

## **Discover Kaokoland - 12-day Namibia safari**

### **12-day mobile safari in Namibia, including three overnight stays on the Kunene River.**

*This guided safari offers the client a perfect opportunity to experience Namibia's unspoilt North West. Encounter Namibia's desert adapted elephants, nomadic Ovahimbas, the mighty Kunene river and its spectacular Epupa waterfalls, and the beauty of the Hartmann valley in total isolation from the bustle of the normal tourist routes. The tour ends with a final relaxing overnight at Palmwag Lodge (or similar) before returning back to Swakopmund via Twyfelfontein and its famous rock engravings.*

Departure Dates	At least one departure every month except January and February - please contact us for further details.
Price per person sharing	£1280 - £2080 (depending on number travelling)
Single supplement	TBC
Minimum number	2
Maximum number	10
Price includes	Travelling costs as per itinerary; game drives, activities, entrance- and park fees; - Accommodation in two-man tents / double rooms; - Full board, refreshment drinks en route, house wine and beer at dinner whilst camping; - Experienced guiding in English and German; - VAT and Bed levy.
Price excludes	Expenses of a personal nature, i.e. laundry, telephone, gratuities, souvenirs, etc - Personal-, medical- and evacuation insurances; - Additional activities - Alcoholic beverages and drinks



## **Itinerary Details**

### **Day 1: Depart Swakopmund for Palmwag Lodge**

Departure from Swakopmund along the Atlantic Coast towards the North. Visit the lichen fields near Wlotzka's Baken before continuing to Henties Bay, a small holiday resort. Onwards to the seal colony at Cape Cross. After visiting the seals, the journey continues via Ugabmund to the southern Skeleton Coast Park to inspect a shipwreck. We leave the Skeleton Coast Park in the early afternoon via Springbokwasser and guests can experience the harsh transition from the Namib Desert to the Damaraland highlands with its impressive landscape and ragged valleys. Here one can perhaps sight the first springbok, zebra and Oryx and, with some luck, the desert elephants. Overnight stay in bungalows at Palmwag Lodge, a rustic but refined bush lodge. After enjoying a drink and a delicious supper, guests can luxuriate in the Lodge's cosy atmosphere and let the day's impressions sink in.

### **Day 2: Khowarib Gorge & Opuwo.**

After breakfast the journey continues through central Damaraland and the Khowarib Gorge en route to Opuwo. In this breathtaking landscape one may meet the first Ovahimba, nomads who live according to ancient traditions in the north-west of the country. Open-air camping in the vicinity of Opuwo. Enjoy an ice-cold drink while the guide prepares the meal on an open fire.

### **Day 3: Epupo Falls**

Onwards to the Epupa Falls, past the village of Okangwati - a fascinating landscape, with the mighty Kunene River, overgrown banks and magical waterfalls. Explore the waterfalls and enjoy an unforgettable sundowner on one of the viewing points on top of the Falls. Camping overnight.

### **Day 4: Central Kaokoland**

After breakfast we set off. The next two and a half days take you through the fascinating landscape and valleys of central Kaokoland. Receive a friendly and warm welcome from the inhabitants of the Ovahimba settlement. Learn about the ancient customs and way of life of this fascinating tribe and explore the village with its traditional huts. Once again camping in the open with perhaps occasional visits from curious Ovahimba.

### **Day 6: Van Zyl's Pass & the Kuene Valley**

On the morning of the 6th day we cross the notorious Van Zyl's Pass, a hand-hewn narrow trail which painstakingly winds its way through the largest mountains in this area. At the end of the trail the valley opens into one of the most awe-inspiring and spectacular views this area has to offer - that across the Marienfluss riverbed. A short rest, then on to the Marien River. Extensive grass plains and abundant trees together with game such as oryx, springbok, ostrich and zebra form part of the environment. The track continues westward towards Hartmannstal. We pass into the Kunene Valley part of the Serra Cafema Mountain Range where we spend the next two days camping on the banks of the river.

**Day 9: Depart for return journey**

Today we bid farewell to the Kunene River and embark on our return journey to Palmwag Lodge. The drive progresses along the border of the Skeleton Coast Park into the Hoarusib River. We traverse almost deserted contrasting landscapes, ranging from desert to the Kaokohighland. With a bit of luck the desert elephant can be sighted. Camping in the open in the Hoarusib River.

**Day 10: Hoanib River**

Game drive in search of elephants and proceed further south into the Hoanib River. Once in the riverbed we drive in a westerly direction. Abundant tree growth offers the desert elephant a healthy diet and provides shade from the sun to a variety of game. Overnight camp is erected in one of the side arms of the Hoanib River. It is not unusual for the elephants to pass by the camp during the night.

**Day 11: Arrive Palmwag Lodge**

Our last breakfast in the bush. We pack up camp and drive back to Palmwag Lodge via Sesfontein.

Spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing at the pool.

Overnight in bungalows. Fullboard.

**Day 12: Depart for Swakopmund. Visit Twyfelfontein and Uis en route.**

Early departure to Twyfelfontein, to admire the rock engravings. Thereafter we continue via the "Burnt Mountain" to Uis, a deserted mining town. We pass the highest mountain of Namibia, the  $\pm$  2800 meter high Brandberg. Return to Swakopmund in the late afternoon. End of Tour.



