



***"The best education a man receives while travelling"***

*(Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1746-1832)*

***Breath of Africa's .....African Kaleidoscope***

From the Namib Desert to the smoke that thunders at the Victoria Falls

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**Namib Desert – Atlantic Coast – Etosha Park – Caprivi – Mudumu Park - Chobe – Victoria Falls**

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**Day 1: African Holiday Fever :** Start your journey to magical Southern Africa - Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe await, and your African dream of real game encounters with breathtaking landscapes is just an overnight flight away.....

**Day 2: Welcome!** (80 km)

From Joburg onward flight to Windhoek, where local tour guide will meet and transfer you to the capital. Situated 1,650m Windhoek, surrounded by Avas, Eros, Kommas Hochland mountains, is home to 300,000 inhabitants. An informative tour with visits to Lutheran Christuskirche (Christ's church), Tintenpalast (Government Buildings) as well as Reiterdenkmal (1912) and Alte Feste (Old Fort), former headquarters of Schutztruppe and today, Namibia's national museum. City that offers shopping, sightseeing or relaxing opportunities, where German and African traditions huddle side by side with vibrant street markets adjacent to colonial buildings.

**Day 3: Namib Desert** (300 km)

Head down South, passing former missionary station of Rehoboth (founded in 1844) en-route, followed by picturesque mountain scenery to Namib Naukluft Park, world's oldest and most absolute desert. A guided desert hike before sunset is a must, followed by specially prepared sundowners served under Namibian quiver trees.

**Day 4: Sossusvlei** (430 km)

Today's visit to Sossusvlei is one of those once in a lifetime must-do excursions. Start before sunrise and, in off-road vehicles, drive through endless Namibian landscapes passing Sesriem Canyon on the way. Sossusvlei, famous highlight in the heart of the Namib Desert, is a huge clay pan, enclosed by giant 300m high sand dunes, developed over a period of many millions of years. In morning light, dunes glow in an enchanting red hue, where, even during the dry season, the mighty Oryx antelope and nimble springbok can be seen frequently. Stunning landscapes envelope you on your journey through Namibia's largest nature reserve, where seemingly endless sand plains prevail. Haunting desert silence is interrupted only by roaring breakers of the Atlantic Ocean at

Swakopmund, most favourite popular coastal town in Namibia.

**Day 5: Swakopmund (70 km)**

First stop, Walvis Bay, fishing town and harbour terminal located 30kms from Swakopmund.

Dolphin-Cruise boat takes you for a closer look followed by a relaxed beach picnic lunch.

Swakopmund, founded in 1892, is still influenced culturally and architecturally by German colonial days, with art nouveau décor, German street and building names, and German being spoken everywhere. After a detailed city tour, explore Swakop at your leisure.

**Day 6: Vingerklip** (360 km)

In the morning travel inland to Brandberg (2,573m) the highest point in Namibia. Numerous rock paintings can be seen and in the middle of thorn savannah, the striking Vingerklip, this rock-column reaches a height of 35m. Enjoy unique fantastic views of table mountains of the Ugab-Valley. Dinner and overnight at Vingerklip.

**Day 7: Etosha National Park** (300 km)

Head north to Etosha Park, aptly named Jewel of Africa. "Etosha" means "place of dry water" in Ovambo language, and refers to the huge 5000 square kilometre salt pan in the centre of the park. Mirages of large water areas deceive animals and people alike, as the pan is absolutely dry and totally bare of any vegetation except during rainy season when it is filled with water. Etosha has more than 100 mammal species, including elephant, cheetah and rhino.

**Day 8: Go Safari!**

Game spotting is best in very early hours of the morning (just after sunrise) and late afternoon. More than 30 waterholes are home to not only Big Five (elephant, lion, buffalo, rhino and leopard) but also 340 different bird species. PAN is one of the most important breeding grounds for flamingos. Early morning game drive in open vehicles, so get your camera ready! Remainder of the day relax at your lodge, or perhaps another safari (optional)

**Day 9: Tsumeb & Grootfontein** (470 km)

Today starts at Lake Otjikoto caused by the collapse of a huge cave. Visit Tsumeb Museum followed by an old German colonial forces fort, built

in 1896, and now a museum in Grootfontein. Just outside town on the farm "Hoba", one of the largest meteorites ever found: 3m in length, 1m wide, weighing over 50 tons! Estimated volume 9 cubic metres said to have landed 80,000 years ago. Continue north-east to Rundu.

#### **Day 10: Caprivi-Strip (430 km)**

Caprivi-Strip (Bwabwate National Park) located in far north-east. Germany exchanged Zanzibar for Caprivi and North Sea island of Helgoland in 1890 with the British. Strip was named after German Chancellor, Count of Caprivi, who signed the contract. Okavango river area has above average rainfalls, so a visit to Popa-Falls in Muduma National Park, Namibia's Okavango Delta. Kwando River exceeds 40km in width in some places, and in the South, branches into a maze of arms into Lyniaty Swamps. Abundance of water equals numerous animal species, including hippo, crocodile, swamp-antelope, zebra, buffalo.

#### **Day 11: Chobe (300 km)**

Very early boat cruise on the Kwando before travelling to Ngoma Bridge border post Botswana. Destination - second largest national park of Botswana, Chobe National Park, said to have the largest elephant population in Africa, 50,000 at present. Chobe elephants are taller than all other living specimen in Africa! Due to its four eco-systems, Chobe is home, not only to the 'Big Five' but to a prolific bird life as well. Exciting game drive in an open vehicle, followed by an African dinner in a Boma under African skies!

#### **Day 12: True Africa!**

Join your experienced ranger on an early game drive. Follow animal tracks or spoor to learn and identify unique qualities of flora and fauna endemic to the region. Relax at the lodge or have swim to cool down when the sun is straight overhead. With siesta over, more game-viewing, but this time on a small vessel on the river. Back to the lodge enjoy dinner with an Out of Africa ambience – a perfect ending to yet another perfect day.....

#### **Day 13: Victoria Falls (100 km)**

A mere hours drive brings you in the presence of greatness and the most impressive spectacle of nature in Africa. "Mosi oa tunya" - smoke that thunders, the mighty Victoria Falls. After flowing over 1700m, the waters of the mighty Zambezi River drop 108m into the gorge below. Rising spray formed a tropical rain forest and where huge clouds rise up, that from a distance, look like smoke. During the rainy season, 5 million litres of water fall into the gorge, with spray visible from a

distance of 30km!. Dramatic scenery, luxuriant vegetation, all waiting for you! Explore and experience exhilaration. Picturesque viewing spots of the might one, where it flows fairly sluggishly and quietly. For adventure thrill seekers, an optional unforgettable helicopter flip over the roaring falls is the real McCoy and experience of a lifetime. For more laid back adventurers, perhaps a late afternoon sundowner cruise on the upper Zambezi will do the trick. Farewell Dinner tonight – Victoria Falls Hotel, a house steeped in history.

#### **Day 14: Souvenirs (10 km)**

Morning at your leisure with an afternoon flight from Victoria-Falls airport via Johannesburg and onto Europe. As you wing your way back home, with the African continent below, time will pass but memories of your African Kaleidoscope will last forever..... until the next time.

#### **Day 15: Memories**

In the morning you will land in Europe. Now also you will be sure to visit Africa again!

#### **Services included in price:**

- ☺ Travel/transfers in air-con coaches
- ☺ Qualified English speaking local tour guide
- ☺ 12 x Accommodation incl. breakfast 4-star
- ☺ 11 x dinner
- ☺ 2 x lunch
- ☺ All entrance fees incl. national parks
- ☺ Guided hike in the Namib
- ☺ Excursion in off-road vehicle in Sossusvlei
- ☺ 3 x Boat cruises (Walvis Bay, Kwando, Chobe)
- ☺ 1 x Coach Game drive in Etosha National Park
- ☺ 3 x Game drives/activities in Etosha and Chobe
- ☺ Guided tour of Victoria Falls
- ☺ Gratuity with meals in programme
- ☺ Porterage at hotels and airports
- ☺ Value-added-tax (VAT) und tourism levy

#### **Services not included in price of land programme**

- ☹ Expenses of a personal nature
- ☹ All meals not mentioned above
- ☹ Flights (International/Domestic)
- ☹ Visa-fees (if applicable)

**Price:** From R32 500 per person sharing (excluding airfares)

**Rates quoted on any advertising subject to rate of exchange at date of travel without prior notice.**

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