

# 8 Day NamibRand Active



NATUREFRIEND  
SAFARIS

**CLIENT:** Open

**OPERATOR:** NatureFriend Safaris

**DURATION:** 8 Days, 7 Nights - with optional 2 nights extension in Swakopmund

**DATE:** 2009

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## 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 Mountain 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 Mountain 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, untrammelled 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 Mountain 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 Mountain 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 where you will be met by a Wolwedans representative who will transfer you to Wolwedans, in time for lunch.

Located on the very edge of a 250-meter high dune in the 185 000 hectare NamibRand Reserve, the Wolwedans Dune Camp sleeps 12 guests in a totally unspoilt setting. Guests stay in comfortable tents pitched on wooden platforms and there are furnished with standard beds, bedside tables and a suitcase rack. Each tent has a spacious veranda and private bathroom fitted with a hot shower, washbasin and flush toilet. Meals are enjoyed at the central lapa. The lounge, dining area and an open-plan kitchen, which allows guests to chat to their chef while he is preparing a three-course dinner, guarantee a cosy ambience. A sun-downer deck with fireplace provides a relaxed atmosphere for brilliant stargazing. Ideally suited for the more adventurous traveller the charm of the camp lies in its tranquil and intimate atmosphere, capturing the romance of a bygone era.

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

## DAY 3

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Absorb the unique NamibRand Nature Reserve landscape during a morning and afternoon excursion by Landrover through the dunes, endless grassy plains and along mystical mountain formations. You could encounter large and small desert animals learn about their unique habits and explore the ancient hunting spots of the Bushmen. Revel in the incredible landscape around you and Wolwedans' commitment to care for guest and nature alike. Here in this land of stretching blue skies, endless plains and countless creatures enacting nature's savagely exciting passion play, you will find beauty feeding your soul, tranquillity to clear your mind and space for your imagination to fly!



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

## DAY 4

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Enjoy breakfast after which you will be transferred to Tok Tokkie in order to be there in time for lunch.

Your luggage will be transferred to your first overnight camp by vehicle. From your drop-off point a short walk will be enjoyed to your first overnight camp. The beauty of a Tok Tokkie Trail is the fact that you experience so many different aspects of the desert - from mountainous terrain to sandy dunes. Enjoy a sundowner and wholesome three course dinner before falling asleep under a blanket of stars.

**Walking time: 1 – 2 hours**

**Accommodation:** Tok Tokkie (Full board + activities)

## DAY 5

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** Early morning coffee/tea before a light breakfast will be served. Set off in the early morning, in order to make the most of the early morning cool. A lunch pack will be provided in order to stop during the heat of the day for a snack, to fill water bottles and perhaps a siesta.

The highlight of the walk is the breathtaking view of the dunes and plains and to see the desert “come alive” as your guide allows you to feel, smell, taste and see the oldest living desert in the world.

**Walking time: Morning: 4 – 4 ½ hours, afternoon: 2 – 2 ½ hours**

**Trail is not difficult, but challenging.**



**Accommodation:** Tok Tokkie (Full board + activities)

## DAY 6 & 7

**DESTINATION:** NamibRand Nature Reserve

**Program:** After breakfast and coffee/tea, depart on your last walk through the dune field to the Tok Tokkie farmhouse where you will arrive at around 10h30.

**Walking time: Morning: 3 – 3 ½ hours**

You will be met by a Wolwedans representative again who will transfer you to Boulders Camp.

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 8

**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 8

**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 9

**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 10

**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.

