

# 7 Day NamibRand Bonanza



NATUREFRIEND  
SAFARIS

**CLIENT:** Open

**OPERATOR:** NatureFriend Safaris

**DURATION:** 7 Days, 6 Nights – with optional 2 nights Swakopmund extension

**DATE:** 2009

---

## Itinerary

### DAY 1

**DESTINATION:** Windhoek / NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Arrive at the Windhoek International Airport (early morning flight) where you will be met and transferred to the Windhoek Eros Airport for your scheduled Dune Hopper flight to the Sossusvlei area at **10h45**. (Approximate arrival time will be at 12h00)

Sossusvlei Desert Lodge is situated in the northern foothills of the vast, privately owned NamibRand Nature Reserve. The reserve is covered by wind-sculpted dunes, the highest in the world, and 700-million year-old mountains. The valleys and slopes are home to a unique gathering of wildlife, some of which are found nowhere else on earth. Sightings including Hartmann's zebra, Grant's golden mole, Oryx, spotted hyena, African wildcat and springbok. This is big sky country, and home to more than 115 bird species, including Sociable Weavers, Black Eagles and Martial Eagles.

Sossusvlei Desert Lodge is a retreat from which to explore this rolling sand sea. From dawn to dusk, it's an ever-changing landscape of light and shadows with vast, untrammled vistas. Clouds and mirages endlessly unfold in a seductive, silent dance of earth and sky as the Namib envelops you in her stillness. The reserve's totally private dunes, mountains, and pristine spaces are experienced by a maximum of 20 lodge residents. Ten stone and glass desert suites combine unprecedented sophistication with the stark beauty of the desert landscape. The air-conditioned and spacious rooms are designed to capture the splendour and solitude of the desert. Spaced well apart, each suite is a private haven with a shaded deck overlooking the far horizons of the Namib Desert.



The split-level suites are located at the foot of a mountain overlooking an expansive Namib grass plain leading into a sea of orange sand dunes. Each suite is equipped for the climatic extremes of the desert. There is a fireplace in the split-level lounge for winter evenings. For the hot desert days, there are showers in the en-suite, glass-encased bathroom. There are also outdoor showers for starlit bathing. Cradled against ancient mountains, Sossusvlei Desert Lodge's decor embraces muted hues of ochre, umber and ivory. An expansive star-viewing window above the bed is every child-at-heart's dream come true. The rooms are equipped with personal compact telescopes for game- or star-spotting, a service-intercom to the main lodge and a CD system.

**Accommodation:** Sossusvlei Desert Lodge (Full board + activities)

## DAY 2

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Enjoy an early morning guided excursion to the famous Sossusvlei area. Here you will be able to view and climb some of the highest dunes in the world, some of which measures up to 325 m from its base. Return to the lodge for lunch and perhaps a siesta before departing on your afternoon nature drive on the NamibRand Reserve.

The Lodge also boasts a planetarium with resident astronomers where guests can view the southern night skies.

**Accommodation:** Sossusvlei Desert Lodge (Full board + activities)

## DAY 3 & 4

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Early wake up call for your morning ballooning safari. (pick up time will be confirmed to you the previous evening) Enjoy the sunrise from behind the distant mountains and the simply awe inspiring landscapes that will drift past. Your morning will be closed off with a magnificent breakfast in the wilderness.

Back at the lodge you will be met by a Wolwedans representative who will transfer you to the Wolwedans Dunes Lodge, in time for lunch.

The Wolwedans Dunes Lodge aims at providing a unique experience close to nature, yet without compromising any comfort and style. The entire lodge is constructed on wooden platforms and overlooks the panoramic vistas in the 185 000 NamibRand Reserve in all directions, capturing the desert in an intimate and memorable way.



The building style is a combination of wooden poles and large canvas blinds that open up to the desert beyond. Each of the 9 spacious chalets with en-suite bathrooms as well as the four-bedded family chalet and the exclusive Mountain View Suite lead onto a private veranda and stretches of untouched sand.

A careful selection of furniture, light-coloured linen as well as the selection of accessories gives the Dunes Lodge a distinct natural charm. The main complex - also built on stilts - consists of a bar and lounge, sun-downer decks with a fireplace and a spacious dining room.

**Accommodation:** Wolwedans Dunes Lodge (Full board + activities)

## DAY 5 & 6

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Situated 45 kilometres south of Wolwedans and hugged by massive granite rocks, Boulders Camp is the latest addition to the Wolwedans Collection. Sleeping a maximum of eight guests in four spacious tents, Boulders is undoubtedly the most exclusive camp at Wolwedans. The main area sports a dining and lounge tent, a breakfast deck and open fire place. Close by is an awesome sundowner spot overlooking the vast beauty of the reserve.

From Boulders Camp you will explore the deep south of NamibRand Nature Reserve. Guided scenic drives, or two to three hour walking safaris treading along the ancient hunting grounds of the bushmen, will happily fill your days.



*Accommodation:* Wolwedans Boulders Camp (Full board + activities)

DAY 7

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve / Windhoek

**Program:** Awake in the pristine desert dawn and soak in the atmosphere and landscape from your bed whilst enjoying early morning tea. After an early breakfast, you are transferred to the airstrip to bid Wolwedans farewell and commence your return Dune Hopper flight at **09h00** to the Windhoek Eros Airport. Upon arrival at **10h15** you will be met and transferred out to the Windhoek International Airport in order to be there in time for your outbound flight.

Optional extension:

DAY 7

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve / Swakopmund

**Program:** Awake in the pristine desert dawn and soak in the atmosphere and landscape from your bed whilst enjoying early morning tea. Enjoy the morning at leisure before you will be transferred down to the Wolwedans farmhouse for your onward Dune Hopper flight to the coastal town of Swakopmund at **12h30**. Upon arrival at the Swakopmund Airport you will be met and transferred to your guesthouse.

The Swakopmund Guesthouse has 12 en suite rooms. Centrally located on the corner of Hendrik Witbooi and Rhode Allee it is within 5 minutes walking distance to the centre of town and to the beach. It has a modern design and thus does cater for the discerning traveller. We offer complimentary transfers to and from the Swakopmund Airport. Free Internet connection available.

**All activities, entrance fees and additional meals are on own account**



*Accommodation:* Swakopmund Guesthouse (Bed & breakfast)

## DAY 8

**DESTINATION:** Swakopmund

**Program:** Early morning transfer to WalvisBay for your dolphin cruise. Enjoy the sheer thrill of dolphins leaping alongside your boat, seals fed by hand and fresh oysters and sparkling wine being served on the calm waters of the lagoon.

Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Swakopmund. Enjoy a stroll on the beach or perhaps engage in some other activity such as quad biking, sand boarding, camel rides, horse riding, etc, or perhaps a visit to the museum, aquarium or the crystal gallery.

**All additional activities, entrance fees and additional meals are on own account**

**Accommodation:** Swakopmund Guesthouse (Bed & breakfast + dolphin cruise)

## DAY 9

**DESTINATION:** Swakopmund / departure

**Program:** Spend the morning at leisure before you will be transferred to the WalvisBay Airport for your Air Namibia flight to the Windhoek Eros airport. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred out to the Windhoek International Airport in order to be there for your late afternoon outbound flight.

