

Namibia Expedition

ETOSHA, SOSSUSVLEI DUNES, AND THE TOK TOKKIE TRAIL



Wilderness Travel



Namibia: Experience the “The Vast Place”

TRIP DATES

2024

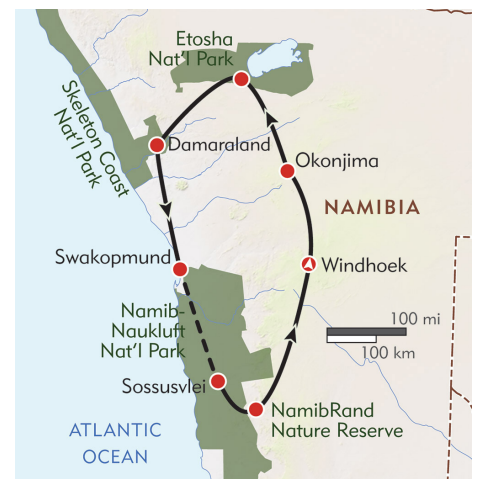
March 28-April 10, 2024
April 29-May 12, 2024
May 27-June 9, 2024
July 23-August 5, 2024
July 25-August 7, 2024
August 22-September 4, 2024

2025

May 15-28, 2025
May 17-30, 2025
June 15-28, 2025
July 14-27, 2025
August 11-24, 2025
Sep 12-25, 2025

Austere. Breathtaking. Unforgettable.

Namibia’s landscapes are unlike any other on the planet. Here, in the oldest desert on earth, iconic species have evolved to survive and even thrive. Wilderness Travel has designed an unsurpassable experience of this hauntingly beautiful land. Our safari explores wildly varied regions, from the salt pans of Etosha, where wildlife gathers in huge numbers around waterholes, to the surreal sand dunes of Sossusvlei—the highest in the world. We give you special access to private concessions and wildlife reserves, a wonderful diversity of activities, accommodations as unique as Namibia itself, and logistics that make the most of your time in “the vast place.”



What Makes Our Namibia Expedition Special?



THE MOST EXTENSIVE & DIVERSE NAMIBIA ITINERARY

In 14 thrilling days, we'll enjoy superb big game viewing in private reserves and national parks, as well as the unique opportunity to track desert-adapted black rhino on foot from an exclusive camp. We get you off the beaten track throughout our journey, with a diversity of activities that is unmatched, including climbing the epic dunes of Sossusvlei, flying over the legendary Skeleton Coast, and hiking the Tok Tokkie trail, where we'll sleep in "dune beds" beneath a blanket of stars in Africa's first Dark Sky Reserve. Join us to experience the absolute best of Namibia.



ACCOMMODATIONS AS ENCHANTING AS THE LANDSCAPE

Chosen to give you unrivaled comfort and access to Namibia's most remarkable locations, our accommodations are a highlight of the trip for many. We'll have exclusive use of //Huab Under Canvas, with fantastic access to Damaraland's black rhino population. (The two forward slashes represent one of the four "click" sounds unique to Khoekhoe, the language spoken by Namibia's Damara people.) At Camp Kipwe, our gorgeous lodge is nestled right into the granite boulders of the Twyfelfontein Conservancy near an area where herds of desert-adapted elephants congregate. Our lodge in the Ongava Private Reserve offers incredible wildlife sightings from the lounge that is set near an active waterhole, and in Sossusvlei, we'll have you staying at a lodge right inside the park for early morning access to the dunes when the light is best.



CUSTOM-BUILT VEHICLES & GUARANTEED WINDOW SEATS

We travel in custom-designed Land Cruisers that are air-conditioned and guarantee that each passenger has their own window seat and ample room for camera gear. These are rugged extended-cab 4x4s with a roof hatch that allows for 360-degree views and great photos of your wildlife experience. We also include a private charter flight with dramatic views (weather cooperating!) along the dramatic Diamond Coast, where you also are guaranteed a window seat.



SMALL GROUPS & THE SAME EXPERT LEADER THROUGHOUT YOUR SAFARI

With a maximum of 12 adventurers per departure, our small group size ensures that you never feel crowded or rushed. Our expert Trip Leader accompanies you throughout your entire safari—you aren't handed off to different guides, which happens on many Namibia safaris (and especially flying safaris).

BE PART OF THE GREATEST CONSERVATION STORY EVER TOLD

This young country, born in 1990, took the extraordinary step of writing conservation into its constitution, and now has over 40% of its land preserved, much of it in innovative community conservancies. The astounding result is that Namibia is now home to some of Africa's only growing populations of free roaming wildlife. Wilderness Travel is proud to sponsor the vital conservation and anti-poaching work in Namibia, and gives you behind-the-scenes access to the Save the Rhino Trust, whose dedicated work has made Namibia a model to the rest of Africa.

Wilderness Travel's Namibia Expedition



ACCESS AND EXCLUSIVITY: DAMARALAND AND AFRICAT

Damaraland is a realm of ephemeral rivers and ancient terraces formed by wind and water. From our exclusive camp, we'll have behind-the-scenes access with the trackers and rangers of Save the Rhino Trust, and have the thrill of tracking rhino on foot. At AfriCat Foundation, we'll have the opportunity to track leopard by vehicle and learn about the complexities of large carnivore conservation.

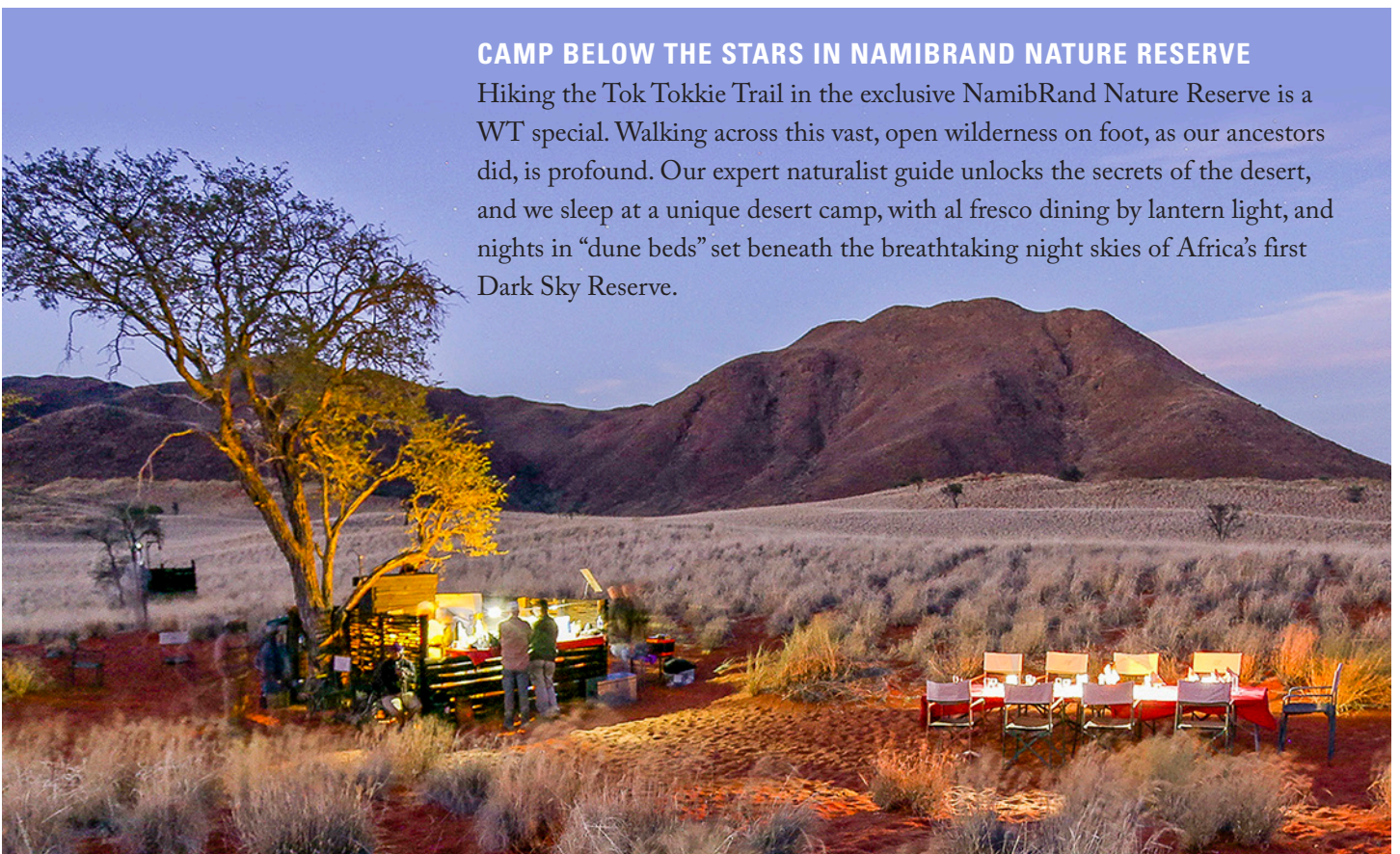


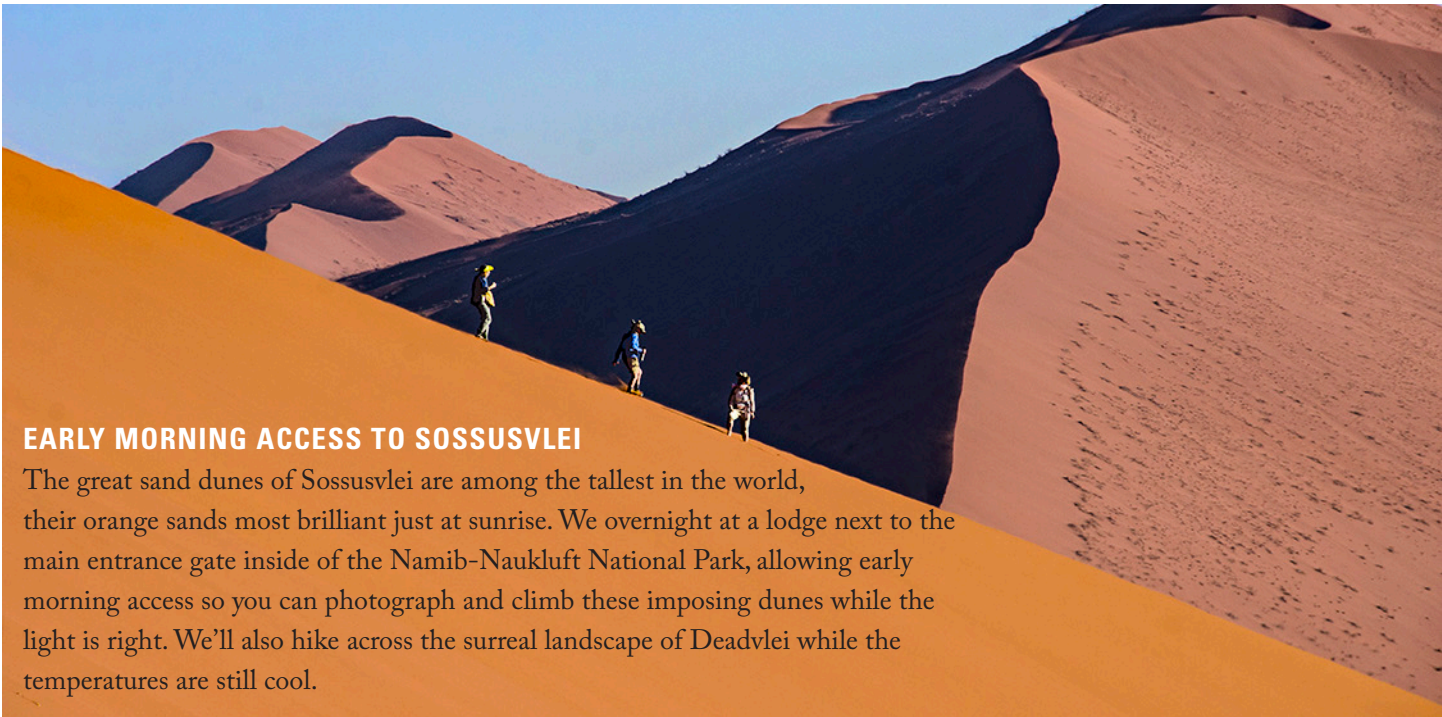
ETOSHA, THE "PLACE OF DRY WATER"

This massive park, one of the largest in Africa, holds Namibia's greatest concentrations of wildlife. Set in Ongava Private Reserve right on the border of Etosha, our lodge gives you incredible access to the park and overlooks a well-frequented waterhole. You'll have a front seat to great wildlife activity right from the dining room!

CAMP BELOW THE STARS IN NAMIBRAND NATURE RESERVE

Hiking the Tok Tokkie Trail in the exclusive NamibRand Nature Reserve is a WT special. Walking across this vast, open wilderness on foot, as our ancestors did, is profound. Our expert naturalist guide unlocks the secrets of the desert, and we sleep at a unique desert camp, with al fresco dining by lantern light, and nights in "dune beds" set beneath the breathtaking night skies of Africa's first Dark Sky Reserve.





EARLY MORNING ACCESS TO SOSSUSVLEI

The great sand dunes of Sossusvlei are among the tallest in the world, their orange sands most brilliant just at sunrise. We overnight at a lodge next to the main entrance gate inside of the Namib-Naukluft National Park, allowing early morning access so you can photograph and climb these imposing dunes while the light is right. We'll also hike across the surreal landscape of Deadvlei while the temperatures are still cool.

AFRICA'S GREATEST ANCIENT PETROGLYPHS

Hike below the extraordinary rock art in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Twyfelfontein. Thousands of images have been carved into the massive rock outcropping here, recording ancient species and journeys, including images of shamanic experiences. We'll bring you right up into this extensive gallery, close to the mysteries of the past.



CHARTER FLIGHT OVER THE DIAMOND COAST

There is one place where we believe in taking to the skies. Our early afternoon charter flight (weather permitting) above the legendary "Skeleton Coast" is timed to give you the best conditions with an opportunity to see flocks of flamingos, huge colonies of fur seals, shipwrecked vessels, even the ghost camps of the diamond hunters of the early 20th century.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Other companies will try to convince you that a shorter flying safari is the way to go. It isn't! Flying safaris are expensive, and you miss out on so much. Our transfers, in specially designed vehicles, are also game drives, lessons in geology, and opportunities for spontaneous walks and wildlife sightings. All are illuminated by the insights and knowledge of our Trip Leader; an expert naturalist. This is a crucial part of giving you a full experience of this mystical land, its wildlife, and its inhabitants.





Itinerary

TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 14 days
- Arrive:** Windhoek, Namibia
- Depart:** Windhoek, Namibia
- Lodging:** 8 nights deluxe wildlife camps, 2 nights open-air camping, 1 night hotel, 2 nights guesthouse
- Meals:** All meals included (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Activity:** Cultural Adventures, Safaris, Walking, Wildlife and Natural History
- Trip Level:** 1 2 ③ 4 5 6
Game viewing by 4WD vehicle, easy to moderate hiking

DAY 1 WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Arrive at the Windhoek International Airport, where you are met for the transfer to Galton House, a boutique hotel set in a quiet neighborhood. We gather for our trip orientation and Welcome Dinner this evening. Overnight at the hotel...D

DAY 2 TO THE BIG CATS: OKONJIMA BUSH CAMP / AFRICAT FOUNDATION

Journeying north from Windhoek, we arrive at lovely Okonjima Bush Camp in time for lunch. Okonjima is home to the renowned AfriCat Foundation, dedicated to the long-term conservation of Namibia's large carnivores through research, education, and community engagement. AfriCat researchers and veterinarians contribute greatly to our understanding of the ecology of large carnivores in enclosed and protected reserves. Since its founding in 1991, over a thousand injured or captured predators have been rescued at AfriCat. This afternoon we head out into the bush to track leopard, which we may find resting in the trees after a night of hunting. Overnight at Okonjima Bush Camp...BLD
Driving Details: 3-4 hours

DAYS 3-4 LEOPARD TRACKING AT AFRICAT / GREAT WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS: ONGAVA PRIVATE RESERVE / ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Rhino are resident at Okonjima, and we'll rise early to see if we can find them (later we'll have the thrill of tracking them on foot in Damaraland!). After breakfast at the camp's open-air rondaval, we depart for Etosha National Park, game viewing along the way. Our lodge is set in Ongava Private Reserve, tucked in a hidden



valley within the 74,000-acre reserve, right on the southern boundary of renowned Etosha National Park. This gives us great access to the wildlife, yet is far from the crowded safari circuit. The lodge is built near an active waterhole so we should have great wildlife sightings right from our camp! This afternoon we head into Etosha, seeking out the salt pans and waterholes that attract an immense variety of wildlife, making for fantastic photos. Elephant, lion, giraffe, blue wildebeest, eland, kudu, oryx, zebra, rhino, cheetah, leopard, hyena, honey badger, and warthog, as well as the endemic black-faced impala all congregate by the water's edge. After exploring the game-filled pans of Etosha we'll head back to our camp, and since we are in a private reserve, a great range of activities are available to us, including guided walks (optional—at additional cost). On Day 4 we'll follow the call of the wildlife in Etosha, lunch at camp, then explore the reserve with the chance of seeing both black and white rhino—an extraordinary opportunity—since Ongava is one of the largest "custodianships" for rhino in all of Namibia, protecting the population for breeding and reintroduction throughout the country. Overnights at Ongava

Lodge...BLD each day
Driving Details: 3 hours

DAY 5 SURREAL DAMARALAND

After an early breakfast, we head west into the stunning and diverse region of Damaraland, which provides some of the most dramatic scenery on our journey, with magnificent table-topped mountains, rock formations, and bizarre-looking vegetation. This is a long day of travel, but we'll game drive as we go, and we'll find scenic spots to pull over for cool drinks, coffee or tea, and snacks from the "magic box" en route to our camp, Camp Doros. This semi-permanent camp offers delightfully unexpected comfort in the absolute back of beyond, and is renowned for its cuisine. We arrive in time to wash up and enjoy sundowners and dinner, then gather around a welcoming campfire, savoring the rare experience of being so completely immersed in the wild. Overnight at Camp Doros... BLD
Driving Details: Approximately 8 hours

"This was our eighth trip to Africa, but we were overcome with Namibia's beauty and changing landscapes. This unique trip is far more than a 'big five' safari."

-Charles C., Wayne PA

DAY 6 TRACKING DESERT-ADAPTED RHINO ON FOOT / BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE EXPERTS AT SAVE THE RHINO TRUST

Damaraland is a surprising refuge for species that have adapted to the harsh environment. Desert elephant, giraffe, oryx, springbok, and even lion have evolved with special adaptations to survive in this austere landscape of little water, and our camp is set in the heart of the habitat of the re-introduced desert rhino. The rhino cover great distances, walking and feeding in the cool of the night and resting during the day. Rhino populations throughout Africa were decimated in the 1980s and '90s, yet

Namibia's black rhino population has more than doubled since the formation of Save the Rhino Trust, an innovative NGO doing crucial work to protect the rare desert-adapted black rhino. Wilderness Travel is a proud supporter of SRT's work and the incredible dedication of the rhino guardians, who keep track of these solitary animals' movement and protect them from poachers. The guardians of a WT-funded mobile camp recently stopped a major international poaching ring.

We'll meet with rangers and trackers of Save the Rhino Trust to learn about their critical work, then head out to do our own rhino tracking. We hear about the fascinating adaptations of

these remarkable creatures as we search for them in the vast desert landscape. Sightings can be challenging—but we are in an exclusive area with the highest sighting success rate in northwestern Namibia. If we find them, tracking rhino alongside the rangers is absolutely thrilling. We head back to

our camp for lunch and an afternoon rest during the heat of the day, then enjoy a late afternoon nature drive or walk to explore this vast and astounding ecosystem before returning to our exclusive mobile camp. Overnight at Camp Doros..BLD

Walking Details: Approximately 2-4 hours, 1.5-3 miles.

"This trip had it all, great animal viewing, stunning landscapes including dunes and deserts, and a real appreciation of Namibia past and present."

Nancy B., Charlestown MA

DAY 7 DAMARALAND / TWYFELFONTEIN

A place of incomparable beauty, Damaraland is a photographer's nirvana—a dizzying array of geologic formations and magnificent palettes of color splashed over some of the earth's oldest landscapes. For eons, wind, water, and geological upheaval have conspired to create a masterwork of nature, a striking tableau of rolling hills, dunes, gravel plains, and ancient river terraces. Our destination is Twyfelfontein, which shelters one of the most remarkable galleries of rock art in all of Africa. Here, on the face of an immense outcropping of red sandstone, our ancestors carved thousands of images of wildlife, from elephant to ostriches, as well as shamanic



experiences. A spring at the base of the rock nourished both the human and animal populations over a period of 7,000 years. Our trail threads its way amid the 2,500 engravings, giving us an up-close experience of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. If our guides get word that elephants are in the area, we'll head out to see them (see Day 8), and explore Twyfelfontein on Day 8.

Our overnight is at an equally remarkable site. The lodge at Camp Kipwe was built into the surrounding boulders, overlooking the great expanse of desert. Each chalet seems to blend right into the rocks themselves, and we'll enjoy sundowners at one of the most spectacular locations imaginable, up on the broad back of a granite outcropping, with views out over the vast desert. Overnight at Camp Kipwe...BLD
Driving Details: 3-4 hours

DAY 8 DESERT-ADAPTED ELEPHANTS

A full morning of exploring by 4WD vehicle brings us into the dramatic landscape of the ephemeral Aba-Huab River valley as we search for game including, with luck, desert-adapted elephants, an amazing sight in this arid environment. Unique to Namibia, the desert elephant of Kunene Region

cover great distances to find the food and water they need to survive, traveling by night. Depending on their location, we'll either enjoy a picnic lunch out in the field or return to our lodge for lunch and a swim in the pool, set between massive boulders. In the afternoon we may visit Twyfelfontein if timing didn't allow it the previous day. Overnight at Camp Kipwe...BLD

"Great trip with scenery unlike anything I have seen in any other country. I loved the variety of activities!"

Jane O., Danville CA

DAY 9 FROM DAMARALAND TO SWAKOPMUND

Our route across the desert brings us past Namibia's highest mountain, the Brandberg. This imposing massif rises straight out of the surrounding desert plain, its sheer walls a challenge to rock climbers, especially Koningstein (8,442'), its precipitous peak. We'll see the endemic Brandberg acacia tree, and the surreal desert plant welwitschia, a favorite of rhinos. We arrive in historic Swakopmund in the late afternoon. This most unexpected gathering of colorful buildings is Namibia's "beach town," a wonderful place to relax after a long day of travel, savoring the unlikely setting. Beyond the last row of houses stretches the vast and uninhabited desert. We'll have dinner in a local restaurant renowned for its seafood. Overnight at a wonderfully quirky boutique hotel, The Delight Swakopmund...BLD





Driving Details: 5 hours

DAY 10 CHARTER FLIGHT ALONG THE DIAMOND COAST / SESRIEM CANYON

Weather permitting, a spectacular charter flight—at a great low altitude for photography—brings us along the "Diamond Coast," the southern end of the famed "Skeleton Coast," over shipwrecks marooned in the sand sea, huge colonies of seals, abandoned diamond camps, and finally to the massive dunes of Sossusvlei. In the event of coastal fog, we fly a spectacular inland route over desert and dunes, possibly spotting some desert-adapted wildlife along the way.

After arriving at our lodge, we head out to explore Sesriem Canyon, which has evolved through centuries of erosion by the Tsauchab River. A narrow gorge nearly a mile long and 100 feet deep has been incised into the surrounding conglomerates, exposing the varying layers of sedimentation deposited over millions of years. The shaded cool depths of the canyon allow pools of water to gather during the rainy season and remain for much of the year round. These pools were a vital source of water for early settlers who drew water for their livestock by knotting six (ses) lengths of rawhide thongs (riems) together, hence the canyon and surrounding area became known as Sesriem. Overnight at Dead Valley Lodge, set right inside Namib-Naukluft park, which gives us

access to the famous dunes of Sossusvlei without the crowds...
BLD

DAY 11 CLIMB SOSSUSVLEI DUNES / NAMIBRAND PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE / TOK TOKKIE

Sunrise amid the dunes is magic—the colors are fantastic as the light becomes sharper and shadows accentuate their huge shapes and curves. The over 900-foot-high dunes are the highest in the world, dwarfing everything in comparison, and

mark the endpoint of the Tsauchab River, which penetrates deep into the Great Sand Sea. Some 60,000 years ago, the encroaching sand blocked its course, and the dunes now fill this otherworldly landscape. The cool morning hours are the best time to climb one of the dunes, following the spine of sand for fantastic views over the desert. We'll also hike through Deadvlei—on a stark white clay pan, gnarled and ghostly camel thorn trees still stand, slowly fossilizing in the dry desert air. The trees perished more

than 900 years ago when the sand sea finally blocked the river from flooding the pan.

After a picnic breakfast, we head to NamibRand Nature Reserve, the largest privately owned nature reserve in all of southern Africa. The diversity of landscapes is exceptional, with virtually every aspect of the Namib Desert represented:

"The best guides, a variety of special places to stay, outstanding local cuisine, and top-drawer adventure—it met all my expectations and more. Thank you for offering a trip that expands one's knowledge of other cultures, while making it so enjoyable and fun!"

-Nancy D., Little Rock AR



expansive sandy plains and endless stretches of grassy savanna alternating with majestic mountain ranges and low dune belts of deep red sand. The variety of flora and fauna is as fascinating as the colors of the landscape, which change constantly as the day progresses. But the real star of the show is the night sky. This is Africa's first Dark Sky Reserve, and each night we'll thrill to some of the most fantastic stargazing on Earth.

We'll enjoy a late lunch at the historic farmstead on the reserve, then meet our specialist guide and set off on foot through a vast and eternal land, experiencing it at a pace that allows our minds to relax and absorb both the immensity and the details of the surprisingly vibrant desert. This afternoon's walk is about 3 hours, bringing us to our enchanting camp, complete with an al fresco bar and dining table and an ingenious camp set up. We'll each have our own individual "dune bed," with a comfy cot, thick duvet, lantern, and bedside table. Sundowners and a memorable meal await, and after the sun sets, the starscapes are astounding. We've timed our departures so we are here during the new moon, so we'll be able to see not only the Milky Way, but the Clouds of Magellan, satellite galaxies of the Milky Way. Overnight at our Tok Tokkie campsite...BLD

Driving Details: 2 hours

Walking Details: Approximately 2-3 hours, 3.1 miles.

DAY 12 HIKING THE TOK TOKKIE TRAIL

We'll enjoy a light breakfast and set off in the cool of the morning (when the light is the most magical!), as our naturalist guide "reads the newspaper" of the desert, deciphering the tracks left by wildlife the night before. The desert is not deserted at all, supporting fascinating flora that survives by tapping underground water from the riverbed, and insect life that drinks in the fog captured from ocean breezes. We may also see oryx, springbok, ostrich, and herds of mountain zebra galloping across the desert. Arriving in our new camp, we'll savor a delicious dinner amid the desert silence—punctuated by occasional gecko barks and hyena cries—and drift off to sleep beneath a blanket of brilliant stars that stretches from horizon to horizon across a velvet black sky. Overnight at our Tok Tokkie campsite...BLD
Walking Details: Approximately 7.5 hours, 6 miles.

DAY 13 NAMIBRAND NATURE RESERVE TO WINDHOEK

Our morning walk is a short one; we meet the vehicles and return to the homestead, then head back to Windhoek. Tonight we gather for a festive Farewell Dinner in celebration of our adventure. Overnight at Galton House in Windhoek... BLD
Driving Details: 5-6 hours / Walking Details: Approximately 1-3 hours, 1-3 miles, depending on the location of the vehicles.

DAY 14 DEPART

Transfer to the Windhoek International Airport for your international flight home...B

Trip Details

DATE AND PRICING INFORMATION

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$9,195 (4-12 members)

Single supplement: \$750

Internal airfare: \$700 (subject to change)

Discount: \$500 (Low Season, April-May)

2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader
- Accommodations, based on double occupancy
- Welcome and farewell dinners
- All meals included as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Water, soft drinks, juice, beer, and table wine at meals; mineral water on board the safari vehicle
- Park fees
- Land transportation
- Airport transfers for passengers as noted
- Baggage handling and sightseeing as noted

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare to and from Africa, internal airfare, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors, cost of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, and other expenses of a personal nature (drinks outside of meals as noted, premium alcoholic beverages, etc.). Optional side trips and excursions are also at your own expense.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Namibia by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the Namibian Dollar, tied to the South African Rand. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2024 program, the US Dollar equaled 18.4 South African Rand. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in South African Rand, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the South African Rand were to rise in value, the trip cost would rise less than might be expected, and if the South African Rand were to fall, the drop in land price would also be less than might be expected.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

Extend Your Adventure

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our *Namibia Expedition* webpage and click on "Extend Your Trip": www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/namibia-sossusvlei-etosha-safari/



CAPE TOWN EXTENSION

The town where modern South Africa was born has a glorious location on the mountainous Cape Peninsula along the blue waters of Table Bay. There is much to see, from Table Mountain to the famous botanical gardens at Kirstenbosch, where 10,000 species are cultivated on 1,000 acres. Close by is Stellenbosch and Franschhoek wine country and the Cape Point Nature Reserve, where the African continent ends.

The itinerary can be customized as needed, please call for details.

4 days. From \$1795.

SHUMBALALA AND GREATER KRUGER SAFARI EXTENSION

A stay at Shumbalala Game Lodge, in the Thornybush Reserve bordering Kruger National Park, South Africa, is an ideal way to experience additional game viewing while enjoying the amenities of a deluxe wildlife lodge. Set on the banks of the Monwana River, Shumbalala is an oasis of luxurious comfort in the heart of the African bushveld. Activities include morning and late afternoon game drives in search of the Big Five, bush walks in the company of an expert ranger and tracker, or simply relaxing on decks overlooking a waterhole where animals frequently congregate. The lodge caters to a maximum of eight guests in four suites, each with its own fireplace and spacious bathroom with indoor and outdoor showers.

4 days. From \$3545.



Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Windhoek, Namibia

Suggested Airport: Hosea Kutako International Airport (WDH)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, before 4:00 pm

Meeting Place: A complimentary transfer is provided from the Windhoek airport to Galton House for all trip members arriving on Day 1. Your Trip Leader or a WT representative will meet you outside the customs area and will be holding a Wilderness Travel sign.

If you have booked extra services for early arrival, a voucher for your transfer and extra hotel nights will be sent with your final documents.

DEPARTURE

Windhoek, Namibia

Suggested Airport: Hosea Kutako International Airport (WDH)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 14, anytime

A complimentary airport transfer will be provided for all trip members to the Windhoek Airport departing on Day 14. If you are departing on a different day, a transfer can be arranged at additional cost.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Namibia. Airlines with the most convenient schedules for this trip include:

Lufthansa

www.lufthansa.com

Qatar Airways

www.qatarairways.com

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please forward us a copy of your airline reservation email so we can reserve your airport transfers. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

EXTRA HOTEL NIGHTS IN WINDHOEK

We are happy to arrange additional hotel nights for you in Windhoek. Please see the Extra Services Request Form including in your Welcome Packet to book these reservations.

Accommodations



GALTON HOUSE

Windhoek, Namibia Day 1 (1 night), Day 13 (1 night)

This welcoming nine-room hotel, just a 10-minute shuttle drive from the center of town, offers a personal and informal atmosphere. Guest rooms are decorated in an inviting modern style, with wildlife photography adorning the walls. Communal areas include a large lounge, indoor and outdoor dining areas, and a small swimming pool. The hotel is named after the explorer and polymath Francis Galton, who produced the first maps of Namibia's interior.



OKONJIMA BUSH CAMP

Omboroko Mountains, Namibia Day 2 (1 night)

Home to the AfriCat Foundation, this luxury bush camp features eight thatched, African-style chalets decorated in earthy tones. The chalets are very spacious, have en suite bathrooms, and can be opened wide during the day for enjoying the views and watching birds in the garden right from your room. A secluded swimming pool awaits at the end of a busy day of game viewing. The food is of a very high standard and the staff and guides are terrific.



ONGAVA LODGE

Ongava Game Reserve, Namibia Days 3 to 4 (2 nights)

An intimate lodge with 12 spacious en suite cabins built of rock and thatch, Ongava offers comfort in the wilderness, a relaxed atmosphere, and a friendly staff. The cabins have air conditioning, ceiling fans, and private verandas great for gameviewing. At the main lodge, meals are served buffet style on an open deck overlooking a waterhole, floodlit at night so guests can see wildlife, including rhinos and sometimes lions, as they gather at the waterhole. The lodge is located on private land on the southern boundary of Etosha National Park.



CAMP DOROS

Damaraland, Namibia Days 5 to 6 (2 nights)

This intimate camp is ideally suited as a base camp for our adventures in tracking black rhino, as it lies in an area renowned for harboring these creatures. Set in a grove of mopane trees, the camp carries arguably the lowest environmental footprint of any camp in Namibia. Six guest tents are set on raised platforms and feature twin or double beds, solar power for lighting and charging points, hot showers and en suite flush toilets. Common areas include a bar, dining room, lounge with fireplaces and a campfire deck, plunge pool, and sun deck.

Accommodations



CAMP KIPWE

Twyfelfontein, Namibia Days 7 to 8 (2 nights)

Situated in the Twyfelfontein Conservancy, this unique camp is creatively tucked among the dramatic granite boulders of the area. The nine guest rooms are round-shaped rondavels with African-style decor, each one nestled between boulders amid superb wilderness scenery. The enchanting evening pre-dinner ritual is sundowners at the top of the boulders, as you watch an unforgettable sunset over the Namibian desert. The camp's central area and dining room are also great places to enjoy amazing views. Meals are fresh and delicious and the wine list is excellent.



THE DELIGHT SWAKOPMUND

Swakopmund, Namibia Day 9 (1 night)

The Delight Swakopmund is a boutique hotel with brightly colored artistic touches for an eye-catching and contemporary feel. Room amenities include crisp linens, large bathrooms, fridges, and Nespresso machines. The staff is friendly and the breakfast buffet is out of this world (including oysters and champagne!). Swakopmund's shops and restaurants are only a five-minute walk away.



DEAD VALLEY LODGE

Sesriem, Namibia Day 10 (1 night)

Views of red sand dunes and rugged mountain ranges extend out in every direction from this stunning lodge, located inside the Namib-Naukluft Park. Each of the 20 climate-controlled tented chalets has a private bathroom with shower and a panoramic view of the Namib Desert. Community areas include a bar, swimming pool, and open-air restaurant that serves fresh, Namibian-style cuisine.

Accommodations



TOK TOKKIE TRAIL

NamibRand Nature Reserve, Namibia Days 11 to 12 (2 nights)

Tok Tokkie is located in the southern part of the NamibRand Nature Reserve, the largest privately owned nature reserve in southern Africa. Here we sleep not in safari tents but in special open-air “dune beds.” These are fairly comfortable outdoor beds with foam mattresses, cotton duvets, and pillows—and you’ll sleep right below the star-filled sky. The bedding fits inside a waterproof canvas outer duvet that keeps the bed warm. Near your individual bed there’s a hand basin with water, a camp chair, and a table. Meals are also served in an open dining area around a table and chairs. The bucket shower and a toilet shelter are nearby, yet secluded.



“The nights sleeping out in the desert were a wonderful experience. The arrangements made were excellent, and the food was fantastic.”

-Elaine R., Portola Valley CA

“Couldn’t have asked for a more interesting trip with outstanding guides, meals, and accommodations. This was our fourth trip with Wilderness Travel and one of the best (although we say that about every trip we have been on!).” *– Jerry W., Santa Rosa, CA*

“Wonderful—I was reluctant to leave each location. The place, the animals, the landscape, and the accommodations were all outstanding. Namibians’ devotion to preserving their unique environment was impressive and enviable.” *– Linda M., El Prado NM*

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Namibia Expedition* webpage and click on “Accommodations.”

Our Guides

MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Our expert Trip Leaders and their naturalist guides are indispensable, providing unbelievable game-tracking skills, and intimate knowledge of Namibia's cultural and natural history. Both on the trail and on the road, the crew contributes valuable local perspective, and makes possible a thought-provoking and exiting trip in ways that no guide book can. With their years of experience, the Trip Leaders bring the desert to life. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/namibia-sossusvlei-etosha-safari/



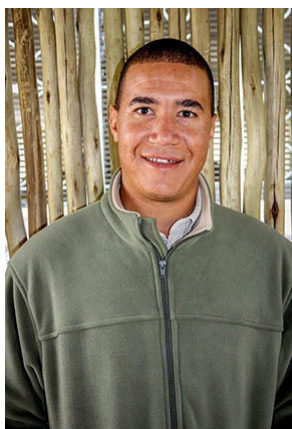
USKO HANGHUWO

Usko grew up in Namibia's northern region of Ovamboland and developed a love for nature and wildlife at an early age. After completing his education in Windhoek and working as a graphic designer, he decided to pursue his passion for guiding and has been leading trips in Namibia since 2009. His training led him from the NamibRand Nature Reserve to Damaraland, where he mastered skills in geology, plants, birds, and other wildlife, including the behaviors of desert-adapted elephants. He also spent time in the Himba villages, learning about their unique culture firsthand. Usko loves sharing his country with safari guests, and says it brings us "closer to nature and unites people from around the world."



PETER NUUGONYA

Peter's passion for wildlife spawned at an early age while learning about the calls, tracks, and behaviors of the animals he encountered while clearing bush as a youngster in his village of Oshivambo. His career in tourism and conservation officially began at Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge in the Namib Rand Reserve, where his charisma and warm personality were evident from the start. He was eventually selected to partake in the CCAfrica in-house guide training program. Soon after, he prospered as a full time guide. Over the past many years, Peter has become an avid birder, star gazer, photographer, as well as an excellent guide. He has a particularly strong interest in astronomy, and loves sharing his knowledge of the night sky with travelers from around the world. His enthusiasm for the stars and the wildlife of his homeland in Namibia brightens the trails of all his traveling companions.



FRANCO MORAO

Franco Morao was born on a farm in eastern Namibia and completed secondary school in Windhoek, where excursions peaked his interest in becoming a camp guide. He honed his skills to become an advanced-level guide at the Ongava Private Game Reserve, gained his National Guiding Certificate in 2012, and has worked in all of Namibia's iconic spots, from Damaraland to Etosha. Franco's engaging personality and wilderness skills make him a sought-after private guide, and he has become a keen birder and accomplished photographer.

Our Safari Vehicles

Our purpose-built Land Cruisers are ideally suited for Namibian road conditions and ensure the best possible ride comforts on the many miles traveled; and Namibia's awe-inspiring landscapes are the ideal destination for road adventures! With a maximum of seven passengers per vehicle, everyone is ensured a window seat and plenty of room to stretch out their gear and legs. Besides being the very best off-roading 4WD vehicles available, all of our vehicles feature:

- Pop-top roofs for better photography and game vantage points, located at both driver's front and back cabin
- Air conditioning
- Onboard fridge and freezers with plenty of water
- Library, including guide books, maps, stationary, and species check lists
- 220-volt electrical outlets to recharge batteries on the go
- VHF radios to allow group communication while on the road
- "Magic boxes" for en-route catering, from bush breakfasts, coffee and tea stops, to sundowners!



What to Expect

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

The trip is Level 3, Moderate, according to our trip grading system. This is a camping and lodge safari with game viewing by 4WD vehicle, nature walks, and long driving days. The hiking is mostly on easy terrain, but there are some sections of walking through sand dunes or on rough, hilly terrain with loose scree, which requires well-balanced and secure walking. We have two half-days and one full day of hiking; distances normally don't exceed 6 miles per day, and the pace is set to suit the group. Fitness and good conditioning are essential for enjoying this hike. Please bring well-broken-in lightweight hiking boots for these days, as well as for the hikes on the Sossusvlei Dunes.

Due to its vast distances, an integral part of any Namibia safari is driving, and this is part of the adventure. We will be in the company of the Trip Leader, who will make the road journeys very interesting and point out many highlights en route. While the driving times may appear long, there is a lot to see and the scenery is dramatic and beautiful. Our vehicles are very comfortable and have supplies for tea, picnic lunches, etc.

Although this is not a particularly rigorous trip, we still recommend you undertake a preparatory program of physical conditioning (especially if you want to climb the sand dunes in Sossusvlei, which can be quite challenging; it's also recommended for the Tok Tokkie Trail). Daily walking or regular hiking, jogging, and stair-climbing are excellent preparatory exercises.

Any African safari is an adventure, and the traveler should bring along flexibility, a sense of humor, curiosity about new peoples and places, and an openness to the unexpected. Please note: on the Tok Tokkie Trail, if we have a small group (fewer than seven trip members), we may share the experience with

other travelers. The maximum total number of travelers in the group would always be eight, to preserve the Tok Tokkie experience.

While on safari, most breakfasts and evening meals will be taken at the lodge you are staying at or in camps along the Tok Tokkie Trail. Lunches while traveling between destinations will be served picnic-style en route or at a café or restaurant if there is not a suitable picnic site. Bottled water, soft drinks, juice, house wine, and beer are included throughout the trip. All vehicles are equipped with a fridge or cool box stocked with bottled water. Tea and coffee are offered by most accommodations free of charge with meals and at afternoon tea time.

WEATHER

Namibia has a typical desert climate: hot in the day, and cool at night, mostly sunny and dry. Between November and April, daytime temperatures can be in the low 90°Fs, with night temperatures dropping to the 50°Fs. Between May and October, daytime temperatures generally reach the mid-70°Fs and can drop to as low as 40°F at night. The coastal region is cool and dry throughout the year.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Africa Manager or email us at africa@wildernesstravel.com.

Average Daily Max/Min °F												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Windhoek	86/63	84/63	82/61	79/55	73/48	70/45	70/43	79/55	81/54	84/57	86/61	88/63
Swakopmund	72/61	73/61	72/61	70/57	70/54	68/52	68/50	64/50	64/52	66/54	70/57	72/59
Sossusvlei	86/61	84/61	84/59	81/55	77/50	73/46	73/45	73/46	77/48	79/52	82/54	84/57
Rainfall - Inches												
Windhoek	2.9	3.3	3.3	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.0	1.3
Swakopmund	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sossusvlei	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.

Travel Notes



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

- World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner
- Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row
- Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row
- Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*
- Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner
- 50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row
- Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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