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ITINERARY:

Namibia - 10 Day Highlights of Namibia Private Tour including desert and animal safaris

Day 1: Welcome to Windhoek

On arrival in **Windhoek**, you will be met at the airport by your guide (also your driver) and taken to your accommodation which is conveniently located in the centre of Windhoek.

Day 1 also includes a guided tour of Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. Visit the castle of Schwerinsburg, the Old Fort and more.

If your flight arrives late in the day or you have come directly from a long journey, you might prefer to arrive a day earlier and settle in first. If so we will still collect you from the airport, but will need to charge for one extra nights accommodation.

Overnight in Windhoek: Olive Grove Guesthouse

Day 2: Drive to Sossusvlei in the Namib Desert

Your guide will collect you from your accommodation and take you to **Sossusvlei** in the **Namib Desert**. The drive usually takes a little over 4 hours.

Sossusvlei is one of Namibia's most magnificent landmarks. It is located in the Namib Desert in the **Namib-Naukluft National Park** in the southwest of Namibia. You will be staying here for two nights and have a chance to explore the area.

Some people say the red sand dunes are the highest in the world, we don't know if that is true but they are certainly huge, awesome and a highlight of any visit. There are also many other spectacular geographical formations in the area such as the Sesriem Canyon.

Overnight in Sossusvlei: Hoodia Desert Lodge

Meals included: Breakfast and dinner

Day 3: Explore the Incredible Sand Dunes and Nature of Sossusvlei

The sand dunes at sunrise is a lovely experience so today is an early start. You can either climb the iconic sand dunes or if you prefer, soar above the amazing landscape in a hot air balloon. The hot air balloon option is not an inclusion and would incur an extra charge.

On your drive back through the National Park, your guide will help you spot wildlife. Enjoy a picnic lunch and in the afternoon take a sunset drive on the dunes.

In addition to the above there is the option to go horse riding, sand boarding or take an after dark guided star gazing excursion. These options are not included and incur a charge.

Overnight in Sossusvlei: Hoodia Desert Lodge

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner



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Day 4: Enjoy a scenic drive to Swakopmund passing through Walvis Bay

This morning you will leave the Namib Desert and enjoy a very beautiful drive north towards **Swakopmund** on the Skeleton Coast. This drive is usually a little under 5 hours and takes you through some gorgeous scenery and canyons.

Shortly before completing your journey you will pass through and stop off at **Walvis Bay** for a short visit. Walvis Bay is a port town just outside of Swakopmund. It is famous for its huge natural lagoon and abundance of sea birds including pelicans, flamingos and 200,000 migratory birds.

Swakopmund itself is a coastal city with Atlantic Ocean facing sandy beaches. Swakopmund is a former colonial town famous for its German heritage and architecture. In fact many people still speak German.

It is a great place to enjoy a couple of days between visiting the dunes of Sossusvlei and exploring the attractions of Northern Namibia.

Overnight in Swakopmund - Villa Margherita

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5: Enjoy the many delights of Swakopmund

Today you can explore Swakopmund and the surrounding area. Take a Living Desert Tour - a 4x4 adventure drive through the dunes. See the hidden life in what seems like a barren landscape - adders, geckos, chameleons and more. Find out how the plants and animals survive the harsh climate and enjoy the different colours of the dunes.

You may like to add on one of the following options (additional charges apply):

- A boat cruise off Pelican Point to search for Cape Fur seals and dolphins
- A guided kayaking trip
- A bird watching excursion
- A visit to the Swakopmund Lighthouse, the Swakopmund Museum and Sandwich Harbour
- Adventure activities - Just outside Swakopmund several sand dunes have been set aside for adventure activities, including sand boarding, quad biking, camel riding and off-road driving

Overnight in Swakopmund - Villa Margherita

Meals included: Breakfast



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Day 6: Travel to the nature and wildlife rich Damaraland

This morning resume your Namibian road trip and head further North along the **Skeleton Coast to Damaraland** (approximately 5-6 hours).

Along the way stop at Henties Bay to see the Cape Cross seal colony and visit the shipwreck of MS Winston at Durissa Bay.

In Damaraland take an elephant nature drive in search of Namibia's desert-dwelling elephant and visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Twyfelfontein** to see the ancient rock engravings. Have a picnic lunch in the Twyfelfontein area.

Overnight in Damaraland: Camp Kipwe

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 7: Wildlife galore in Etosha National Park

This morning after breakfast continue on to **Etosha National Park**. The driving today is around 4 hours.

The wildlife in Etosha is fantastic, particularly around the waterholes. Here you are likely to see elephants, giraffes, lions, leopards, zebras, springboks and gemsboks. It is also one of the best places in Southern Africa to see the endangered Cheetah, Black Rhino and rare Antelope species such as black-faced Impala, Damara dik dik and Roan antelope.

Overnight in Etosha National Park: Dolomite Resort

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 8: Wildlife safari in Etosha National Park

Today enjoy a full day exploring Etosha National Park. With your guide, visit the different waterholes such as Halali, Okondeka and Okaukuejo where large concentrations of wildlife congregate.

Almost a quarter of Etosha consists of salt pans, including the Etosha Pan - a distinctive and dramatic feature of the park. The Etosha Pan is the only known mass breeding ground for flamingos in Namibia and at times there can be up to a million flamingos here!

Overnight in Etosha National Park: Dolomite Resort

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 9: Travel to Okonjima Nature Reserve

This morning after breakfast, depart from Etosha and head south to the **Okonjima Nature Reserve**. The drive is around 5 hours and on arrival you can check in. The Okonjima Nature Reserve is home of the famous **Africat Foundation** - an education and research facility dedicated to the rehabilitation of Namibia's big cats, particularly cheetahs and leopards. In the afternoon visit the centre and take a guided drive through the reserve where you can spot some of the big cats and other wildlife roaming on the reserve. The guides and conservation experts will explain more about big cat conservation.



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Spend the afternoon at leisure. There is the option of a night game drive - an additional charge applies and you can arrange at the centre.

Overnight in Okonjima: Okonjima Plains Camp

Meals included: Breakfast and dinner

Day 10: Time to go home or onto your next adventure

Today is your last morning on your Classic Namibia tour. After breakfast, you will be taken back to Windhoek (approximately 3 hours drive) in time for your departure flight.

Meals included: Breakfast

**All international travellers need to be prepared to sign indemnities whenever you enter National Parks and Reserves in Africa or partake in activities. This is a requirement of the Reserves.*

All accommodation and hotels are subject to change. If the stated hotel is not available a hotel of a similar standard and location will be booked.