

HOANIB SKELETON COAST CAMP

All you need to know...



As one of the most remote areas of the Kaokoveld, privacy is at its utmost at Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp. Dramatic rugged landscapes dotted with the ancient welwitschia plant and dry riverbeds lead to seas of soft sand dunes and series of phenomenal oases. The Skeleton Coast* boasts endless and turbulent coastal scenes and exposes countless maritime misfortunes in the fascinating remains of shipwrecks.

Everyone at Wilderness Safaris is thrilled about the imminent opening in August 2014, which will add a very different and special dimension to our Namibia circuit. As with any new area, even one as iconic as the Skeleton Coast, there are many questions to be answered; read on for the essentials of this dramatic, scenic destination.

*(*Please note that scenic flights to the Skeleton Coast are only included on three-night stays)*

Pronounced
"HWA-NIB"

WHY HOANIB SKELETON COAST CAMP?



Kaokoveld's best viewing of desert-adapted wildlife




Access to the iconic Skeleton Coast – seals, shipwreck remains etc



Exclusive access to Auses Spring



Brand-new stylish Classic Camp



Vast, remote, isolated wilderness



Access to the productive Hoanib Riverbed



WHERE IS IT?

Hoanib is in one of the most remote areas of the Kaokoveld, straddling the Palmwag area and the iconic Skeleton Coast National Park.

The camp is scenically located in a broad valley near the confluence of two tributaries of the Hoanib River in the northern Palmwag Concession.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Fly with Wilderness Air from Doro Nawas airstrip, the hub for the north-west. Please refer to the Namibian Scheduled Flying Circuit for details.

NOTE: No road access to the camp; self-drivers must park their vehicle at Doro Nawas airstrip and fly to Hoanib.

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO VISIT?

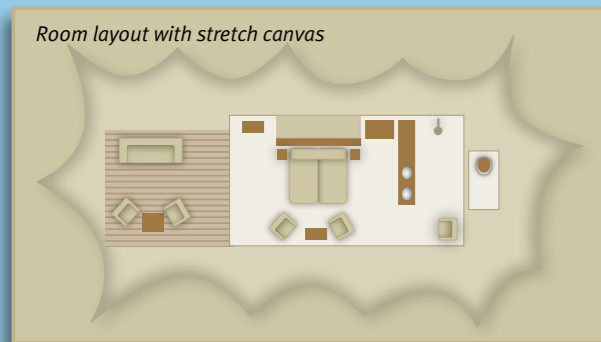
The beauty of Hoanib is that all times of year are best! There is no real seasonality, but expect cooler temperatures during winter (May – August), which brings about some foggy mornings and wind in the afternoon. There may be sporadic rains in summer (max. 100 millimetres per annum), which can cause slightly less wildlife activity in the riverbed. Hoanib is a low-risk malaria area.

WHAT IS THE CAMP LIKE?

This Classic camp consists of eight stylish, well-insulated en-suite tents with shaded outdoor lounges. One is a family unit that sleeps a family of four.

The main area flows beautifully into the surrounding desert and looks out onto a thriving waterhole. The main area comprises a lounge, bar area, dining room, library, fire pit and a deck where guests can cool off at the pool. Crucially, its low-impact design is sensitive to the fragile desert environment.

Room layout with stretch canvas



WHAT WILL I DO?

Below is a typical three-night itinerary; obviously subject to change due to fog and weather conditions, wildlife whereabouts, availability of researchers and other circumstances.



DAY 1

AFTERNOON: Game drive to Hoanib Riverbed, Amspoort and possibly President's Waterhole before sundowners and a night drive home. Wildlife that may be encountered includes elephant, giraffe, gemsbok and springbok.
EVENING: An illustrated orientation talk on the Palmwag Concession and the Skeleton Coast with reference to the following morning's flight route.

DAY 2

MORNING: Scenic Skeleton Coast flight to Möwe Bay, showcasing the dramatic landscape. From Möwe Bay, drive to the seal colony and then either to view shipwreck debris or south to Hoanib Mouth and Klein Oase. Wildlife that may be encountered includes gemsbok, black-backed jackal and potentially lion or brown hyaena.
AFTERNOON: Following lunch, fly back to camp taking in the seal colony, the Suiderkus wreck, the dune fields, Auses Spring and the Hoanib floodplains from the air.
EVENING: Pre-dinner presentation on the unique desert-adapted lion and other research in the area.

DAY 3

MORNING: Drive south over gravel plains to Mudorib Spring, taking in fascinating scenery and wildlife; return to camp for lunch.
AFTERNOON: Game drive to Hoanib Riverbed and then downstream to Hoanib Floodplains in search of elephant and giraffe – and maybe even lion.

DAY 4

MORNING: Stretch your legs or take a final drive in the vicinity of the Hoanib River before flying out.



THE HOANIB RIVER ...



WILDLIFE OF HOANIB...



MORNING: Stretch your legs or take a final drive in the vicinity of the Hoanib River before flying out.

Notes:

- On a two-night stay, a variation of this itinerary is followed that does not include the scenic flight to the Skeleton Coast*.
- Due to the camp's location on the border of the Skeleton Coast National Park, drives downstream along the Hoanib River will include traversing into the park, although other than a small sign indicating your entrance into the park, there is little change in scenery in the immediate vicinity.
- On stays of four or five nights, sleep-outs, game drives into the Skeleton Coast National Park and research participation may be offered.

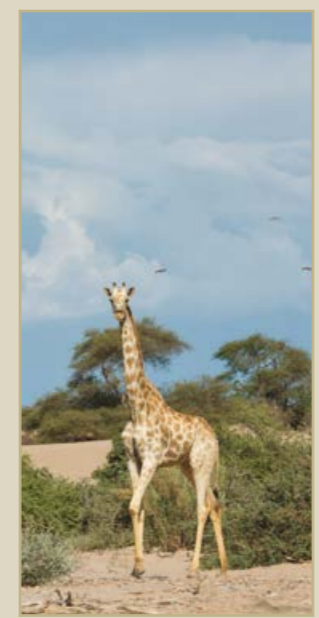
*Two nights is simply not enough time to include the scenic flight to the Skeleton Coast. If it were included, guests would not have time to view the magnificent areas closer to camp and this could lead to disappointment. In addition, the legendary and unpredictable fog could result in flight delays and/or cancellations. On a three-night stay, guests double their chances of accessing the coast. Therein lies the charm of the Skeleton Coast – its inaccessibility, remoteness, exclusivity and its wild weather.

WHAT WILDLIFE CAN I SEE?

The area is inhabited by wildlife that has adapted superbly to its environs. One of the greatest concentrations of desert-adapted elephant can be found along with Hartmann's zebra, gemsbok (oryx), giraffe, springbok, and even lion and brown hyaena. Trips to the Skeleton Coast also reveal Cape fur seal colonies and other coastal life.

WHAT ABOUT RHINO?

Whilst Hoanib is located inside the Palmwag Concession, home to the Save the Rhino Trust (SRT), the camp is located in the remote northern corner of this massive tract of land in an area of very low rhino densities; therefore chances of seeing rhino are very slim.



SESFONTEIN

Waterhole
DIE POORT

Mudorib Waterhole

Mudorib Spring

Hunkab Spring

AMSPOORT

THE HOANIB RIVER ...

HOANIB SKELETON COAST

WILDLIFE OF HOANIB...

Hoanib Floodplains

Auses Spring

THE SKELETON COAST...

Klein Oase

DESERT OASES ...

Hoanib Mouth

Seal Colony

Möwe Bay

Shipwreck Debris- Suiderkus 1977

Rocky Point

Hoarusib Mouth

Purros Canyon



CLOTHING

- Sun hat
- T-shirts
- Long-sleeved cotton shirts
- Shorts and/or skirts
- Long trousers/slacks
- Pyjamas*
- Underwear
- Socks*
- Closed walking shoes
- Sandals
- Swimming costume
- Jersey/fleece/jacket*
- Scarf, gloves, woollen hats*

* As you are in the desert, extreme temperatures are common throughout the year. We recommend lightweight options in summer and thermals during the winter months

EQUIPMENT

- Sunglasses
- Toiletries^
- Sunblock
- Insect repellent
- Tissues/wet wipes
- Basic medical kit
- Antihistamine tablets for allergies
- Anti-nausea tablets for motion sickness
- Torch
- Camera equipment (spare batteries and chargers)
- Waterproof/dustproof bag for camera
- Binoculars
- Tickets, passports, visas
- Money, credit cards
- Insurance details

^ We supply basic environmentally-friendly amenities



RECOMMENDED READING

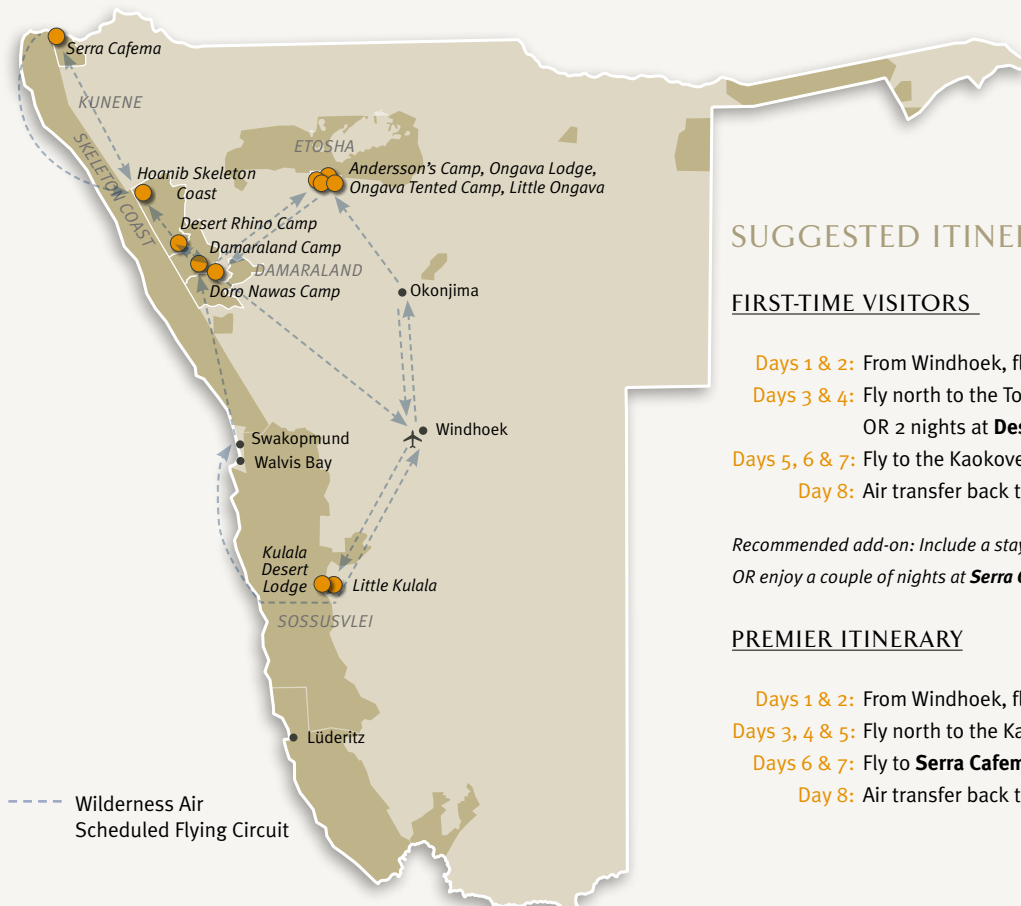
- Kaokoveld: The Last Wilderness – *Anthony Hall-Martin, Clive Walker & J du Bothma*
- Skeleton Coast – *Amy Schoeman*
- The Living Deserts of Southern Africa – *Barry Lovegrove*
- Desert Adventure: In Search of Wilderness in Namibia and Botswana – *Paul Augustinus*
- Namibia: African Adventurers Guide – *Olivier and Olivier*
- Travel Map and Travel Guide to Namibia – *Globetrotter*
- Kingdon Pocket Guide to African Mammals – *Jonathan Kingdon*
- A Guide to the Reptiles of Southern Africa – *Johan Marais, Graham Alexander*
- Sasol Birds of Southern Africa – *Phil Hockey, Ian Sinclair and Warwick Tarboton*

WHICH OTHER AREAS SHOULD I VISIT IN NAMIBIA?

Damaraland Camp – Learn more about desert-adapted elephant and the local communities and cultures.

Desert Rhino Camp – The unique experience of desert-adapted black rhino tracking; gain a deeper understanding about the conservation of these rare mammals.

Serra Cafema – Surreal contrast between desert and river in one of the most remote camps on Earth; interactions with the local Himba people.



SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

FIRST-TIME VISITORS

Days 1 & 2: From Windhoek, fly to **Little Kulala** for 2 nights in Sossusvlei

Days 3 & 4: Fly north to the Torra Conservancy for 2 nights at **Damaraland Camp**
OR 2 nights at **Desert Rhino Camp**, Palmwag Concession

Days 5, 6 & 7: Fly to the Kaokoveld for 3 nights at **Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp**

Day 8: Air transfer back to Windhoek

*Recommended add-on: Include a stay in **Ongava** Game Reserve, adjacent to Etosha National Park OR enjoy a couple of nights at **Serra Cafema** in the Hartmann Valley.*

PREMIER ITINERARY

Days 1 & 2: From Windhoek, fly to **Little Kulala** for 2 nights in Sossusvlei

Days 3, 4 & 5: Fly north to the Kaokoveld for 3 nights at **Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp**

Days 6 & 7: Fly to **Serra Cafema Camp** for 2 nights in the Kunene Region

Day 8: Air transfer back to Windhoek

--- Wilderness Air
Scheduled Flying Circuit