitation.
3 Days / Year-Round, From \$2095



Cape Town Extension

Discover the natural and multicultural highlights of one of the world's most entrancing cities. Explore the Cape Peninsula, visit Cape Point Nature Reserve, see penguins at Boulders Beach and tour the Winelands.

4 Days / Year-Round, From \$1595



Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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NHA has provided more than \$4 million to World Wildlife Fund and will continue to give 1 percent of gross sales plus \$125,000 annually through 2023 in support of WWF's mission to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the diversity of life on Earth.® WWF and World Wildlife Fund are WWF Registered Trademarks. © 1986 Panda Symbol WWF.