

English

NAMIBIA | BOTSWANA | SOUTH AFRICA

NAMIBIA'S SOUTH, KGALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK (KALAHARI) THE WEST COAST, WHALE -WALE WATCHING, WINE ROUTE AND CAPE TOWN

- Overview
- Travel Information | Namibia and Botswana
- Suggested Accommodation
- Tour Itinerary (Daily Details)
- Map

TOUR SUMMARY

- Small Group or Private Safari
- English- and German- speaking tour guide
- 19 Days
- Kalahari, Fish River Canyon, Luderitz, Kolmanskop, Desert Horses, Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, Augrabies National Park, Namaqualand, Cape West Coast, Hermanus (Wale Watching in Season), Stellenbosch, Cape Winelands, Cape Town

INCLUSIVE

- Accommodation in double rooms and double tents of hotels, lodges, camps
- Breakfast
- All transfers
- All entrance fees
- Excursions according to the program

EXCLUSIVE

- Beverages
- Additional meals
- Visa fee
- International flights

Overview

(Picture over the page)

A safari to explore the ancient landscape of the Kalahari and the Fish River Canyon with a fascinating change to Lüderitz and the ghost town of Kolmanskop.

On this trip, you travel to the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. During extensive game drives, the best wildlife viewing is expected, such as large herds of Wildebeest, Oryx, Springbok, and Eland. In the shade of the many old acacias, one often encounters the king of the animals with family, while the mighty acacia branches serve as observation points for leopards and birds of prey.

Across the rocky desert landscape of the Augrabies waterfalls, you will travel through the Namaqualand to the west coast of South Africa. In an open-air restaurant, which can be found all over the West Coast, dinner will be served under the open sky.

During the whale season, head to one of the best of the world's best whale observatories, Hermanus.

As a final highlight the journey, takes you the wine country around Stellenbosch and a visit to the mother city of South Africa - Cape Town.

Suggested Accommodation

(Add all Accommodation here for the Tour)

Tour Itinerary (Daily Details)

Day 1: Windhoek — Kalahari

Upon arrival at Windhoek International Airport you will be greeted by your tour guide and, after completing the entry procedures, we travel south via Rehoboth and Kalkrand to the Kalahari Red Dunes Lodge.

The lodge consists of a total of 12 individual guest houses and a main house with restaurant, pool and beautiful wooden terraces that invite you to linger.

Crown your Red-Dunes day with a Game Drive / Sundown Drive. Experience 4,000 hectares of pure Kalahari Desert in open 4x4 Vehicle over red dunes up to 30 meters high and observe the breathtaking flora and fauna under expert guidance. Immerse yourself in the most beautiful hour of the Kalahari.

Day 2: Keetmanshoop, Naute Reservoir and Fish River Canyon area

In the early morning the journey takes you via Keetmanshoop, along the Naute Dam, where you can optionally taste locally produced liqueurs and gin's at "Naute Kristall Distillery", to Africa's biggest canyon, the Fish River Canyon. At your accommodation, which is located near the canyon, you have the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 3: Fish River Canyon and Lüderitz

Today's destination is the Fish River Canyon. This is one of the most significant scenic attractions in southern Africa and is surpassed in size only by the Grand Canyon in America. The Fish River Canyon was formed approximately 350 million years ago due to movements in the earth's crust as well as by water erosion. With a length of 161 km, the Fish River Canyon — after the Grand Canyon in America — is the second largest canyon in the world. It measures a depth of up to 550 meters. The Fish River Canyon is part of a huge conservation area.

You will be traveling west through the small former railroad town of Aus and on to Lüderitz. En Route you will have stunning views of the endless desert areas and extending far to the south Diamond restricted area.

On the way a visit to the wild horses at Garub is planned. The “Wild Horses” usually roam the Namib here and are among the only ones of their kind in the world to adapt to the harsh conditions of the desert.

Day 4: Lüderitz

Lüderitz is a coastal city in south-western Namibia. The city, once the entrance to the colony of German South-West Africa, experienced a strong upswing by the diamond boom in 1908 which faded in the middle of the last century.

It is known for its German colonial buildings, including the Goerke House, which is built into the rock on Diamond Hill. The nearby Felsenkirche is a hilltop church with panoramic views stretching to Robert Harbour. The Lüderitz Museum exhibits exhibitions about the city's diamond mining past and the history of the region.

We will use the time to explore this old colonial city and Kolmanskuppe.

Optional for this day (Must be booked in advance)

A day trip to the Diamond "Sperrgebiet" and the Bogenfels can be booked.

At 55 meters high, the Arch Rock is the tallest rock arch in southern Africa. It is a spectacular arch that rises from the sea. It is located between Oranjemund and Lüderitzbucht and is a national monument of Namibia. The immediate area is part of the Namibian Diamond Restricted Area 1, where diamonds are still being searched for and therefore this area is not accessible to the public.

Day 5: Kolmanskuppe and Keetmanshoop

After breakfast, visit the ghost town Kolmanskuppe. This city sunk in the desert sand, with still partly well-preserved houses, is connected with the adventurous history of the first diamond finds in the year 1908. Not for nothing is this settlement called a ghost town, as it is deserted except for your visitors. A guided tour of this ghost town revives its past.

After the visit the journey leads via Aus to Keetmanshoop.

Day 6: Mesosaurus fossils, Quiver Tree Forest and Kalahari

Today the journey heads east to the Mesosaurus Fossil Site and Quiver Tree Dolerite Park.

Mesosaurus tenuidens is a reptile that lived about 290 million years ago. On the farm Spitzkop such fossils were found and reveals the fossils of these reptiles.

In addition to the fossils, there are about 5000 quiver trees on the farm. Quiver trees are an

aloe species, aloe dichotoma that grow in the interesting dolerite formation.

After a detailed tour of the area the adventure leads us to the Kalahari Game Lodge. Located near the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park.

The Kalahari Game Lodge has an approximately 43,000 hektar wildlife area home to 55 mammals, 58 reptiles, and amphibian and 105 bird species. There are also about 185 different plant species. The Kalahari Game Lodge has recently been refurbished and offers eight spacious, bright and friendly furnished chalets surrounded by a red dunes sea and ancient camel thorn acacias.

Day 7- 9: Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

Drive to the cross-border nature reserve.

The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, located on Namibia and South Africa's border, is our destination for the next 3 days. The Kalahari Park was merged in 1999 with the adjacent Gemsbok National Park in Botswana and called Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. The huge game reserve - covering an area of around 38,000 km² - gives an insight into the fascinating landscape of the Kalahari with its orange-red dune chains and the specially adapted to this dry-savanna habitat. The border between South Africa and Botswana is only marked by some whitewashed stones. Thus, the game can roam freely through both parts of the park in search of food.

The southern Kalahari is traversed by high, stabilized sand dunes that run mainly from east to west. Although this area already belongs to the semi-desert, the low rainfall allows an interesting flora and fauna such as eland and oryx antelopes, wildebeest and springbok, and black-maned Kalahari lions, which can be observed especially at watering holes, with a little luck also brown hyenas or Caracal.

During our game drives optimal game viewing is to be expected as there are large herds of wildebeest, oryx, springbok, eland etc. on the grassy areas. In the shade of the many old acacias, one often encounters the king of the animals with family, while the mighty acacia branches serve as observation points for leopards and birds of prey.

Day 10: Au-grabies Falls National Park

Drive via Upington to the Au-grabies Falls National Park

Arrival at the rock desert landscape at the Au-grabies waterfalls. Almost 56 m, the Orange River crashes through a granite rock formation into a deep ravine.

The name Au-grabies derives from the word "aukoerebis" and means "place of roaring noise" in the language of the Khoisan (Bushmen).

Particularly impressive are the falls in late summer, when the Oranje River floods after the summer rains, the water mass thunderously plunging into the depths and submerge the gorge in a fine spray. The Au-grabies Waterfalls are among the 10 largest waterfalls in the world.

Day 11: Namaqualand

Today the route continues into Namaqualand, Namaqualand is known for its spring flowers

(in season), succulents, unique native plants, hospitality, unreal rock formations and the Richterfeld.

Springbok is the capital of Namaqualand. Once large springbok herds moved here through the barren valleys and drank at a local spring. The herds were evicted when copper was discovered near the small settlement. Springbok is the centre of the wild flower region and especially in the spring, the place is experiencing a large influx of visitors.

Day 12: Lambertsbay

Through the Namaqualand it goes to the west coast town of Lambertsbay.

The small fishing village has about 3600 inhabitants and is known for its excellent "Rock Lobster" (lobster), which come here fresh caught on the plate and in the trade. Especially on weekends, many Cape Towners drive here. In large open-air restaurants, which can be found all over the West Coast, you then dine under the open sky.

The place was named after Sir Robert Lambert, who was between 1820 and 1821 Naval Commander of the Cape. The bay here was the scene of the only naval battle in the Boer War.

The harbour and the fish cannery do not contribute to a beautiful cityscape, but worth a trip to Lamberts Bay. The entire region is still relatively little developed touristically. At the end of November, a lobster festival takes place here every year and lures the friends of this delicacy to Lamberts Bay.

The highlight of the visit is Bird Island. It is one of the largest cape gannet breeding colonies of South Africa and has up to 25,000 breeding birds and, with luck, dolphins, whales and seals can be seen in the blue waters a short distance from the beach.

Day 13: Whale Watching - Hermanus

The journey leads to the town of Hermanus. Hermanus is located about 130 kilometres south-east of Cape Town and is considered one of the best whale observatories in the world. The southern right whales come from the cold waters of the Antarctic to South Africa to get their offspring here. Before Hermanus are the favorite places of the whales.

Much of the coast off Hermanus is made up of rocks. One can stand here during the whale season directly by the sea and observe the whales - also called "Whale watching".

Day 14 – 15: Stellenbosch and the Cape Wine Route

Drive to Stellenbosch the second oldest city in South Africa. It has preserved its architectural gems and has been declared a National Monument. Most residents speak Afrikaans.

It is very pleasant to stroll through the centre of this old university town. The unique homeland architecture and the Oak Tree lined streets go back to the 16th century. Many

Cape Dutch-style houses and the theological seminary are located on Dorp Street, the city's main street. You should also visit "Oom Samie se Winkel", a shop in the style of a bygone era.

Full day excursion to the wine country drive to a few of the surrounding wine farms and hear interesting about the cultivation and storage of the vine juice. Of course, a taste of these noble drops may not be missing.

Day 16: South Cape - Cape Town

No one visits Cape Town without taking a trip to the Cape of Good Hope.

But not only the geographical location, but also the drive there - especially along the world-famous Chapman's Peak Drive - as well as past holiday and former fishing villages, the visit of the penguin colony at Simon's Town, the colourful beach houses of St. James and Muizenberg. Botanists will also appreciate the flora of the Capensis on this round trip. The number of points mentioned above, the fact that the cape peninsula extends like an angled thumb over more than 60 km, and finally the winding coastal roads make it clear that you have to start early for a tour around.

Day 17: Cape Town

The mother city of Cape Town is your destination today. In the city centre, there are some historically interesting places such as the Castle of Good Hope, the Dutch Reformed "Grote Kerk" Church, the SA Cultural History Museum and the Bo-Kaap, the Malay Quarter with its mosques and colorful 18th-century houses Century lies at the foot of Signal Hill.

And of course no visit to Cape Town is complete if you did not take the cable car up to Table Mountain, at least when the weather's right. Take the cable car to the top of Cape Town's 1,086-meter landmark and enjoy panoramic views of the city, Robben Island and the mountain itself. The plateau has well-maintained walking paths and a restaurant.

Day 18: Cape Town — day at leisure

The day is at your leisure, there are various activities to choose from, such as: Enjoy a Cape Town City Sightseeing Hop-On Hop-Off Tour, a visit to Robben Island, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden or just a day out in Cape Town.

Day 19

After a leisurely breakfast, timely transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Map

(Add a Map of the Tour here)

Embed

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