



KINYEMI AFRICA

Bookings and information:

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**Namibia – Kaokoland - Etosha
15 March – 30 March 2019**

16-day /15-night adventure (majority camping, with one night's formal accommodation)

Cost: R19 000 per person. Children under 10 pay 50%

Single person: A supplement charge of an additional 5% if not sharing

The Adventure

Join us on a sixteen-day, fifteen-night safari adventure starting in Western Namibia, not too far from Swakopmund, at Spitzkoppe, with its interesting and impressive rock formations. We will experience the vast contrasting landscapes of this wonderful country, experience the Skeleton Coast, stretch our comfort zones with a few nights of true bush camping, whilst searching for the unique dessert elephants amongst other wildlife. We will have the privilege of seeing some of the most spectacular sunsets in untouched wilderness areas whilst observing well adapted fauna and flora to the apparent dry, desolate terrain. Of course, this trip would not be complete without an encounter with the well known, authentic Himba people. Our trip will end with a visit to Etosha National park, which promises to yield spectacular game viewing opportunities as many species gather around waterholes, gracing us with their presence.

The Team

This tour is led by Kinyemi Africa. The passionate team consists of an experienced nature conservationist and adventure guide who will be in radio contact with you at all times and impart a wealth of biological, cultural, historic and four-wheel drive knowledge.

Rose, one of the founders of Kinyemi Africa, will host this adventure, seeing to all your needs and ensuring that this tour is most fulfilling and memorable.

Our bush chef, will surprise and treat you daily with three scrumptious, healthy meals. Expect to be amazed and awed by the delicious surprises that magically appear from his mobile kitchen. The good old coffee pot will be on the fire from dawn until late and meals will be enjoyed sitting around the campfire beneath the star-strewn African sky. A 4x4 vehicle is required for this trip and should you experience any difficulty, the crew has the "know-how" and recovery equipment to assist with off-road problems.

Accommodation

Accommodation is primarily camping, with tents provided by us (where our logistics crew will pitch and take it down at all the overnight spots we visit), with a one night break in between in formal, en-suite accommodation.

Adventure travel plan

Day 1: Spitzkoppe

In the late afternoon we'll meet at Spitzkoppe, located between Usakos and Swakopmund. Guests who don't mind an extended trip could consider spending a few days in Swakopmund, before starting this trip. This is our first night of camping and after settling in we'll gather for a leisurely dinner around the campfire, meeting our fellow travelers. Your guide and hosts will enlighten and orientate you fully and elaborate on the wonderful adventures that you can expect over the next two weeks before retiring to your canvas dwelling for the night.

Day 2: Cape Cross

We will enjoy a beautiful sunset and sunrise in this peaceful and tranquil environment, leaving us with a feeling of owning the mountain'. After, a safety briefing and the issuing of two-way radios for communication, we'll commence our journey along the Skeleton Coast to Cape Cross.

Although you may be warned about the 'smelliness' of the area, it is well worth a visit. We will see thousands of baby and adult seals, jackals around many seal's skeletons at the shore and a sky full of birds ... a coast of life and death.

Day 3: Palmwag

After breakfast and a good hot shower we set off in a Northerly direction along the infamous Skeleton Coast. We enter the Skeleton Coast National Park at the Ugab River mouth with its impressive gates (photo opportunity). For a leg stretch we stop at the abandoned Toscanini oil drill and enjoy the fierceness of this coastline. ±110km north of the Ugab we turn inland. The terrain and landscape change dramatically and we will visit the ancient welwitschia plant.

Just before Palmwag, our camp for the night, we go through the veterinary fence. From here until we reach Etosha there are no more livestock fences and game such as lion, rhino, oryx and kudu roam free. Here we also refuel our vehicles before relaxing in the Palmwag swimming pool.

Expect and beware of an elephant in camp!!!

Day 4: Xai-Ais

After a hearty breakfast we take off in a Westerly direction, with special permits into the Palmwag concession, and head to our first of three wild bush camp nights. The next 3 days will stretch the comfort zones where wet wipes are a life saver and water is a scarce commodity. However, we will truly experience what it means to get up close and personal with nature and free roaming wildlife. There is a waterhole nearby and the Xai Ais natural spring where animals often gather to drink.

Day 5&6: Mudorib River

In the beautiful and wild area surrounding the Mudorib River, we will choose a lovely shaded spot and set up our camp for the next two nights. Here it is possible to have lion and rhino sightings and more often than not, the elephants and giraffe in the area have high expectations of spotting us ☺. We will visit Presidents Water, near Amspoort and conduct game drives in the Hoanib River.

Again, we will have no facilities, however, we will provide 'bush showers' (a bucket) and 'bush toilet' facilities. Our competent bush chef will continue to provide scrumptious meals and we will spend time around our campfire each night.

Day 7&8: Purros

The Purros conservancy is often described as one of the last true wilderness areas and this is where we spend our next two nights. Again, our canvas dwellings that we have grown to love will be our homes as we explore this malaria free destination and hope to catch a sight of the rare desert adapted elephants and lions. On our second day in the area we will drive in the Hoarusib dry riverbed with its fountain and morasses, looking for interesting water birds.

Day 9: Opuwo

This will be a long, but rewarding, driving day. At last, we have our long awaited night in formal accommodation in the capital of the Kunene region, Opuwo. We will have the opportunity to refuel as well as shop to replenish supplies for our last week in this awe inspiring country.

Day 10&11: Epupa Falls

Epupa falls occur on the border of Angola and are named after the foam created by the falling water. Apart from being able to view the falls, we will also spend time visiting a Himba village with an interpreter, experiencing the authentic Himba culture and traditions. Ensure you have enough memory on your camera for this one.

Day 12: Olifantsrus Camp

Today we make our way to the world famous Etosha National Park. Olifantsrus is Etosha's newest camp and the first accommodation option in the park to offer a camping only experience, allowing you to feel that little bit closer to the incredible African bush all around you. It is situated in the less used area of the park and as a result is more remote than some of the other camps.

Rare and shy species such as black rhino and black-faced impala are well-established in this quieter part of the park, perhaps we will be fortunate enough to encounter them on our game drive.

As the name implies, Olifantsrus waterhole has become particularly popular with elephants.

Day 13 - 15: Halali

Our final leg on our adventure takes us to Halali, which is centrally situated in the Etosha national Park. Halali boasts with thicker vegetation and a few hills and koppies in an otherwise flat terrain. These conditions are often suited to leopard, rhino and dik-dik's.

The beautiful flood lit waterhole is available for day and night game viewing and is only a short walk from the campsite.

We can prepare to be delighted by spectacular game viewing as we move from waterhole to waterhole on our game drives, often confronted with many varied species at any one time, drinking from the same waterhole at the same time.

Day 16: Home

Our journey has come to an end and for one last time, we'll join each other around the campfire for a delicious meal, reflecting back on the past two weeks and reliving a few moments. This night promises to be one of the highlights of the trip.

Sadly after breakfast we say goodbye and head home.