



NAMIBIA



At homestead of semi-nomadic Himba community (Marienfluss Conservancy)



WHY NAMIBIA

Namibia is celebrated for its spectacularly vast open landscapes – an abundance of space in which to inhale deeply and bask in an infinite supply of blue, sun-bright skies and star-filled nights.

Its immensity of space – it is the fifth largest country in Africa – is accentuated by the fact that it also hosts an extremely low population density and is the driest country south of the Sahara; there are many places where the lunar-like surface seems to deny the existence of all life. But life there is, and in many diverse forms, from the Himba, one of the last true nomadic tribes on Earth, to the unique desert-adapted elephant, abundant wildlife, the bizarre welwitschia plant, a number of birds found nowhere else on Earth and the superbly adapted tenebrionid beetle.

The western part of the country along the Atlantic coast – essentially the Namib Desert – consists of a mixture of enormous red sand dunes, open gravel plains, rugged valleys and fringing mountainous escarpments. The desolate northern coastline, strewn with shipwrecks, seal colonies and whale bones is known as the **Skeleton Coast** and is one of the world's iconic locations. The red dunes of the central Namib

further inland create the phenomenon known as **Sossusvlei** – a parched former oasis dwarfed by the world's tallest sand dunes. **Etosha** – a similarly transitory salt pan, albeit many thousands of times larger – dominates the landscape of the north, its fringing grasslands and woodlands home to Namibia's highest wildlife densities.

It is the north west of the country though – principally **Damaraland** and the region formerly known as the Kaokoveld – where one of the most exciting coexistences in the world is taking place. Here vast tracts of wilderness are shared by traditional communities and rapidly growing numbers of wildlife. The community conservancies here are a world-renowned model combining traditional lifestyles, conservation and livelihood diversification; a win-win for both human beings and biodiversity, as well as the country's visitors. This farsighted initiative is at the heart of Namibia's brand.

In short, the country has become known for being a safari destination with a difference, famed for its remote and intimate lodges, interaction with its people, viewing of its unique wildlife, and offering an exceptional opportunity to reconnect with oneself and in so doing, view the world differently.

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Skeleton Coast / Namib Desert

Camps: Hoanib Skeleton Coast; Serra Cafema

Remote, stark landscapes, Himba culture, desert-adapted wildlife, desert oases



Pages 20 – 29

Damaraland

Camps: Desert Rhino Camp; Doro Nawas Camp; Damaraland Camp

Desert-adapted wildlife (black rhino, elephant and others), community conservancies, rock engravings

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Swakopmund & Walvis Bay

Wilderness Touring

Ocean- and land-based adventure activities along the desert coast

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Etosha – Ongava Game Reserve

Ongava Lodge, Little Ongava; Ongava Tented Camp; Andersson's Camp

Etosha Pan, abundant predators and plains game including black and white rhino



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Windhoek

Wilderness Touring

City tours and accommodation before and after safari; private airport lounge

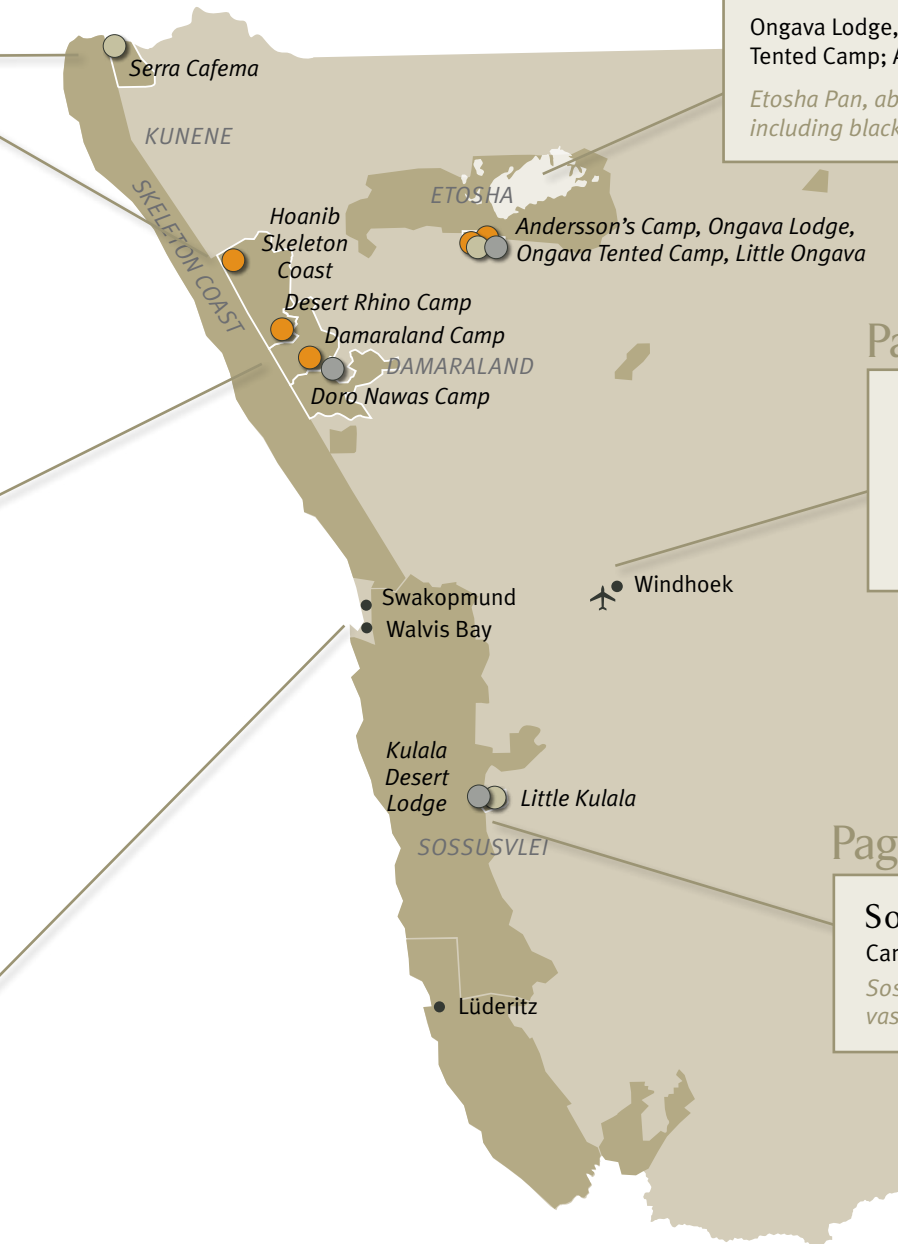


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Sossusvlei

Camps: Little Kulala; Kulala Desert Lodge

Sossusvlei, enormous red sand dunes, vast open plains



Camp Categories

● Premier ● Classic ● Adventures



Why Travel with Wilderness Safaris?

*Today we have so much choice when it comes to travelling, it's often difficult to make a decision on the country in which to travel, let alone deciding with whom to travel. Wilderness Safaris makes the choice easy. Not only do we have camps and lodges in nine countries across Africa, but we have been based in Namibia for more than **20 years**. Expanding here from our Botswana operation we fell in love with the stark beauty and remoteness of the desert wilderness and built our first Namibian camp in 1993. We are still in love with the Namibian wilderness, particularly the wild and untouched north west of the country, and believe we offer our guests exclusive access to Namibia's best wilderness and wildlife areas.*

- Wilderness Safaris offers our guests exclusive access to more than 3 million hectares (8 million acres) of Africa's best wildlife areas. This equates to 3 000 hectares (8 000 acres) of private land per guest, creating a unique sense of seclusion, comfort, privacy and space. Experiences in our private concessions far exceed those in public access national parks.
- Our areas cover many habitats, encompassing parts of nine of Africa's eleven biomes, thus allowing for incredibly diverse and all-round experiences, whether in the savannah, the rainforest, the desert or the ocean.
- Whether travelling as a couple, a family or on your own and in order to satisfy individual needs and personalities, our properties range from high-end luxury to more affordable options.
- Our dedicated team with 30 years' experience of designing perfect safaris works hand in hand with your travel agent – an Africa specialist in their own right – to design a journey that suits your budget and bucket list.
- Our own bush airline – Wilderness Air – means that we can create a seamless journey that allows you to move from one place to the next on your itinerary without hassles.
- We offer complete, tailor-made services throughout southern Africa including logistics, sightseeing and accommodation in our camps as well as an extensive list of other accommodation and of course our own set-departure guided journeys known as Explorations.
- We operate a touring and transfers business – Wilderness Touring – in the tourism hubs of Cape Town (South Africa), Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), Livingstone (Zambia) and Windhoek (Namibia).

At Wilderness Safaris, we create journeys, not holidays. A journey is an immersive experience, one that changes how you view the world in general and the wild places of Africa in particular.



Why we do what we do

- The environment is at the heart of our beliefs and values. Our quest is to come to understand the wilderness better, to respect it, to care for it and to share it with our guests.
- We are serious about what we do and believe fully in our vision of contributing meaningfully to African conservation.
- Our vision is encapsulated by “the 4Cs,” a concept that suggests that our organisation aims to be truly sustainable by committing to the four dimensions of Commerce, Conservation, Community and Culture:
 - **Commerce** deals with our ecotourism offerings and products and is perhaps the most critical element to sustainability in the modern world.
 - **Conservation** is divided into Environmental Management Systems i.e., building and managing our camps in the most eco-friendly way possible, and Biodiversity Conservation i.e., the understanding, management and protection of the wildlife and ecosystems with which we are involved.
 - **Community** is all about the people at the heart of our business: *Internal Community* – our staff across all our regions, and *External Community* – comprising the rural communities that either own the land on which we operate or live adjacent to these areas.
 - **Culture** is a multifaceted element that governs respect for the culture of all employees as well as the remote rural communities surrounding the conservation areas..
- Our non-profit trusts – the Wilderness Wildlife Trust and Children in the Wilderness – help us drive this vision. The **Wilderness Wildlife Trust** funds projects addressing the needs of existing wildlife populations, seeks solutions to save threatened species and provides education and training for local communities. **Children in the Wilderness** is an environmental and life skills educational programme that focuses on the next generation of rural decision makers – the children of Africa.

Awards

TRAVEL+
LEISURE



2012

- **Hospitality Association of Namibia: Award of Excellence** – *Damaraland Camp*
- **Eco Awards Namibia: 4 Eco Award Flowers** – *Damaraland Camp; Doro Nawas*
- **Eco Awards Namibia: Special Recognition Award** – *Best Operational Practices*
- **Travel + Leisure Global Vision Award (Leadership)** – *Wilderness Safaris*
- **WTTC Tourism for Tomorrow Awards (Global Tourism Business)** – *Wilderness Safaris (Finalist)*
- **Outside Magazine Active Travel Awards (Best Travel Company)** – *Wilderness Safaris (runner up)*

2011

- **Eco Awards Namibia: 4 Eco Award Flowers** – *Andersson's Camp; Desert Rhino Camp*
- **Eco Awards Namibia: 3 Eco Award Flowers** – *Kulala Desert Lodge; Ongava Lodge; Ongava Tented Camp*
- **Eco Awards Namibia: 2 Eco Award Flowers** – *Little Kulala; Little Ongava*
- **Virtuoso Sustainable Tourism Leadership Award** – *Wilderness Safaris*
- **Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards (Best Tour Operator & Safari Outfitter)** – *Wilderness Safaris (4th)*
- **Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards (Best Tour Operator & Safari Outfitter for Families)** – *Wilderness Safaris (3rd)*

Our Camps and Explorations

In Namibia, our camps are typically small, intimate safari bases in superb locations, ranging in size from just three units (with a total of six beds) to 23. Here we want our guests to be immersed in Africa: to see more stars than they have ever seen before, and while lying in bed to hear the barking of geckoes, the knocking of oryx hooves against desert rocks, the sigh of the wind.

In order to fulfil individual needs, we have several categories of accommodation, as explained at right.

Of paramount importance to us is that our camps have as little impact on the environment as possible. This is relevant not only during the building process, but also during day-to-day operating and takes into account all elements of environmental impact.

All of our camps undergo rigorous in-house and independent environmental impact assessments (EIAs) prior to construction. Wherever possible, renewable energy for our electricity and water heating requirements is provided through photovoltaic solar arrays. Waste water treatment, recycling and fuel storage, as well as procurement of all goods and services, are also carefully considered. All of our camps undergo comprehensive biannual audits, making them some of the most sustainable and responsible in Africa. We believe that – more than just comfort and life-changing experiences – our camps provide the luxury of space and a clean conscience.



Premier Camps

Our Premier camps comprise our most elegant and stylised accommodation. These camps combine exclusive luxury and superbly designed architecture with the warm comforts of home and personal service.

- Little Kulala • Little Ongava • Serra Cafema



Classic Camps

Our Classic camps are luxury tented camps, all offering superb facilities and accommodation, the en-suite bedrooms being slightly smaller than those of our Premier camps.

- Damaraland Camp • Desert Rhino Camp
- Hoanib Skeleton Coast • Ongava Lodge
- Ongava Tented Camp



Adventures Camps

Larger camps than our Premier or Classic camps, the units are generally tented, extremely comfortable with en-suite bathrooms and all the amenities to make you feel at home. Note: activities at these camps may be at extra cost.

- Kulala Desert Lodge • Doro Nawas Camp
- Andersson's Camp

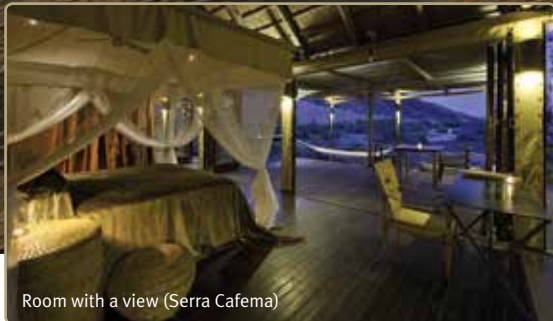


Explorations

Our fully serviced, guided Explorations create a sense of exclusive camping in Africa. A variety of travel modes and activities explore mostly private concessions and wildlife areas exclusive to Wilderness Safaris guests. Accommodation ranges from tailor-made camp sites to luxurious Wilderness Safaris camps.

- Great Namibian Journey
- Diverse Namibia





Room with a view (Serra Cafema)



En-suite bathroom with dual vanity (Damaraland Camp)



Impromptu sleep-out on room deck (Doro Nawas)

Premier Camp deck and al fresco dining area (Little Kulala)





Between Camps

From the moment you arrive in Africa, to your departure and every point in between, Wilderness Safaris people are ready and waiting for you.

We want to ensure as seamless and smooth an experience as possible and, in Namibia, this first takes the form of a “meet and greet” at Windhoek International Airport (Hosea Kutako) – where a representative of Wilderness Safaris welcomes you, before taking you through to our comfortable private lounge. After a briefing here, and a chance to have a drink or use the Wi-Fi, you will most likely meet your driver for a transfer to overnight accommodation in Windhoek or to Eros Airport for your onward flight to your first camp.

Aside from being the main access point to Namibia, Windhoek is also our national operational base and Eros Airport the hub for Wilderness Air, our own “bush airline.” Wilderness Air is a key element of your safari experience, flying you between our remote desert camps and then back to centres like Swakopmund or Windhoek for onward connections. The service is more than a simple connection however; rather the aerial transfers between camps allow a totally different impression and appreciation of the country below; from the dramatic geology of sites like the Wolfberg Cracks or the Brandberg, to the desolate beauty of the Atlantic Coast, and the bizarre fairy circles of the Namib Desert.

Wilderness Touring – our touring and transfer business – provides informative tours of all aspects of Windhoek, while a related company does the same with regard to the diverse activities and attractions of Swakopmund and Walvis Bay on the Atlantic Coast.



Colonial architecture (Windhoek tour)



Local market (Windhoek tour)



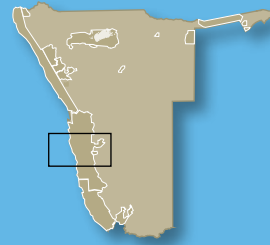
Pre-flight briefing

SOSSUSVLEI

Intensely evocative images of an ocean of sand, ‘waves’ that are made of bright red sand and dark shadows – this is the classic view of the Namib Desert in many people’s minds and in which Sossusvlei is found.

Situated almost entirely in the enormous Namib-Naukluft National Park, the Sand Sea is sandwiched between the Atlantic’s cold Benguela Current and a rocky mountain escarpment that runs parallel more than 100 kilometres (62 miles) inland. Despite desperately low rainfall and the lack of vegetation, the desert is not without life and a surprising array of insects, reptiles, birds, rodents and even large mammals such as springbok and oryx make their home here – survival enabled by the coastal fog that penetrates far inland, bringing precious droplets of water to the inhabitants.

The group of pans or vleis of Sossusvlei itself owe their existence to the occasional flow of the Tsauchab River, whose passage to the sea is blocked by the mass of sand. Indeed the Nama-derived name *Sossusvlei* means ‘the gathering place of water’ and in good years, seasonal rains in the foothills of the Naukluft and Tsaris Mountains succeed in reaching the vleis, where the water can persist for some time before sun and wind take their inevitable toll, evaporating all moisture and leaving cracked and parched surfaces. The approach to the moonlike pans of Sossusvlei is grandly flanked by some of the world’s tallest dunes; it is the austere natural beauty and the sheer scale and grandeur of these that attract visitors.



Shipwreck 

Shipwreck 



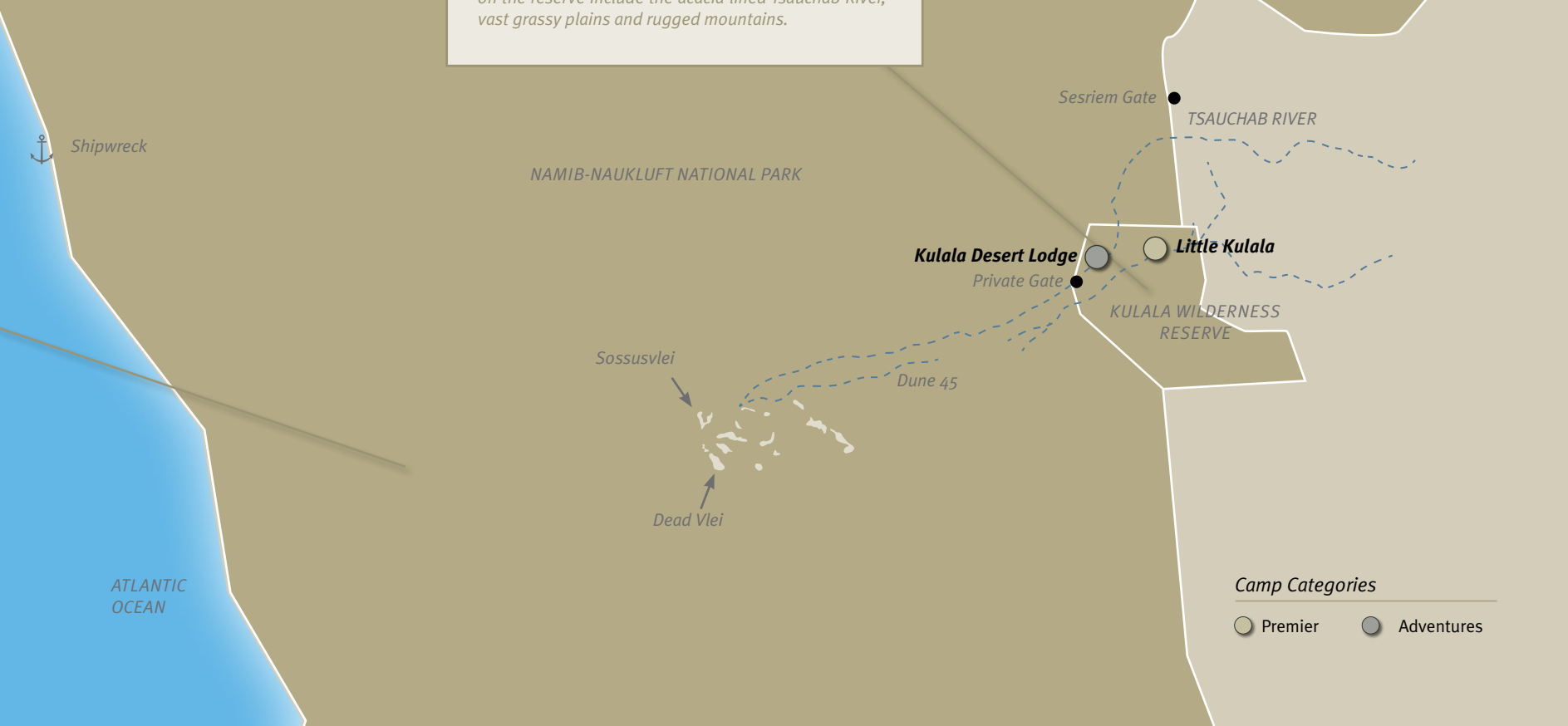
Namib-Naukluft National Park

4 976 800 hectares (13 300 000 acres); a vast area of pristine wilderness encompassing a large portion of the Namib Desert as well as the Naukluft Mountains. The most well-known and popular area with visitors is Sossusvlei, an area characterised by bright red sand dunes rising 300m above the valley floor, and a series of dry pans and ‘vleis’ where seasonal waters from the Tsauchab River collect in good years.



Kulala Wilderness Reserve

27 000 hectares (67 000 acres); a private reserve in a prime location immediately adjacent to the Sossusvlei region of the Namib-Naukluft National Park. A private gate ensures exclusive access directly to Sossusvlei, Dead Vlei and the other features of the region. Habitats on the reserve include the acacia-lined Tsauchab River, vast grassy plains and rugged mountains.



Camp Categories

- Premier
- Adventures

Little Kulala

A dry riverbed dotted with camelthorn trees is the site of Little Kulala, its exquisite fittings and innovative bleached decks merging into the timeless desert landscape. The pointed roofs of the main area, under which a lounge, library, wine cellar and al fresco fine dining can be found, echo the towering Sossusvlei dunes. The use of neutral colours, gorgeous textures and natural light reproduce the soothing pastel tones of the desert.

Highlights

Little Kulala is the closest luxury camp to the remarkable Sossusvlei dunes. Aside from excursions to these, the splendour and simple beauty of the Namib is explored via game drives and walks on Kulala Wilderness Reserve, providing sightings of desert-adapted wildlife and plants, from ungainly ostrich to charismatic bat-eared fox. Scenic sundowners take in awe-inspiring views that stretch endlessly to a distant horizon, while a “sky-bed” allows you to fall asleep under one of the planet’s clearest skies.

Experience the world’s oldest desert and tallest sand dunes from a stylish and sophisticated base.



Little Kulala at a Glance

Category: Premier

11 Kulalas (including 1 Family Kulala): Climate-controlled, thatched; a rooftop "sky-bed" for romantic stargazing; indoor and outdoor showers; private plunge pool
Experiences: Excursions to Sossusvlei (via private gate) • Nature drives and walks on Kulala Wilderness Reserve • Eco-sensitive quad-biking • Hot air balloon with champagne breakfast (at extra cost) • Massage treatments (at extra cost)

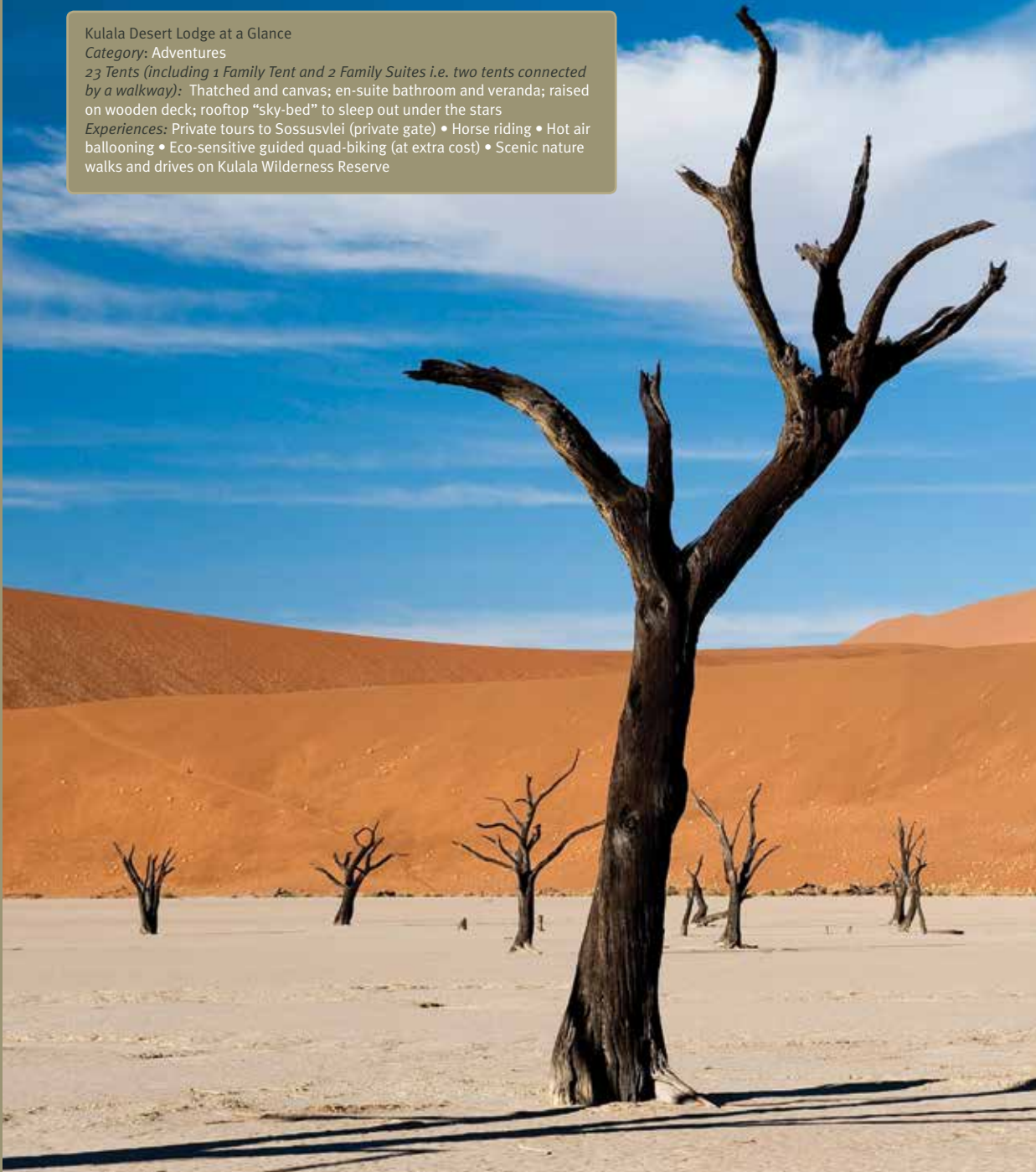


Kulala Desert Lodge at a Glance

Category: Adventures

23 Tents (including 1 Family Tent and 2 Family Suites i.e. two tents connected by a walkway): Thatched and canvas; en-suite bathroom and veranda; raised on wooden deck; rooftop "sky-bed" to sleep out under the stars

Experiences: Private tours to Sossusvlei (private gate) • Horse riding • Hot air ballooning • Eco-sensitive guided quad-biking (at extra cost) • Scenic nature walks and drives on Kulala Wilderness Reserve



Kulala Desert Lodge

Hidden at the foot of the majestic Sossusvlei dunes, the setting of Kulala Desert Lodge is a delight for the senses. A private entrance to Namib-Naukluft Park makes it the closest location to Sossusvlei, while magnificent views of a series of dunes, mountainous scenery and vast open plains make it among the most spectacular. The main area, with lounge, dining area, pool, and wrap-around veranda, overlooks a waterhole and dry riverbed – a perfect location to view and photograph the desert vista.

*Unrivalled access
to the unique
rolling red
landscapes of
Sossusvlei.*

Highlights

Easily accessible visits to the dunes and vleis of Namib-Naukluft Park are the highlight of a stay here. The fascinating desert wildlife and the overwhelming magnitude, solitude and tranquillity of the Kulala Wilderness Reserve are all revealed on walks and drives. The camp's waterhole attracts local wildlife such as gemsbok, springbok, ostrich and black-backed jackal.



Early morning hot air balloon over the red dunes of Sossusvlei





DAMARALAND

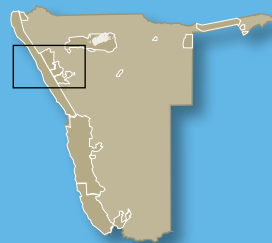
The rugged, rocky landscape of Damaraland in north-west Namibia is characterised by valleys and dry riverbeds that carve their way through deep gorges and ancient geological features.

These rivers – mainly the Huab, Ugab, Uniab and Koigab and their tributaries – are ribbon-like oases that push through the most desolate of terrains, their underground water and tree-lined courses allowing even arid-adapted elephant and giraffe to roam the seemingly inhospitable desert and semi-desert. This, its remoteness, the very low human population density, and the inspirational attitude of rural communities to ‘their’ wild animals make the area a critically important one for Namibia’s wildlife.

Flat-topped mountains, jumbled inselbergs, wind-sculpted sandstone cliffs, broad valleys and the river gorges themselves indicate a far wetter past, when rainfall and perennial rivers helped to form the landscape. It was then that people colonised the area, their presence marked today by the amazing outdoor gallery of rock engravings that is the World Heritage Site of Twyfelfontein.

Today, these rivers flow only sporadically, when the rainfall further east is enough to reach the area along these conduits. Nonetheless, even large trees – essential nutrition for the area’s wildlife – survive here. Away from the river lines are vast open plains that in good rainfall years are covered by annual grasses, attracting herds of specialist arid antelope such as gemsbok (oryx) and springbok.

The drama and grandeur of the landscape is heightened even more by the contrast of the large, iconic mammal species dwarfed by the scale of their misleadingly barren surrounds.



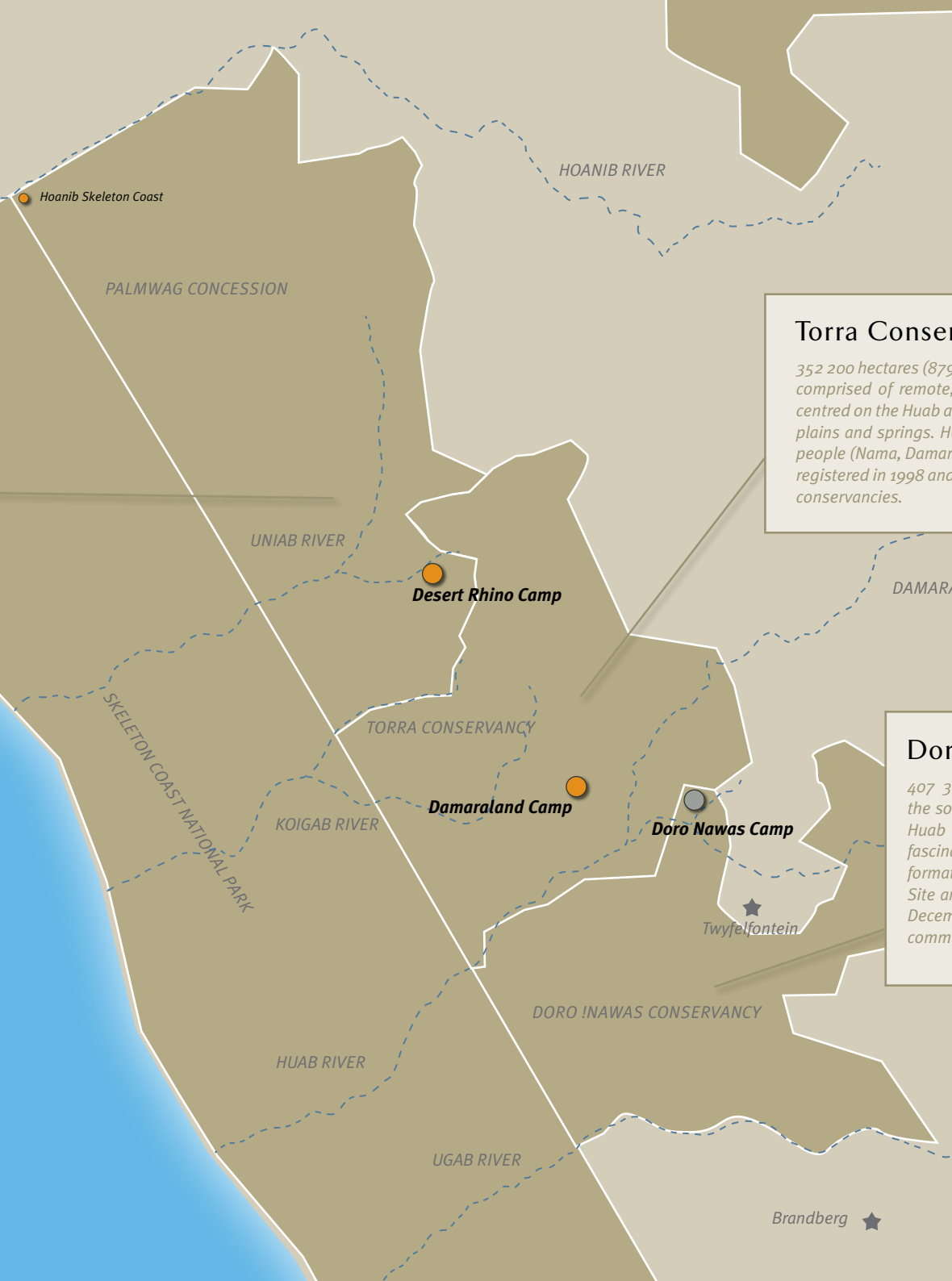
Palmwag Concession – South

450 000 hectares (1 100 000 million acres); the southern parts of this enormous concession comprise rocky plains and broad valleys centred on the Uniab River. Isolated springs along the river lines are marked by clumps of vegetation, but for the most part the vast plains are punctuated only by long-lived welwitschia and euphorbia plants, a favourite food of desert-adapted black rhino. In years of good rainfall, the plains are covered in flowing grasses.



Camp Categories

● Classic ● Adventures



Torra Conservancy

352 200 hectares (879 400 acres); a vast, rugged landscape comprised of remote, rocky valleys and flat hilltops, and centred on the Huab and Koigab Rivers and their associated plains and springs. Home to a population of around 1 200 people (Nama, Damara, Riemvasmaaker, Herero), Torra was registered in 1998 and was one of Namibia's first communal conservancies.

Doro !Nawas Conservancy

407 300 hectares (1 000 000 acres); bounded in the south by the Ugab River and in the north by the Huab River, this conservancy covers a geologically fascinating area. Its plains and outlandish rock formations envelop the Twyfelfontein World Heritage Site and straddle the Aba-Huab River. Registered in December 1999, Doro !Nawas is home to some 1 500 community members.





Damaraland Camp

Damaraland Camp is situated in the Huab River Valley in one of the best wilderness areas in Namibia. It is characterised by sensational views of the surrounding desert plains, ancient valleys, soaring peaks and flat-topped mesas of the Etendeka Mountains. Eco-friendly practices combined with traditions of the local people have created a uniquely-designed camp that accentuates the open spaces of the vast landscape.

This is echoed in the spacious main area, complete with dining room and lounge, cosy fireplace, and pool. An outdoor boma and large deck is perfect for enjoying the stars on crystal-clear evenings.

Highlights

The natural annual cycle of rainfall dictates the seasonal movement of wildlife along the Huab River, which game drives attempt to uncover. Desert-adapted elephant, gemsbok, kudu, springbok, and occasionally lion, cheetah, and black rhino are seen. Damaraland Camp is renowned for being the first genuinely successful Namibian joint venture between community (Torra Conservancy) and private sector (Wilderness Safaris).

Inspirational community partnership set against the backdrop of dramatic Damaraland.



Damaraland Camp at a Glance

Category: Classic

10 Tents (includes 1 Family Tent): En-suite, adobe-style thatched unit; raised off the ground; walk-in dressing area; large deck

Experiences: Morning and afternoon game drives and walks • Authentic and enriching community village visits • Full-day excursions to geological wonders (subject to vehicle availability; additional cost)





Desert Rhino Camp

Set in a wide euphorbia-dotted valley, sometimes flush with golden grasses, Desert Rhino Camp offers one of the most original wildlife experiences today: run in conjunction with our NGO partner, Save the Rhino Trust, this is the best location to see the endangered desert-adapted black rhino. The camp's tented, open-plan dining and living area offers uninterrupted views of the tranquil minimalist beauty of the desert and mountains, while extraordinary welwitschia plants freckle the plain in front.

Highlights

While tracking and viewing black rhino on foot is a highlight here, other game is surprisingly numerous as well; large herds of gemsbok, springbok and Hartmann's mountain zebra are common and even lion are seen. A true conservation partnership with SRT, a portion of every guest's nightly rate goes to the Trust and its conservation operations, while the day-to-day activities of the camp and its guests help monitor and protect this critically endangered species.

View Africa's largest free-ranging black rhino population and help contribute to its conservation.



Desert Rhino Camp at a Glance

Category: Classic

8 Tents: Large Meru-style tent; en-suite bathroom; raised on wooden deck; private veranda

Experiences: Rhino tracking on foot or by vehicle with Save the Rhino Trust trackers • Full-day excursions with picnic lunch • Birding • Scenic nature drives





Doro Nawas at a Glance

Category: Adventures

16 Tents (includes 1 Family Tent): Natural stone and canvas walls; thatched roof; en-suite bathroom with outdoor shower; veranda for stargazing or sleep-outs

Experiences: Game drives • Nature walks • Petroglyphs – prehistoric rock engravings – and San rock art at Twyfelfontein World Heritage Site • Fascinating geology and botany excursions to the Petrified Forest, Burnt Mountain and Organ Pipes





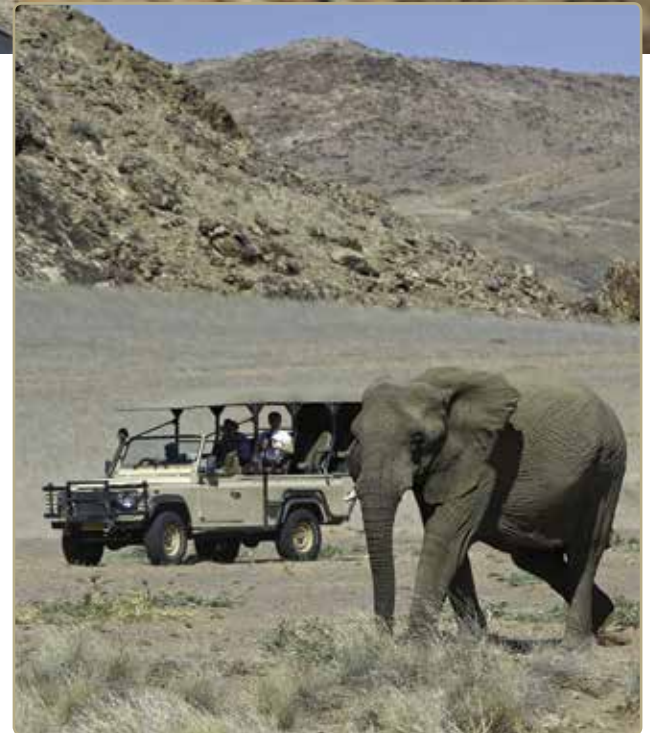
Doro Nawas Camp

Doro Nawas Camp sits atop a rocky hill commanding spectacular views of the Etendeka Mountains to the north, the red sandstone cliffs of Twyfelfontein in the south, and the plains of the dry Aba-Huab River below. The design and décor blends in with this rugged and dramatic landscape that varies from table-top outcrops, small canyons and dry riverbeds, to savannah and grassland vistas. The main area is made up of indoor and outdoor dining areas, a pool and a bar. Relaxing sundowners and stargazing are enjoyed on the flat rooftop.

Highlights

The camp provides an excellent easily accessible base from which to experience phenomenal scenery, the acclaimed desert-adapted elephant herds that move through the area seasonally, and the spectacular rock engravings of the Twyfelfontein World Heritage Site. Doro Nawas Camp is a joint venture between Wilderness Safaris and the 1 500-strong Doro !Nawas community.

*Desert-adapted elephant
and ancient rock art
within a ground-breaking
community conservancy.*





Young black rhino bull



Elusive desert-adapted lion



Endemic Rüppell's korhaan





Hundreds of springbok spread across the plains of the Palmwag Concession

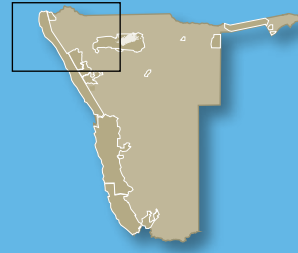
SKELETON COAST / NAMIB DESERT

The extremely remote north-west of Namibia, formerly known as the Kaokoveld, is a study of life in extremes. On the surface, endless vistas across 'fairy circle'-covered plains, ancient valleys, rugged peaks and desolate coastlines suggest one of the harshest environments on the planet.

While this may be so, there is more here than at first meets the eye. The most reliable, if minimalist, source of water for much of this area is the famous Namibian coastal fog. With its help, somehow life thrives here: mega-fauna such as desert-adapted elephant and giraffe, large mammals like Hartmann's zebra and gemsbok, and, surprisingly, a growing population of lion.

Even nomadic tribal people exploit a niche in the world's oldest desert. The ochre-daubed Himba, their unusual and distinctive dress and intricate hairstyles identifying them as traditionalists, cling steadfastly to a long-established way of life.

Visually it is perhaps the coast itself that is the most dramatic feature of this landscape. The shoreline is bleak, strewn with whalebones and shipwrecks; it is no wonder that it is called the Skeleton Coast. Here too can be found some of the largest seal colonies in the world, these 'pantries' attracting beachcombing carnivores such as the shy brown hyaena and the trotting black-backed jackal.



Marienfluss Conservancy

303 400 hectares (999 000 acres); situated on the banks of the Kunene River and at the northern reaches of the vast Hartmann's and Marienfluss Valleys, this is one of the most remote and unpopulated areas in Namibia. Unbroken dune fields stretch to the west, while good rainfall years result in grassy valleys to the east. The perennial Kunene River is an oasis lined with a narrow strip of riverine vegetation and palm trees.



Camp Categories

● Premier

● Classic



ANGOLA



Palmwag Concession - North

450 000 hectares (1 100 00 million acres); the northern parts of this enormous concession comprise an incredibly rugged landscape focused on the productive acacia-lined Hoanib River. Narrow sandy valleys lie between north-south running mountain ridges, while the Hoanib River forces its way westwards from the mountains into the stark dune fields of the Skeleton Coast National Park. Here, subterranean water is forced to the surface in two key places, forming true desert oases.

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK



Serra Cafema

Serra Cafema is set on the banks of the perennial Kunene River, the only permanent source of water in the region and a surprising oasis in an apparently barren landscape. A surreal experience, the rapids just below camp lull one to sleep after a day exploring one of the driest places in the world. Elevated to look out over the river, the elegant structures of wood, canvas and thatch celebrate raw nature, sustainable luxury and complete comfort, the unadorned desert reflected in dramatic, clean lines. The décor pays homage to the Himba people who call this unique locale home.

Highlights

In this isolated area, the Himba people continue their traditional semi-nomadic way of life and guests have an opportunity to learn about their lifestyle and customs. Wildlife such as gemsbok, springbok, ostrich and Hartmann's mountain zebra eke out an existence, while the Kunene River harbours Nile crocodile and vibrant birdlife. The otherworldly fairy circle phenomenon is best viewed in the Hartmann's Valley.

*Stark desert serenity
and deafening silence in
Namibia's most remote camp.*



Serra Cafema at a Glance

Category: Premier

8 Villas (including 1 Family Tent): Expansive, canvas and thatch; en-suite bathroom; elevated deck; one honeymoon villa

Experiences: Nature drives • Eco-sensitive quad-bike excursions • Walks • Boating (seasonal) • Respectful visit to the Himba community (dependent on their presence)



Hoanib Skeleton Coast

Hoanib Skeleton Coast is located in a bewitching and splendid part of the planet, in a land of mountains, vast plains, and dry riverbeds inhabited by fascinating wildlife. The camp lies on the transient, but ecologically vital, Hoanib River, where one can savour landscapes that unfold untouched for hundreds of kilometres.

Highlights

The camp's traversing area straddles the Palmwag Concession and Skeleton Coast National Park, an extraordinary area where one of the greatest concentrations of desert-adapted elephant and lion can be found. Giraffe stride along the Hoanib River and, like the gemsbok and springbok herds, subsist off the trees and their pods that line this sandy ribbon. Exploratory game drives penetrate the arid interior in search of wildlife, excursions are taken to meet the semi-nomadic Himba people, while flights to Möwe Bay on the Skeleton Coast visit shipwrecks, seal colonies and unique desert oases. Hoanib Skeleton Coast is a joint venture with the neighbouring Community-based Conservancies of Anabeb, Torra and Sesfontein.

Dramatic desert-adapted wildlife viewing in one of the world's iconic destinations.



Hoanib Skeleton Coast at a Glance

Category: Classic

7 Tents (including 1 Family Tent): Twin-bedded; en-suite bathroom.

Experiences: Nature walks • Game drives • Dune drives • Day trips with picnic lunches • Coastal visits • Community visits – Himba people and other communities

Note: This camp is opening in late 2013.





Traversing gravel plains and shifting barchan dunes against backdrop of incoming Atlantic fog (Hoanib Skeleton Coast)

ETOSHA

One of Namibia's most iconic and well-known places, the vast national park known as Etosha owes its name to a Herero word meaning "Great White Place," which aptly describes the dominant feature of the landscape: a huge salt pan covering some 120 km (75 miles) across and 55 km (31 miles) from north to south. Aeons ago, this was a "superlake," but a geological shift caused the Kunene River to change course and the water to dry up, so that today its parched white surface is fed only by a few smaller rivers. Rarely, it partly floods, its salty waters creating a rich algal growth that may attract a million or more flamingos.

More typically, the pan is dry. While its surface is extremely salty and barren, its edges give way to a surprising variety of vegetation types and – critically – a series of springs and waterholes that during the dry months are hubs around which game viewing revolves. It is here that the abundant plains game of the area must drink: gemsbok, springbok, wildebeest, zebra and giraffe cluster nervously at their edges before slaking their thirst, wary of the resident lion prides that patrol these waterholes, launching ambush after ambush on their prey.

Even during the wetter summer months, these springs remain productive. The best game viewing at this time of year however takes place on the open plains where sporadic rainfall causes a profusion of life, as herbivores in their numbers congregate to give birth to the season's young.





ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Ongava Lodge
 Ongava Tented Camp
 Little Ongava
 Andersson's Camp

Ongava Game Reserve

30 000 hectares (74 000 acres); the largest and most established private reserve on the borders of Etosha playing a significant role in the conservation of black and white rhino, black-faced impala and lion. Straddling the dolomitic Ondundozonanandana range of hills, the reserve is dominated by mopane woodland and scrub combined with isolated grassy plains.



Andersson's

Strategically located a stone's throw from the Andersson's Gate to Etosha National Park, Andersson's Camp is named after the Swedish explorer who travelled this area in the 1850s. Sited at a very productive waterhole attracting the full range of large game in the area, the vegetation in the area is largely scrub mopane mixed with acacia.



Camp Categories

- Premier
- Classic
- Adventures

Little Ongava

Little Ongava offers a sumptuous and quintessential wildlife experience. This intimate deluxe camp, comprising just three spacious, opulent units, is perched on the crest of a rocky outcrop commanding magnificent vistas of the plains beyond. The lounge and dining areas have wonderful views of these as well as the waterhole below and allow for relaxed, stylish dining under spectacular African skies.

Highlights

Little Ongava is on the private Ongava Game Reserve with convenient access to the most productive area of Etosha. Excellent big game densities on Ongava itself include lion, white and black rhino and plains game, with even more seen in Etosha. Ongava is unique in that it is one of the few private game reserves in southern Africa where there is a good chance of seeing both black and white rhino. Ongava Research Centre is involved in outstanding conservation efforts, specifically regarding the rare black rhino and endemic black-faced impala.

Thrilling big game viewing from Namibia's most luxurious and exclusive camp.



Little Ongava at a Glance

Category: Premier

3 villas: Expansive with unique décor; en-suite bathroom; outdoor 'al fresco' shower; 'sala'; plunge pool

Experiences: Day and night wildlife-viewing drives on Ongava • Nature walks and rhino tracking with experienced guides • Hides overlooking waterholes • Game drives and day trips into Etosha National Park







Ongava Lodge

The well-established Ongava Lodge is situated on a rocky ridge of the Ondundozonanandana Mountain Range. The chalets, main lounge, bar and dining areas all benefit from such a beautiful vantage point, overlooking the incredibly well-frequented waterhole just below, as well as a wide-angled view of the plains. An inviting pool is perfect for cooling off in the heat of the day, and meals are served either under the thatch of the dining area or on the dining deck under the stars.

A beautiful vantage point looking out over the plains of Africa.

Highlights

Game drives take in the abundant array of life in the area, with a wide variety of plains game present on Ongava Game Reserve as well as in Etosha; springbok, gemsbok, blue wildebeest, Burchell's zebra, Hartmann's mountain zebra, red hartebeest, giraffe, eland and the endemic black-faced impala are common. Elephant can be found in the Park, with lion, spotted hyaena, and both black and white rhino seen there and on the reserve.



Ongava Lodge at a Glance

Category: Classic

14 Chalets (including 1 Family Chalet): Rock and thatch chalet; ensuite bathroom, shower and double hand basins; air-conditioning and overhead fans; tea/coffee station; private veranda

Experiences: Day and night wildlife-viewing drives on Ongava • Nature walks and rhino tracking with experienced guides • Hides overlooking waterholes • Game drives and day trips into Etosha National Park



Ongava Tented Camp

Ongava Tented Camp is tucked into a hidden valley at the foot of a dolomite hill, its exterior exuding that definitive safari ambience while the interiors have all the associated luxuries. The main area is built of stone, canvas and thatch and, along with a sparkling pool, fronts onto a productive waterhole, to which a never-ending line of animals, including lion, walk well-worn paths to quench their thirst.

Highlights

Ongava features almost all of the characteristic wildlife of the area, with plains game such as springbok, gemsbok, Hartmann's mountain zebra, and eland seen, while Etosha itself has elephant to add to the list. Importantly, Ongava holds one of the largest rhino custodianships in the country and is one of the few private game reserves in southern Africa where guests can see both black and white rhino; the Ongava Research Centre is involved in conserving these animals as well as the endemic black-faced impala.

A classic safari experience – both in camp and further afield.





Ongava Tented Camp at a Glance

Category: Classic

8 Tents (including 1 Family Tent): Large, comfortable Meru-style; en-suite facilities; open air shower; private veranda

Experiences: Day and night wildlife-viewing drives on Ongava • Nature walks and rhino tracking with experienced guides • Hides overlooking waterholes • Game drives and day trips into Etosha National Park

Andersson's Camp at a Glance

Category: Adventures

20 Tents (including 2 Family Tents): Calcrete stone cladding, canvas and wood; en-suite facilities; raised on deck with small veranda; 100% solar energy

Experiences: Day and night wildlife-viewing drives on Ongava • Nature walks

• Hides overlooking waterholes • Game drives and day trips into Etosha National Park



Andersson's Camp

A former farmstead tastefully and sustainably rebuilt to modern and environmental standards, this quirky camp is an example of 'eco-chic' that provides an authentic, safe and down-to-earth experience for small groups, families and independent travellers to the Etosha region. It is easily accessible by either road or air and is perfectly located to take advantage of a very productive waterhole while having convenient access to Etosha through the Andersson's Gate.

Productive camp waterhole and the most convenient access to Etosha.

Highlights

Andersson's sensational waterhole is a magnet for a variety of game particularly in the dry season: black rhino, lion, and plains game including giraffe all gather here. Its close proximity to Etosha makes it ideal for full-day self- or guided drives into Etosha to take in the abundance of game there. In summer, sporadic rainfall produces a profusion of new life, with pronging baby springbok and comical young wildebeest entertaining visitors.





Towering giraffe and dainty springbok stride across the grassy plains of Etosha National Park



Elephant herd approaching waterhole.



Diminutive dik dik antelope



Waterhole zebra crush



OUR EXPLORATIONS

Set out under the African sun to explore some of the continent's prime wilderness areas with our exclusive Explorations safaris. These spectacular guided journeys allow guests to discover remote and pristine areas in diverse private concessions while enjoying the most outstanding wildlife viewing. Our fully-serviced cross-country safaris cater for small groups (operating with a minimum of two and a maximum of eight guests) on a scheduled basis or are tailor-made for private groups. All of which allow for the most authentic African experience today.

The secret to a fantastic Explorations trip is your personal guide, who leads the safari from beginning to end. Our guides are passionate, experienced and highly trained local individuals who make the whole journey seamless and interpretive from start to finish. More than just talented naturalists, many are skilled photographers and can assist you in taking amazing wildlife images. These guides are also available to lead private tailor-made safaris and specialist trips in any of our concessions and camps – some even offering multilingual experiences.

While on an Exploration, you may experience a number of different accommodation styles, including Classic or Adventures camps as well as our own unique Adventurer and Trails camps.



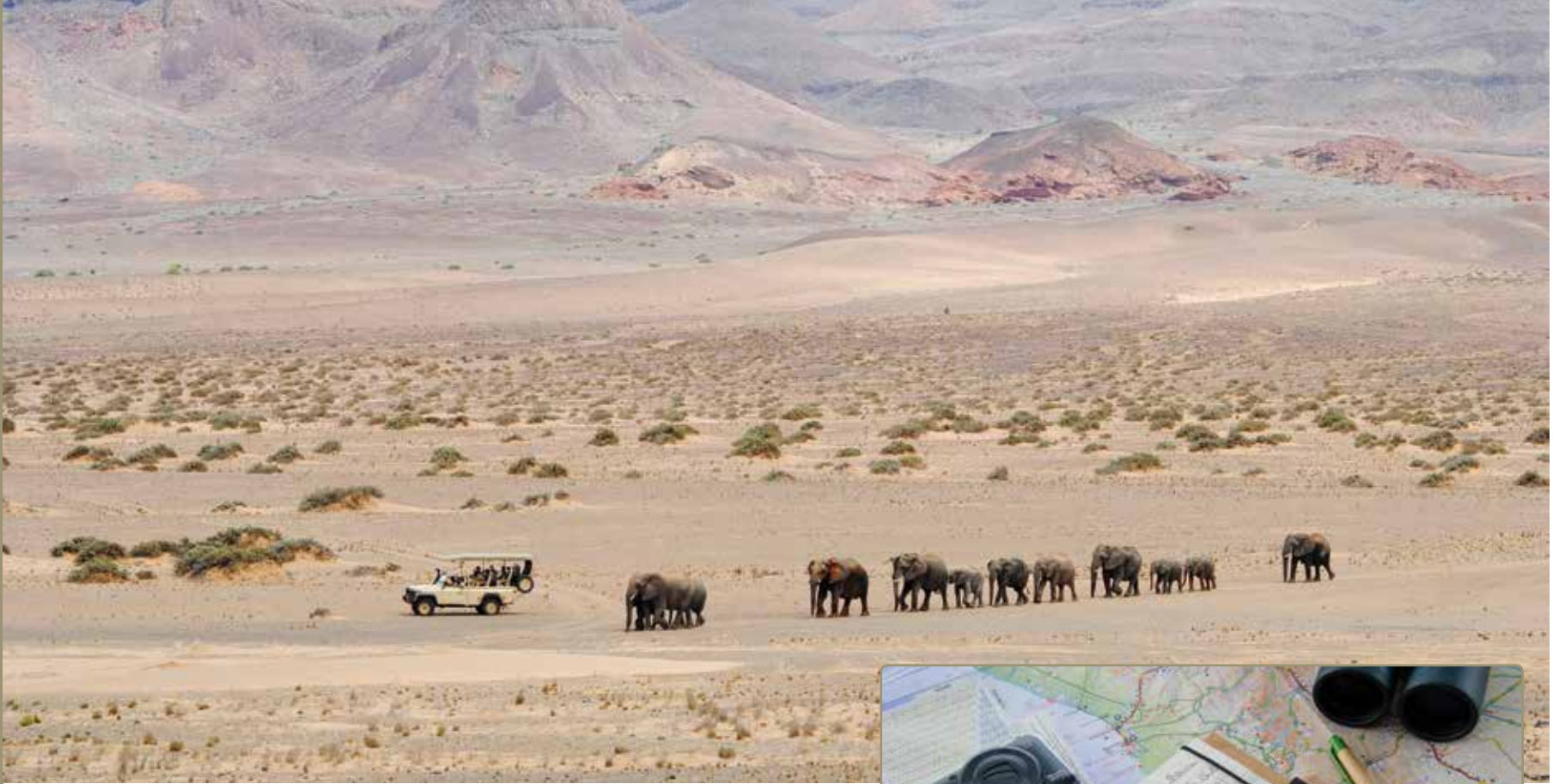
Classic Camps and Adventures Camps are Wilderness Safaris camps that are used on certain Explorations trips. They are set in secluded locations with outstanding wildlife viewing. Each camp is luxurious and comfortable with large rooms, en-suite bathrooms and private decks.



Adventurer Camps in Namibia comprise walk-in dome tents with added overhead shade and en-suite facilities with hot and cold running water. Hammocks and safari camper chairs are ideal for midday siestas. Dining under the stars and around the fire is part of an authentic safari experience.



Trails Camps are mobile camps that allow access to very remote locations and can be set up on demand for tailor-made trips. They are dome tents complete with en-suite bathrooms and bucket showers. Trails Camps immerse you in a true safari experience.



Great Namibian Journey

Explore the 300m-high dunes of Sossusvlei and the awesome space of the Namib Desert. Encounter the stark beauty and diversity of the Damaraland region, where you can also track the endangered black rhino. Finally, enjoy an abundance of marine life around Swakopmund and the game-filled savannahs of Etosha. Such experiences are enhanced by a range of luxurious lodges and camps.

Brief Itinerary

- Days 1 & 2: Drive from Windhoek to Kulala Desert Lodge, Sossusvlei
- Days 3 & 4: Scenic flight to Swakopmund, to stay at Hansa Hotel
- Days 5 & 6: Transfer by road via Cape Cross Seal Colony to Damaraland Camp, Damaraland
- Days 7 & 8: Drive to Desert Rhino Camp, Damaraland
- Days 9, 10 & 11: Transfer by road to Ongava Tented Camp, Etosha National Park
- Day 12: Fly to Windhoek



*The quintessential
Namibian expedition.*



Great Namibian Journey at a Glance
Type: Discoverer
Duration: 11 nights / 12 days
Regions: Sossusvlei • Swakopmund • Damaraland • Etosha
Experiences: Encompasses Namibia's attractions – dunes to desert, wildlife to marine life, stunning landscapes, endless skies, barren deserts, rugged mountains and spectacular wildlife
Activities: Dune visits • Dolphin cruise with private beach lunch at Walvis Bay • Hiking and cycling in Damaraland • Community visits (Damara) • Black rhino tracking on foot • Game viewing • Hot air ballooning and horse riding (optional; at additional cost)
Highly recommended: Visit Serra Cafema after Ongava Tented Camp (additional cost)

Map Key

- Classic
- Adventures
- Air Transfer
- Road Transfer



ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Andersson's Camp



Damaraland
Adventurer Camp

DAMARALAND

Diverse Namibia at a Glance
 Type: Adventurer
 Duration: 9 nights / 10 days
 Regions: Sossusvlei • Swakopmund • Damaraland • Etosha
 Experiences: True adventure, taking in dunes, desert, plains and iconic desert-adapted wildlife; exclusive accommodation in private concessions; private access to Sossusvlei
 Activities: Dune visits • Scenic walks • Ancient rock art (Twyfelfontein) • Game viewing • Hot air ballooning and horse riding (optional; at additional cost)



Cape Cross
Seal Colony

WINDHOEK

SWAKOPMUND
WALVIS BAY



Kulala
Adventurer Camp

SOSSUSVLEI



Map Key

- Adventures
- Explorations Adventurer/Trails

Road Transfer

Diverse Namibia

Diverse Namibia takes in the soaring red dunes of Sossusvlei, the life-filled blue Atlantic Ocean, the desert and denizens of Damaraland, and the plains game and predators of Etosha National Park. Throughout the Exploration are interspersed wildlife and cultural excursions – overall a true Namibian adventure!

*An active, exciting
adventure
exploring key areas
of vast Namibia.*

Brief Itinerary

Days 1 & 2: Drive from Windhoek to Kulala Adventurer Camp, Sossusvlei

Days 3 & 4: Transfer by road to Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund

Days 5, 6 & 7: Drive via Cape Cross seal colony to Damaraland Adventurer Camp, Damaraland

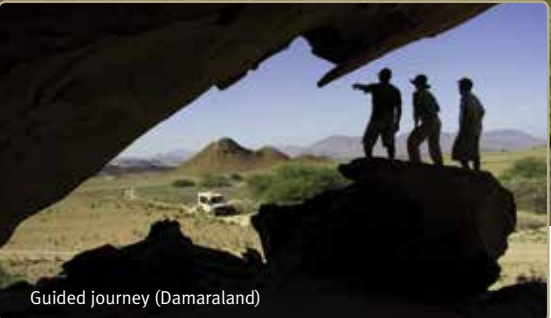
Days 8 & 9: Road transfer to Andersson's Camp, Ongava Game Reserve, Etosha region

Day 10: Drive to Windhoek





Your personal guide (Damaraland)



Guided journey (Damaraland)



Interpretive experience (Palmwag Concession)



Kulala Adventurer Camp in a remote part of the Kulala Wilderness Reserve

More Than Just a Safari

At Wilderness Safaris, our delight is to share the wild places of Africa with our guests, while our ultimate goal is to help make a difference to Africa, its people and its wildlife. As a guest, you are helping us to do so.

There is much more that needs to be done, however, which is why, some 20 years ago, we created the **Wilderness Safaris Wildlife Trust**, an independent entity that supports a wide variety of wildlife management, research and education projects throughout Africa. These projects address the needs of our wildlife, seek solutions to save threatened species and provide education and training for local communities. This has made our journey more meaningful and we've reached more people and places than before.

Conservation of animals and plants is only as strong as the people who live in their vicinity. If they're not interested, protection is likely to exist only on paper. That's why Africa's future lies in her children, and why our pride and joy is our **Children in the Wilderness** programme, which aims to educate the youth of Africa, inspiring and helping them to appreciate and thus protect their magnificent natural heritage.

Every year, we close some of our camps for a week at a time and groups of 16 to 25 children between the ages of 10 and 14 are hosted here, given the opportunity to experience these wilderness areas and their wildlife. During camp, the curriculum covers environmental education, HIV/ AIDS and nutrition and life skills, and the importance of conservation. No less importantly, throughout the year, Eco Clubs are held at the local schools (i.e. schools situated near Wilderness Safaris areas), where we can visit the children in their own environment, providing opportunities for all learners who are interested in the environment to meet, learn, discuss and expand their knowledge of their natural heritage.

Our guests can be proud to be part of this life-changing journey.



Assisting the Ministry of Environment and Tourism with rhino relocation (Desert Rhino Camp)



Joint Venture agreements with rural communities (Torra Conservancy)



Lion monitoring with Dr Flip Stander (Damaraland Camp)



Children in the Wilderness on game drive (Damaraland Camp)



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

Prior to independence in 1990, Namibia's rural indigenous communities had very few land rights and received no benefit from sharing the land they lived on with wildlife. As a result, illegal hunting of wild animals was rife and populations of all species – including black rhino – were desperately low. Wildlife was seen purely as a source of meat or a cause of conflict over crops or livestock.

Ground-breaking legislation passed in the mid-1990s meant that from 1998, the first community conservancies were formed giving their inhabitants the legal ability to manage and benefit from the wildlife occurring in their gazetted areas. Requirements such as management plans and democratically-elected governing bodies ensured transparency and accountability.

The result has been nothing short of incredible. Wildlife populations have exploded and expanded into new areas, populations of endangered species have increased, employment and training opportunities have mushroomed and the conservancies are generating significant revenue from various wildlife-related land uses – including ecotourism.

Wilderness Safaris was at the forefront of ecotourism joint ventures with communities and currently pays a revenue share from camp operations to no fewer than five separate conservancies, employs more than 200 conservancy members and has formal community equity joint ventures in three separate camps.



Torra Conservancy was one of the first registered community conservancies – in 1998 – and is generally regarded as the most successful. Its 352 200 hectares (879 400 acres) are home to some 1 200 people. The Torra Conservancy is a 40% shareholder in Damaraland Camp and Damaraland Adventurer Camp, and has been involved in a joint venture with Wilderness Safaris since 1996.

Doro !Nawas was registered as a community conservancy in 1999 and partnered with Wilderness Safaris in 2005. The 1 500 residents of this vast area are, via the conservancy trust, joint venture partners in Doro Nawas Camp in which they have a 40% ownership. At the time of its signing, this agreement represented a seminal precedent in private sector and community partnerships.

Marienfluss Conservancy, registered as a community conservancy in 2001, is sparsely populated and home to semi-nomadic Himba clans numbering only around 300 people. Population density here is only one person per 10km². Wilderness Safaris has been a conservancy partner since the development of Serra Cafema in 2003, with a percentage of revenue paid on a biannual basis.

Congo

Pristine rainforest, incredible natural diversity and the best location to see western lowland gorillas and a host of other primates.



Botswana

Home to the unique Okavango Delta, with incredible safari experiences here, in the Linyanti and the Central Kalahari.



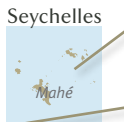
Namibia

The world's highest sand dunes, vast conservation areas, desert-adapted wildlife and nomadic traditional tribal cultures.



South Africa

The 'Rainbow Nation' and host to the Kruger Park, Table Mountain, diverse cultures and some of Africa's best tropical diving.



Where Else In Africa?



Kenya

The roots of 'safari,' and home to the planet's greatest large mammal migration and the burgeoning herds of the Laikipia Plateau.

Seychelles

Sandy white-beaches, warm-ocean Eden and tropical escape filled with unique species found nowhere else on Earth.



Malawi

The 'warm heart of Africa,' part of the Great Rift Valley and perhaps the world's most diverse freshwater lake.

Zambia

Known as 'the real Africa,' with space, wilderness and wildlife to match the claim, whether in Kafue or Victoria Falls.



Zimbabwe

Classic safari destination teeming with big game in Hwange and Mana Pools National Parks, as well as the majestic Victoria Falls.

Africa is vast. The so-called 'dark continent' is nearly one quarter bigger than all of North America (including Alaska, Canada, Mexico and the USA), and the entire European continent would fit into its land surface no less than three times.

It is also not as densely populated as is often believed. Population density is only 46% that of Europe and 35% that of Asia. Despite this, there are between 2 100 and 3 000 indigenous African languages and cultures, a diversity mirrored by the huge array of flora and fauna that occurs across the breadth of the continent.

This diversity of wildlife is unmatched anywhere else on the planet in terms of the range and numbers of large mammals – the megafauna. Africa plays host to more than 1 300 mammal species, while in comparison North America and Europe between them hold less than 600 species.

Vast intact savannah landscapes and ecosystems enable lion, herds of elephant, myriad plains game and even people to exist as they have done for thousands of years. The same is true of the rainforest and some of our closest relatives – chimpanzees and gorillas – as well as the deserts, off-shore islands and lakes.

The continent can be overwhelming in its multiplicity of destinations and experiences; to the left are a few of the highlights.



Exposure to traditional culture should be part of every safari (Serra Cafema)

Photographers list: Brett Wallington, Caroline Culbert, Clive Dreyer, Colin Bell, Dana Allen, Dave Hamman, Dr Flip Stander, Gavin Lautenbach, Ilze van der Vyver, Martin Benadie, Mary-Anne van der Byl, Michael Poliza, Mike Myers, Namibia Tracks & Trails, Olwen Evans, Ulrike Howard-Ginsberg
If we have left anyone out, this has not been intentional and we apologise.

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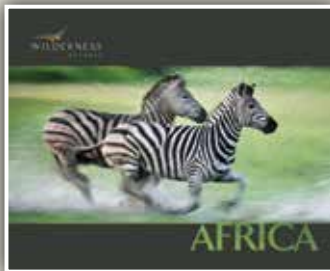


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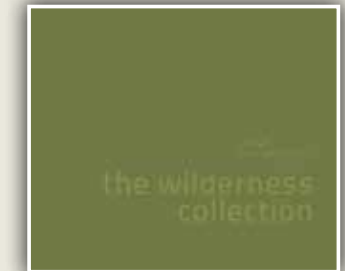
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