

# Namibia | DESERT DUNE SAFARI

WILDLIFE & NATURE DISCOVERY | 14 DAYS

Sept 3-16, 2020

Oct 15-28, 2020

Nov 10-23, 2020

Dec 7-20, 2020



## TRIP ITINERARY



800.941.8010 | [www.boundlessjourneys.com](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com)

*How we deliver*

# THE WORLD'S GREAT ADVENTURES

**A passion for travel.** Simply put, we love to travel, and that infectious spirit is woven into every one of our journeys. Our staff travels the globe searching out hidden-gem inns and lodges, taste testing bistros, trattorias, and noodle stalls, and discovering the trails and plying the waterways of each remarkable destination. When we come home, we separate wheat from chaff, creating memorable adventures that will connect you with the very best qualities of each destination.

**Unique, award-winning itineraries.** Our flexible, hand-crafted journeys have received accolades from the world's most revered travel publications. Beginning from our appreciation for the world's most breathtaking and interesting destinations, we infuse our journeys with the elements of adventure and exploration that stimulate our souls and enliven our minds. Whether you are looking for a challenging physical expedition or a leisurely cultural exploration, Boundless Journeys has exceptional itineraries to match your sense of adventure.

**Insider connections.** There is simply no substitute for traveling with a knowledgeable insider, and our expert local guides will open doors for you that other travelers miss, like dinner with their extended family in Peru's Sacred Valley, or meeting an art scholar in Florence. Relationships developed over many years allow you to experience our destinations through a well-connected friend.

**Small groups.** Although the camaraderie of a group of like-minded travelers often enhances the journey, there can be too much of a good thing! We tread softly, and our maximum group size in Namibia is just 7 guests, allowing us access to opportunities that would be unthinkable with a larger group.

**Flexibility to suit your travel style.** We offer both scheduled, small-group departures and private journeys so that you can choose which works best for you. Not finding exactly what you are looking for? Let us customize a journey to fulfill your travel dreams.

**Customer service that goes the extra mile.** Having trouble finding flights that work for you? Want to surprise your traveling companion with a bottle of champagne at a tented camp in the Serengeti to celebrate an important milestone? There is no request that is too big—or too small—for our staff to handle. From your first call, we guide you through choosing your trip, provide advice on preparing for your adventure, and hold your hand until you return home.



Multi-year recipient of *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "World's Best Tour Operator"; and recognized by the editors of *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine as one of the **Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth**.

# Namibia | DESERT DUNE SAFARI

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic journey to Namibia. We have hand-crafted this tour from our own experience and hope you fall in love with the area—as we have!

## THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS JOURNEY

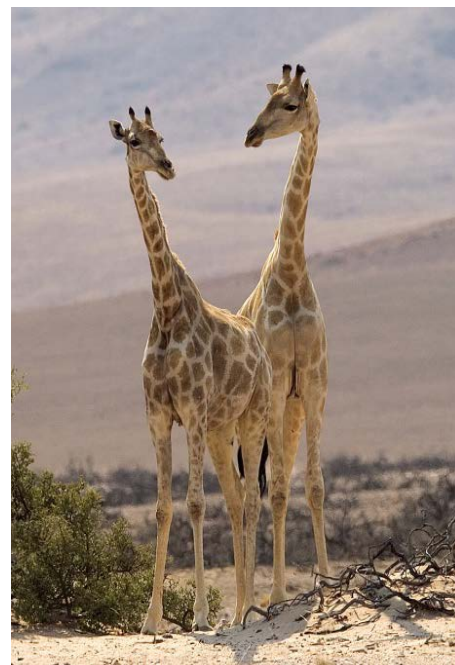
Namibia is a country of startling contrasts that straddles two great deserts: the Namib (for which the country is named) being the oldest desert on the planet, with red dunes towering 1,000 feet high that lord over the Atlantic coast, and the Kalahari, a vast and sparsely vegetated savannah in the east that sprawls across the border into neighboring countries. This safari in Namibia's unique desert environments will take us through remote coastal and inland areas rarely explored by others for an unforgettable journey of discovery.

Desert Dune Safari is operated in partnership with Wilderness Safaris and will be shared with up to 7 guests and a Wilderness Safaris guide. The safari begins with an exploration of Sossusvlei's iconic red dunes. A scenic flight up the coast then brings us to amazing marine life in coastal Swakopmund. North of Swakopmund, the Skeleton Coast—littered with historic remnants of shipwrecks—is ours to explore, virtually alone. Next, the rugged, rocky landscape of Palmwag invites us to search for some of the last free-roaming black rhino. Finally, three nights of exploring the famous Etosha National Park from a private reserve will top off the adventure with epic wildlife encounters. Aside from wildlife and activities, we will encounter the native people of Namibia, both at the safari camps, and while meeting local people, from fishermen to traditional craft artisans.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Diverse landscapes, including the red dunes of Sossusvlei, the desolate Skeleton Coast, the diverse landscapes of Palmwag and Damaraland, and Etosha National Park
- Explore the Skeleton Coast and spot Cape fur seal colonies and other desert-adapted wildlife
- Varied activities, such as day and night game drives, sea and land-based wildlife viewing, 4 x 4 excursions, and boating
- Other unique excursions include rhino tracking, a motorboat trip at Walvis Bay (including Sandwich Harbour) and climbing the dunes at Sossusvlei

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# SAFARI OVERVIEW



## THE BASICS

Duration:	14-day trip
Tour start/end:	Windhoek, Namibia
Accommodations:	2 nights in a first-class hotel, and 11 nights deluxe and luxury safari camps (all private baths)
Trip rating:	<b>1+</b> 2    3    4    5 Easy ..... Strenuous (See page 12 for more details)
Per person land cost:	Jan 1-May 31: \$9,995 per person Jun 1-30: \$11,335 per person Jul 1-Oct 31: \$11,995 per person Nov 1-30: \$10,495 per person Dec 1-31: \$9,995 per person
Single Supplement:	\$385; single availability is limited, so reserve early!



## WHAT'S INCLUDED

Just pack your bags – we've got you covered! When you're on a Boundless Journeys adventure, every detail is taken care of for you, so you can relax and truly experience each moment. Your Boundless Journeys adventure includes:

- Expert naturalist guide for your entire safari
- All accommodations as noted
- All meals except two lunches and one dinner
- Local wine and beer with all included dinners
- All activities noted in the itinerary
- All internal flights and ground transfers beginning and ending in Windhoek, Namibia
- Laundry at safari camps
- National park entry fees
- Explorers Club savings on your next scheduled, small-group trip (conditions apply)

International airfare is not included in the price of your trip. Please contact your local travel agency or the airlines directly to make any arrangements you may need. If you would like assistance with booking your flights or other travel plans, please contact Boundless Journeys directly at (800) 941-8010 for a referral to our partners who will best fulfill your needs.



## ITINERARY AT-A-GLANCE

### DAY 1

Meet in Windhoek and drive overland (6 hours / 200 miles) to the Kulala Wilderness Reserve, enjoying lunch en route.

### DAY 2

Explore Sossusvlei and Dead Vlei, with the benefit of a private entry gate to the park from our private, 37,000 hectare reserve, allowing us to arrive before those staying further out. Optional climb up "Big Daddy," the largest of Sossusvlei's red dunes.

### DAY 3

Drive from Sossusvlei via Kuiseb Canyon to Swakopmund, a picturesque town blending European and African culture (5-6 hours / 230 miles). Afternoon at leisure to explore town before dinner.

### DAY 4

Private boat cruise from Walvis Bay to Sandwich Harbour (weather permitting) to see ocean-going birds, Cape fur seals, and rare Heaviside's dolphins up close. Dinner this evening is on your own.

### DAY 5

Overland journey (5 hours / 175 miles) up the Skeleton Coast, and then inland along the Ugab riverbed in search of desert-adapted wildlife, past interesting geological formations, to Damaraland Camp.

### DAY 6

Search for desert-adapted elephant along the Huab riverbed en route to the private Palmwag Concession and Desert Rhino Camp.

### DAY 7

Track the rare desert-adapted black rhino; some of the last to exist free-roaming in the wild, protected by the Save the Rhino Trust.

### DAYS 8, 9, & 10

Drive to Doro Nawas and catch a bushflight to Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp. In the afternoon, enjoy a game drive through this private concession in search of elephant, giraffe, lion, brown hyena, and more. Spend the days on game drives through the dunes and dry riverbeds of this private area. In addition to the larger wildlife, gemsbok (oryx), springbok, steenbok, scrub hare, and inquisitive ground squirrel are also seen regularly.

### DAYS 11, 12, & 13

Fly to Doro Nawas and then drive to Etosha National Park (5-6 hours / 100 miles), renowned worldwide for its high density of wildlife and otherworldly salt pans.

### DAY 14: DEPARTURE

Bid farewell to our adventure as we transfer to Windhoek (4-5 hours / 260 miles) arriving by 1 p.m. in time for mid-afternoon departures.

**TYPICAL ITINERARY:** *Private and customized options are also available.*

**OPTIONAL TRIP EXTENSIONS:** Continue your adventure with extensions to Cape Town, Victoria Falls, Botswana, and more. Call our Africa Specialist at 1-800-941-8010 to begin the conversation today.

# THE JOURNEY



## DAY 1: Into the Namib Desert

**Activity Overview:** Overland excursion

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** 6 hours

This morning, we gather as a group and depart Windhoek, beginning our journey with a scenic drive through the rugged Khomas Hochland mountains and descending into the dune-filled Sossusvlei region, a driving time of approximately five to six hours (about 200 miles). En route, we stop at a scenic spot for lunch. Soon we find ourselves surrounded by the classic view of the Namib Desert as an ocean of sand with “waves” of bright red and dark shadows. Also known as the ‘Sand Sea,’ Sossusvlei is sandwiched between the Atlantic’s cold Benguela Current and a rocky escarpment that runs parallel more than 60 miles inland and presents not only a spectacular visual experience, but also a unique ecosystem, to which our guide will introduce us in the coming days.

This afternoon, we settle into our accommodation for the next two nights, a 23-room retreat on the private 37,000 hectare Kulala Wilderness Reserve. Our lodge’s convivial main area includes a lounge, bar, dining area, plunge pool, and wrap-around veranda overlooking a riverbed—a perfect location to view and photograph the desert vista and to contemplate the day’s activities.

**Accommodation:** Kulala Desert Lodge, Kulala Wilderness Reserve; **Meals:** L, D

## DAY 2: Sossusvlei and Dead Vlei

**Activity Overview:** Optional dune hiking and/or exploration on foot

**Activity Level:** Easy to moderate

**Activity Length:** about 4 hours

After an early breakfast, we depart camp for the interior of Sossusvlei, where towering dunes rise dramatically, some more than 1,000 feet above the surrounding plains. We plan our activities for early morning to enjoy the fine weather before the day gets too warm. This morning, perhaps you’ll choose to challenge yourself to climb to the peak of “Big Daddy” the highest of the famous red dunes, for epic views across the sea of sand. Or perhaps you simply want to enjoy photographing the native wildlife and stunning landscapes in the beautiful morning light. Desert-adapted wildlife such as ostrich, springbok, and gemsbok eke out a carefully balanced existence here. Larger predators include hyena, the almost mystical shaggy-coated scavenger. One bird, the aptly named Dune Lark, has its entire global distribution limited to this region, so dependent is it on the area’s characteristic sands.

We also explore the moon-like landscape of Dead Vlei today, a clay pan characterized by the haunting remains of ancient camelthorn trees contrasted against the white pan floor. The flat pan was formed when the Tsauchab River flooded and an abundance of water allowed camelthorn trees to grow here. However, shifting dunes blocked the river from reaching the area, resulting in the dead trees, estimated to be approximately 900 years old, which have not decomposed due to the extremely dry climate.





*"It was the trip of a lifetime – every day was an adventure."*

*—J.E., Wolfeboro, NH*

This evening we find ourselves again enjoying life at our lodge. Each free-standing room has a rooftop deck, providing the option of a memorable sleep-out under the stars.

**Accommodation:** Kulala Desert Lodge, Kulala Wilderness Reserve; **Meals:** B, L, D

### DAY 3: Kuiseb Canyon to Swakopmund

**Activity Overview:** Overland excursion

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** 5-6 hours driving

We say goodbye to Sossusvlei this morning, departing camp early and driving through the snaking roads of the Kuiseb Canyon and out onto expansive gravel plains, eventually arriving in Walvis Bay before continuing north into the quaint coastal town of Swakopmund.

We arrive in Swakopmund, and settle in to our accommodations for the next two nights, an iconic hotel typifying the town's architecture. This afternoon you are free for lunch and time to explore town.

**Accommodation:** Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund; **Meals:** B, D

### DAY 4: Walvis Bay Marine Safari

**Activity Overview:** Catamaran tour

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** 1-2 hours (tide dependent)

After breakfast, we depart for our marine cruise, exploring Walvis Bay Harbour and old shipwrecks, along with the

chance of spotting pelicans, dolphins, seals, and even whales and turtles in season.

Our initial route takes us past oyster farms as we approach Pelican Point with its landmark lighthouse and 60,000 resident Cape fur seals. In season (July to November), larger mammals, such as the Southern right whale and humpback whales, are often spotted, while other whale species, such as the gray whale and the pygmy right whale, have also made appearances. Bottlenose, heaviside, and dusky dolphins are regularly seen, as are mola molas and leatherback turtles. Accompanying our catamarans throughout are a variety of seabirds, such as the Kelp Gull, Hartlaub's Gull, Pelicans, and Cape Cormorant.

We arrive back to Walvis Bay in the early afternoon and have the remainder of the day at leisure to explore Swakopmund. Your guide will be happy to make suggestions for dinner.

**Accommodation:** Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund; **Meals:** B

### DAY 5: The Skeleton Coast to Damaraland

**Activity Overview:** Overland excursion

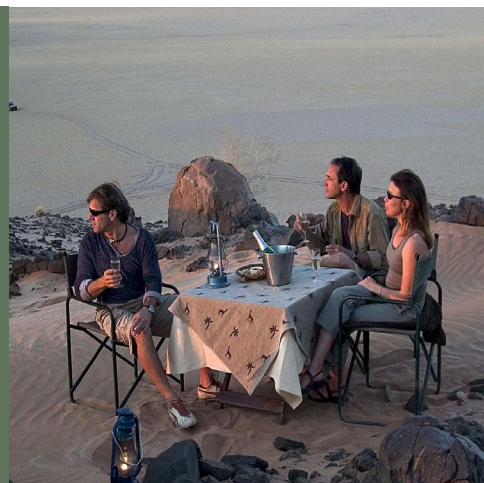
**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** About 5 hours, excluding any stops

We depart Swakopmund this morning to continue our journey north for approximately 175 miles, partly up the legendary Skeleton Coast (named for the numerous ships the treacherous shores have claimed over the years). We then depart from the coast and drive back roads through the productive Ugab riverbed, where we may encounter wildlife, and travel north past Brandberg Mountain—the second

*"Waking up and looking out our tent in Namibia was stunning. The sun seemed to rise very slowly. Every inch that it rose it seemed to change the color of the landscape. I took photos continuously throughout the sunrise and got drastically different colors. The entire landscape shifted from deep pinks to blazing red and oranges. Absolutely breathtaking."*

*-C.O., San Francisco, CA*



largest monolith on earth after Ayers Rock in Australia—to Damaraland.

A land of stark beauty, the Damaraland area boasts a varied assortment of desert-adapted wildlife and incredible geological formations. We take our time and spend the day absorbing the scenery and pausing to observe any wildlife we may encounter and enjoy a picnic lunch en route.

By late afternoon we arrive to our home for the night, Damaraland Camp.

**Accommodations:** Damaraland Camp, Torra Conservancy;  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## DAYS 6 & 7: Rhino Tracking Safari

**Activity Overview:** Morning and afternoon game drives, easy nature walks

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** About 5 hours

An exciting day of overland travel to Desert Rhino Camp through the rugged, rocky, and mountainous Palmwag Concession brings with it the opportunity to see giraffe, oryx, and springbok. Our home for the next two nights is known for its growing population of the endangered desert-adapted black rhino (the largest concentration in the world outside a national park), which are monitored and protected by the Save the Rhino Trust.

For the next two days, we plan to set out in the morning in game drive vehicles behind the Save the Rhino trackers, who keep records on where and when rhino have recently been seen. Due to the vast terrain, we may cover a considerable distance to view them. Once we have located

the rhino, we may be able to track on foot, depending on the position or location of the rhino, as terrain and prevailing winds will dictate the possibilities.

Birding and guided nature walks are also a highlight here, and other species we may encounter include elephant, zebra, gemsbok, cheetah, lion, giraffe, and ostrich, among others.

**Accommodations:** Desert Rhino Camp, Southern Palmwag Concession; **Meals:** B, L, D

## DAYS 8-10: Exploring the Kaokoveld

**Activity Overview:** Morning and afternoon game drives, easy nature walks

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** About 5 hours

This morning, we drive to Doro Nawas airstrip for our light aircraft transfer to Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp. We arrive at our home for the next two nights, immersed in a land of rugged scenery. Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp's location is home to a rich diversity of wildlife, boasting the Kaokoveld's best viewing of desert-adapted wildlife and access to vast and isolated wilderness.

This remote part of Namibia is inhabited by plant and animal life that has adapted superbly to the harsh environment of mountains, vast plains, dunes, and dry riverbeds, and in the coming days, we explore the vast wilderness around our camp. While game drives offer our best chances of encountering wildlife (including elephant, gemsbok, lion, and giraffe), nature walks from camp are another exciting way to get up close and personal with desert-adapted





species. In addition to the possibility of spotting big game, walking also offers a good opportunity to study the smaller creatures and the fascinating plant life found here. Birds are equally diverse, with regular endemics like Rüppell's korhaan, Benguela long-billed lark, and lark-like bunting.

On our three-night stay, we also have the opportunity for a full-day excursion out to a remote stretch of the Skeleton Coast. We make stops at the Klein Oasis Spring, drive amid towering dunes, visit a seal colony, and explore the coastline, viewing shipwreck remains along the way. Typically this involves leaving camp early in the morning by vehicle and flying back to the camp (20 minutes).

**Accommodations:** Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp, Northern Palmwag Concession; **Meals:** B, L, D

## DAYS 11-13: Etosha National Park

**Activity Overview:** Morning and afternoon game drives, easy nature walks

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** About 5 hours

We fly to Doro Nawas airstrip this morning before driving to Ongava Game Reserve on the boundary of Etosha National Park. Etosha is justly famous for being the highest density wildlife area in Namibia. Our three night stay on the private Ongava Game Reserve allows us time to explore all that this area has to offer.

Located in northern Namibia, Etosha National Park is a contrasting landscape of woodlands, acacia-strewn plains, and grasslands. But its most defining characteristic is the Pan: over 2,400 square miles of a parched, white salt pan that can even be seen from space.

While there is very little vegetation here, fringing the Pan are a number of waterholes that support over 150 mammal species, including lion, elephant, and huge herds of zebra, giraffe, wildebeest, and springbok, as well as rare and endangered species such as the black rhino, tsessebe, gemsbok, and black-faced impala. Our days exploring include game drives both in the park and in the adjacent private concession, where we can explore in relative solitude, and may also include nature and tracking walks.

**Accommodations:** Ongava Lodge, Ongava Private Reserve  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## DAY 14: Return to Windhoek

Driving 260 miles south, we return to Windhoek by 1 p.m. and bid farewell to our adventure.

**Meals:** B

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a typical itinerary, and actual activities may vary to take advantage of weather conditions, local events, and to allow serendipity to play a hand in your experience. Accommodations are as outlined in the itinerary, although we reserve the right to change these should the need arise. See our booking terms and conditions for more information about our change policy.

# ACCOMMODATIONS

Deluxe and luxury safari camps, offering superb facilities and accommodation, and a first-class hotel. All accommodations have private bathrooms.



## NIGHTS 1 & 2:

### **Kulala Desert Lodge**

Kulala Wilderness Reserve

Namib Naukluft National Park

Tel +264-61-274-500

The perfect gateway to the impressive sights of Sossusvlei, Kulala Desert Lodge offers magnificent views of the dunes, mountains and vast open plains that surround the camp. The camp is comprised of 23 ensuite thatched and canvas 'kulalas' each with a veranda to enjoy the outstanding scenery. On balmy nights, sleep under the star-filled skies on your rooftop and awaken to the rising sun. By day, enjoy safari activities or spot desert-adapted wildlife from the lounge and dining area overlooking a waterhole. To escape the midday heat, a plunge pool provides a cooling sanctuary.



## NIGHTS 3 & 4:

### **Hansa Hotel**

Swakopmund

Tel +264 64 414 200

Century-old colonial charm permeates the landmark Hansa Hotel, centrally located in the seaside outpost of Swakopmund. Providing up-to-date service and comfort, bedrooms are spacious and tastefully appointed, with a blend of modern luxury and antique décor, with the sites of Swakopmund only steps away.



## NIGHT 5:

### **Damaraland Camp**

Torra Conservancy

The result of an inspirational community partnership, Damaraland Camp offers sensational views of desert plains, ancient valleys, and distant mountains. One of the driest regions in all of Africa, the area boasts an assortment of desert-adapted species, including rare desert-adapted elephant and black rhino. The eco-friendly camp is comprised of 10 thatched ensuite tents and a spacious living area complete with a fireplace, bar, and swimming pool. An outdoor 'boma' allows for superb stargazing.





## NIGHTS 6 & 7:

### Desert Rhino Camp

Southern Palmwag Concession

Comprised of eight ensuite Meru-style tents elevated off the ground, Desert Rhino Camp offers panoramic views over the rolling, rocky hills from the privacy of your veranda. Evening meals are taken alfresco near a crackling firepit. A wonderland of unusual plant life, fascinating wildlife and sparse wilderness, Desert Rhino Camp will allow you to take part in a thrilling conservation success story. Tracking Africa's unique and endangered desert-adapted black rhino with the researchers of the Save the Rhino Trust is an unforgettable experience.



## NIGHTS 8, 9, & 10:

### Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp

Northern Palmwag Concession

Set in the starkly beautiful Palmwag Concession on the inland border of legendary Skeleton Coast National Park, Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp offers a unique experience of visiting one of the most remote places on Earth. Eight stylish, well-insulated ensuite tents with shaded outdoor lounges are laid out against a rugged backdrop of hills and overlook a broad valley at the confluence of two tributaries, providing breathtaking vistas over a highly photogenic landscape. A small plunge pool awaits you after summer activities, while a winter lounge provides a cozy respite from the icy Atlantic fog when it settles over the coastal plain.



## NIGHTS 11, 12, & 13:

### Ongava Lodge

Ongava Private Reserve (adjacent to Etosha National Park)

Ongava Tented Camp is situated along the southern boundary of Etosha National Park in a secluded area within the stunning landscape of private Ongava Game Reserve. Small and personal, Ongava overlooks a natural waterhole frequented by an amazing array of wildlife. The lodge offers 13 beautifully appointed chalets and one family room, made of brick, stone, and thatch. Each air-conditioned, ensuite room has glass doors and a private veranda overlooking the plains. Activities include game drives, hide visits, and walks with armed guides.



# WHAT TO EXPECT



## TRIP RATING

Boundless Journeys' trips are designed for energetic and flexible individuals who like to be active and have a spirit of adventure and a positive attitude. *Desert Dune Safari* is rated 1+, easy with moderate options, on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most strenuous). The primary activities require some agility for getting in and out of vehicles, and walking at a leisurely pace through uneven terrain, including an optional hike on a sand dune that may be moderately strenuous. This trip can be enjoyed by anyone who is in reasonably good health and likes to be outdoors and active. We will walk where possible, but this is often determined by the local area and park regulations. NOTE: These optional walks are at your own risk, and can take you close to potentially dangerous wild animals in some areas.

## PREPARING FOR THIS TRIP

If you would like to take advantage of the nature walks, you may wish to engage in easy aerobic activities for 30-45 minutes a few times a week for several weeks before the trip. Consult your doctor before undertaking any new fitness program.

## WEATHER

Namibia is one of the driest countries on Earth and receives virtually no rainfall from April-November. Mornings along the coast are typically foggy until the sun burns through. In May and June, the landscapes tend to be a bit greener and the air quality is extremely clear with very little dust. As the dry season progresses, the vegetation is less green and animals tend to congregate around remaining sources of water.

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE °F IN SWAKOPMUND

	HIGH	LOW
May/June	69	52
July/Aug	63	48
Sept/Oct	63	51

Inland temperatures are typically higher during the day, and cooler at night, than those shown above, and can even drop below freezing overnight. You may obtain other regional weather information on [www.weatherbase.com](http://www.weatherbase.com).

## WHEN TO GO

Namibia is a true year-round destination with less extreme seasonal changes than other parts of southern Africa. Along the Namibian coastline, the cold Atlantic Benguela Current dictates the weather. The Skeleton Coast and coastal towns such as Swakopmund are often enveloped in moody fog for a few hours in the mornings, before it is burnt off by the sun. The likelihood of rain is higher from December-March. Namibia is equally about the scenic grandeur of immense landscapes as the wildlife.

## TRAVELER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Trip participants have certain responsibilities to both Boundless Journeys and your fellow travelers. This includes understanding the conditions described in the trip itinerary and making sure it is appropriate for your interests and abilities, based on a review of the trip ratings, consultation with Boundless Journeys' staff, and perhaps your doctor. In addition, trip participants are responsible for preparing for a trip by undertaking the proper fitness training. At the guide's discretion, a participant may be asked to leave the trip if the

guide feels that the person's further participation may be detrimental to the individual or to other trip participants. If you have any questions about the difficulty level of the trip you have chosen, please contact Boundless Journeys to speak with one of our Destination Managers.

## SMALL GROUP TRAVEL

Small group travel affords us the opportunity to seek out the most remote and exotic destinations on the planet. Often we are exploring these locales with just 4-6 guests. The nature of active group travel is such that not all participants have the same ability level or interests. Traveling at a pace that is comfortable for the entire group, with a spirit of flexibility and adventure, are all part of this shared experience.

## DRINKS WITH MEALS

At Boundless Journeys we believe group dinners are a time to celebrate our day, while enjoying the best of local cuisine, and good company. In keeping with this spirit, local beer, wine, and house drinks are included in each of the safari camps. If you prefer reserve wine, or top-shelf liquor, please feel free to order what you like, and you may settle your tab at the end of your stay in each camp. In Swakopmund, drinks are not included with the

## DRINKING WATER

We provide purified or bottled water on all trips; however, in an effort to reduce waste, the first camp will provide an reusable water bottle which you may travel with and refill from a central water cooler at each camp. This is just one small way we strive to travel more responsibly and we appreciate your efforts in helping us to protect the extraordinary places we visit. In Swakopmund, bottled water may be our only option.

Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge, too, and learn more about TAP's efforts at [www.travelersagainstoplastic.org](http://www.travelersagainstoplastic.org).

## CUISINE

In the camps, the food is healthy, varied, and delicious, a feat when considering the logistics involved in servicing these remote areas with fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods, and meats. To accommodate the typical morning and late afternoon activity schedule, several small meals and a few

large ones are served daily. The pre-activity early breakfast typically includes porridge, cereals, yogurt, fruit, coffee and tea; brunch includes typical breakfast fare accompanied by more savory items like sausage tarts, spring rolls, light lasagnas, and other eclectic choices; afternoon tea offers cakes, cookies, and savory items; "sundowners" are light appetizers and cocktails often enjoyed at a scenic spot; and finally, dinner, ordered from a menu with two or three daily choices. Beef, pork, and chicken are the basis of most main dishes, with occasional opportunities to try indigenous meats like farm-raised springbok. German colonial influence can still be seen in the meals in places like Swakopmund and Windhoek especially.

Vegetarians can be accommodated with advance notice, though choices tend to be more limited. Please inform us of specific dietary restrictions by completing your online guest paperwork.

## TRANSPORTATION

On this safari, transportation is provided in a combination of 4 x 4 closed Land Rover safari vehicles (no more than 7 guests per vehicle) and small aircraft that may be shared with other travelers. This is typically in a 12-seater Cessna Grand Caravan, although the exact plane size and type can vary based on group size.

While each guest will have a window seat, guests are requested to change seats from one day to the next to ensure equal photographic opportunities for everyone. The roof is a "pop top" that is opened when game viewing, and there are 6 sliding windows, which can be opened for photography or closed in dusty or seasonally rainy conditions. Each vehicle is custom-built and includes a fridge, 12V (cigarette lighter) charging points, seat pockets, and a small library with reference books and field guides. Drinking water is provided in the vehicle for the duration of the safari.

It is important to take note that there are several longer driving days in this itinerary, to cover a diversity of landscapes. Times and mileage for these drives are noted in the itinerary. Rest assured that overland travel in Namibia will expose you to some of the most scenic and remote desert landscapes in the world, and is all part of the adventure!

# OUR NAMIBIA TEAM

## TRIP MANAGER



### **Karen Cleary**

Born and raised in Vermont, Karen was a founding employee of Boundless Journeys, which allowed her to travel extensively to expand our collection in the early years. She soon began focusing her attention on Africa, deepening her knowledge to become our safari specialist. She has explored eastern and southern Africa's wild places numerous times and never tires of the grandeur. Karen enjoys hiking, skiing, and mountain biking with her family and their dog, Max.

## GUIDES

With a Boundless Journeys guide, your experience is that of friend and local adventurer. We believe strongly in working with local guides, experts in the areas to which we travel, and they hold the keys to unlocking the hidden delights of your chosen destination. Although you will never know they are at work—the mark of a truly great leader—our guides make magical things happen and add a dimension to your trip that you could not experience on your own.

Over the years we have forged bonds with some of the best guides in the world, and we typically work with a small team of guides in each region. You will be informed of the guide for your trip one month prior to your departure.



### **Festus Mbinga**

Festus grew up in Otjinene, a village in the Kalahari Desert in eastern Namibia. Raised in the bush, tending his family's free-ranging cattle herds, he absorbed much of his superb bush knowledge by growing up side by side with Kalahari Bushmen. Initially Festus and his friends walked to the local farm school, but his village life was interrupted when he was sent to high school in the capital city, Windhoek.

After completing secondary school in 1992, Festus returned to life in the bush as an *ovaHimba* translator on safari trips. His natural field guide talents soon became apparent and he was promoted to a guiding position at Ongava Lodge near Etosha National Park. Four years of guiding in the big game country of Etosha National Park fueled Festus' ambition to become a specialist guide to lead trips in other parts of Namibia. Over the years the demand for his guiding skills has grown and he is one of the most sought after safari guides in Namibia. His profound knowledge and passion for Namibia and its people will be a highlight of your experience.



# NEXT STEPS



## TO MAKE A RESERVATION

You can call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, request a reservation online, or contact your travel agent. We will confirm your spot with a deposit of \$500 per person and the payment of internal airfare, payable by check or credit card.

## ONCE YOU RESERVE

As soon as you confirm your adventure, we will provide you with an extensive, detailed trip planner that includes arrival and departure instructions, a complete packing list, regional information, required documents, a reading list, and other details.

## CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

Please check our Terms & Conditions page on our website for our comprehensive cancellation and refund policies: [www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions).

## TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

In addition to your detailed trip planner, we will email you a quote for Travel Guard trip insurance. Please let us know if you would like us to purchase a policy on your behalf. Boundless Journeys strongly recommends purchasing Trip Insurance.

## QUESTIONS? WHICH TRIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Adventure travel may involve exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, and activities that may be new to you. If you have any questions about the level of comfort, difficulty, or activities included on your trip, please call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, or email us at [info@boundlessjourneys.com](mailto:info@boundlessjourneys.com). Our travel experts look forward to helping you select the perfect adventure.

### VISIT US ONLINE

[www.boundlessjourneys.com](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com) for:

- additional departures
- special promotions
- detailed itineraries
- inspiring photography

### FOR MORE WILDLIFE:

- TANZANIA: Great Migration Safari
- BOTSWANA: Undiscovered Okavango Delta

### EXTENDING YOUR TRIP?

Consider. . .

- SOUTH AFRICA: Cape Town Exploration

### PREFER A PRIVATE SAFARI?

Private trips are the perfect option for alumni and family reunions, milestone birthdays and anniversaries, or just to catch up with great friends in fabulous destinations. Mark your calendar and leave the planning to us! Call our travel experts today: 800-941-8010.

# BOUNDLESS BEYOND



## RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

At Boundless Journeys, our goal is to create meaningful experiences that protect the delicate ecosystems and attributes of every location we visit. We aim to educate our guests on the best responsible travel practices for each destination.

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO

**Making connections.** Our local guides offer insider knowledge of their country, including tips on etiquette and customs. They facilitate meaningful interactions with the people and places we visit, such as dinner at the home of a local family. While you may arrive in a destination as a visitor, you leave with a deeper understanding and connection to each place.

**Going local.** Boundless Journeys' small group size stems from a desire to provide a more intimate traveler experience, giving us the freedom to move through the tight alleys of old towns on foot, eat and sleep at traditional guesthouses, participate in immersive cultural exchanges, and leave a smaller footprint on all of the locales we visit. This mobility allows us to support local economies directly, forging strong relationships with our partners and friends abroad as we return year after year.

**Respecting people and the environment.** We support organizations working to protect ecosystems and improve the livelihoods of local communities. On many of our trips, we explore stunning natural landscapes where conservation is of the utmost importance. As visitors, we practice Leave No Trace ethics and actively contribute to the conservation of parks and protected areas.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Give back.** Instead of receiving a Boundless Journeys t-shirt or water bottle, you can opt to donate the value of your gift to our travel scholarship fund, which will be awarded to a local student for an educational or service-based travel opportunity.

**Learn more.** Visit [boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel](https://boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel) to read more about how our values are reflected in our trip offerings. We also offer a selection of Resources for the Responsible Traveler, which suggests ways to tread lightly and ensure your journey has a positive impact.

**Join us.** Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge at [travelersagainstoplastic.org](https://travelersagainstoplastic.org).

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

Boundless Journeys is a proud member of the Adventure Travel and Trade Association, a global network of adventure seekers who believe in the protection and promotion of local communities and wilderness areas.

