



DO SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY...



ITINERARY

11 Days • 10 Nights

Namibia • Desert, Safari & Coast – Small Group

**Windhoek – Sesriem - Sossusvlei - Swakopmund -
Twyfelfontein – Etosha – Etosha National Park -
Windhoek**

HIGHLIGHTS

Sossusvlei
Swakopmund
Cape Fur Seals and the Skeleton Coast
Twyfelfontein Rock Engravings
The Petrified Forest
The Etosha National Park

TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Wildlife
Tour Start	Windhoek
Tour End	Windhoek
Accommodation	Hotels/Lodges/Camps
Meals-Included	11 Breakfasts/ 8 lunches/ 6 Dinners
Difficulty Level	Medium

Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage ● Chydyok Road ● Chaldon Herring ● Dorchester ● DT2 8DN

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NAMBIA AN OVERVIEW

Visit the flame- dunes of Sossusvlei. The magnificent Hardap Dam is the largest reservoir in Namibia. The area is fertile with citrus, melons and grapes for wine. In the South, the world's second-largest canyon (Fish River canyon) is a geological marvel measuring a spectacular 160km in length and 27 km wide at times. The awe-inspiring beauty and surreal light draw visitors from all over the globe. There are 85km of hiking trails through this 15-billion-year-old rocky wonderland. Located in the scenic Namib-Naukluft National Park, Sossusvlei is where you will find the iconic red sand dunes of the Namib. One of Namibia's premier attractions, with its unique dunes rising to almost 400 metres-some of the highest in the world. These iconic dunes come alive in morning and evening light and draw photography enthusiasts from far and wide. Sossusvlei is home to various desert wildlife, including oryx, springbok, ostrich and a variety of reptiles. Visitors can climb 'Big Daddy', one of Sossusvlei's tallest dunes; explore Deadvlei, a white, salt claypan dotted with ancient trees; or for the more extravagant, scenic flights and hot air ballooning are on offer, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime champagne breakfast amidst these majestic dunes. We visit the immense Etosha National Park; the area boasts numerous waterholes attracting elephants, rhinos, leopards, lions, and a variety of bucks. Don't miss the opportunity to catch a glimpse of the rare Hartmann's Mountain Zebra and black-faced impala.

WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

Pioneer Expeditions are one of the few specialists that really do off the beaten track and unique adventures. The team have a real passion for wildlife and adventure travel which we love to share with our clients. We delight in searching the world for new destinations, new experiences and creating the most incredible adventures. We like to introduce our clients to unique, the different, and the incredible. Whether it is through wildlife tracking, sea kayaking, snorkelling, trekking, rafting, cycling or observing wildlife in its natural environment, we want to give you the real Pioneer experience. From the moment you choose to travel with Pioneer Expeditions until you return home, you are supported by our dedicated team. We listen to what you want and can create an itinerary around your specific needs, working with your budget and with a commitment to responsible travel.



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ITINERARY



DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN WINDHOEK

Meet and greet at the Hosea Kutako International Airport in Windhoek and transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure and dinner on own account at a restaurant of your own choice. Your guide will advise you on restaurant choices.

Overnight at: Droombos, The Vinyard or similar



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Approx, 40km



Activity:
Travel

DAY 2: WINDHOEK – SESRIEM, NAMIB DESERT LODGE

Departing Windhoek by 8am, we head in a southerly direction through the cattle farmland towards the Namib Desert. Passing through the Nauchas we stop for a short break at the top of the Escarpment looking over the Spreetshoogte Pass. A short distance down the pass, we arrive at the small rest stop of Solitaire before continuing the last 80km to our lodge at Sesriem.

Overnight at: Namib Desert Lodge or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
Approx. 300km



Activity:
Explore/Travel

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DAY 3: NAMIB DESERT LODGE SOSSUSVLEI

An early pre-dawn departure from our lodge entering the park at sunrise. The 60km tar road leads the way into the Namib dune fields within the Namib-Naukluft National Park. Passing dune 45, we arrive at the 2x4 parking area, engage into 4x4 and continue the last 5km into the Dead Vlei pan. Climb one of the world's highest dunes – for the fit and brave or wander around the dead vlei pan before continuing to the Sossusvlei. Exiting the area by 12:00 before the heat of the day sets in, we return to the lodge for a lunch and afternoon siesta or lie by the lodge pool enjoying the midday. A short visit to the Sesriem canyon late afternoon only 5km away ends a day of activities.

Overnight at: Namib Desert Lodge or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
Approx. 120km



Activity:
Explore/Hiking

DAY 4: SOSSUSVLEI – SWAKOPMUND, THE DELIGHT HOTEL

A 9 AM morning departure to the harbour town of Walvis Bay via the Kuiseb canyon. We explore the small industrial town and its surrounding salt pans and lagoon before continuing to the coastal resort of Swakopmund. The rest of the day is spent exploring this town and planning your next day's adventure activities. These activities will be discussed with your guide the night before as it is essential to make bookings. These activities include short scenic flights, Catamaran cruises, dune-boarding, quad-biking and so much more. Dinner can be enjoyed at any one of the town's best restaurants on own account.

Overnight at: The Delight Hotel or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B,L



Distance:
Approx. 320km



Activity:
Explore/Travel

DAY 5: THE DELIGHT, SWAKOPMUND

Today is yours to enjoy at your own pace in the charming coastal town of Swakopmund, known for its relaxed atmosphere and wide range of attractions. You might choose to wander through the local craft market, admire the impressive displays at the Crystal Gallery, take a gentle walk along the historic Jetty, or visit the town's small but fascinating aquarium. If you prefer a slower day, the peaceful beaches offer a lovely spot to unwind, or you might simply take in the town's vibrant café culture and diverse culinary offerings. For those seeking a bit more adventure, can join the activities that were booked the day before. Meals today are at your own expense, and Swakopmund offers a variety of dining choices to suit every taste. Consider The Brauhaus for hearty German fare, The Tug for seafood with ocean views, or Blue Grass for a more contemporary setting—all highly recommended.

Overnight at: The Delight Hotel or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B



Distance:
Approx. 460km



Activity:
Explore/Travel

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DAY 6: SWAKOPMUND TO TWYFELFONTEIN, TWYFELFONTEIN LODGE

Today's journey takes you north along the striking Atlantic coastline, offering a full day of travel enriched with fascinating stops and natural wonders. Though it is a long drive, the changing landscapes and unique sights make for a rewarding experience.

Your first stop is just beyond Henties Bay, where you'll explore the lichen fields, an extraordinary display of life in one of the harshest environments on earth. These slow-growing organisms, sensitive and resilient, are a quiet reminder of nature's remarkable adaptability.

Continuing along the rugged Skeleton Coast, you'll visit the Cape Cross Seal Colony, where thousands of Cape fur seals gather along the shoreline. Sustained by the cold, nutrient-rich Benguela Current, this vibrant colony is a remarkable sight, both lively and unforgettable.

As you journey onward, you'll pass the haunting remains of the Benguela Eagle shipwreck, a stark reminder of the many vessels lost to the unforgiving waters of this coastline. Nearby, an abandoned oil rig rises from the desert—an industrial relic that adds to the surreal beauty of the region.

Turning inland, you'll make a stop to see the *Welwitschia mirabilis*, one of the world's oldest and most unusual plants. Endemic to Namibia and Angola, these ancient desert survivors can live for over a thousand years and are a true botanical treasure.

By late afternoon, you'll arrive at your lodge in the heart of Damaraland, where you can unwind and reflect on a day filled with discovery, contrast, and awe-inspiring landscapes

Overnight at: Twyfelfontein Lodge or similar



Overnight:
Camp



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
Approx. 460km



Activity:
Explore/Travel

DAY 7: TWYFELFONTEIN LODGE – ETOSHA, ETOSHA SAFARI CAMP

After an early breakfast, we set out on a short drive to the renowned Twyfelfontein, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its remarkable collection of ancient Bushman rock engravings. Accompanied by a local guide, you'll explore this extraordinary site, home to one of the largest concentrations of petroglyphs in the world. These engravings, some dating back as far as 10,000 years, offer a captivating insight into the spiritual and cultural life of the San people.

Following a relaxed walk through the site, we continue our journey toward Etosha National Park, with a brief stop en route at the Petrified Forest. Believed to be around 280 million years old, this site features ancient tree trunks that have turned to stone over millennia—a striking testament to the power and passage of geological time.

By late afternoon, we arrive at our lodge near Etosha, where you'll have time to relax, perhaps with a refreshing swim, before sitting down to an early dinner in peaceful surroundings

Overnight at: Etosha Safari Camp

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Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
Approx, 300km



Activity:
Camp

DAY 8: ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Today, embark on a full-day safari in Etosha National Park, one of Africa's premier wildlife destinations. After an early breakfast, set out with your experienced guide for an unforgettable day exploring the park's vast salt pan and diverse ecosystems. Etosha is home to an incredible variety of wildlife, including elephants, lions, giraffes, rhinos, and numerous antelope species, as well as an abundance of birdlife.

You'll spend the day game-viewing at various waterholes and scenic areas within the park, with your lunch packs enjoyed at a designated picnic spot. Your guide will share insights about the park's landscapes, flora, and fauna, ensuring a rich and educational experience.

Return to Etosha Safari Lodge in the late afternoon to relax and enjoy the spectacular sunset over the savanna, followed by dinner under the stars.

Overnight at: Etosha Safari Camp or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
N/A



Activity:
Exploring

DAY 9: ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

A full morning is spent in open vehicle game drive in the Etosha National Park. Traversing areas of Etosha missed the previous day in the effort to tick off all that the park has to offer.

Spend the afternoon at the lodge pool or take time to update your social media before heading back to Windhoek the next day.

Overnight at: Etosha Safari Camp or similar



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B,L,D



Distance:
N/A



Activity:
Wildlife

DAY 10: ETOSHA SAFARI CAMP – WINDHOEK, THE VINYARD

A lengthy drive back to the capital city, Windhoek. Mid-afternoon arrival back at our hotel where we can explore the city in your own time or relax at the hotel and prepare for the departure flight home the following day.

While dinner is not included, we highly recommend visiting Joe's Beerhouse for your final dining experience in Namibia. Known for its lively atmosphere and delicious food, it's a must-visit for any traveller. Be sure to reserve a table in advance to guarantee your spot!

Overnight at: Droombos, The Vinyard

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Overnight:
Village



Meals:
B,L



Distance:
Approx. 405km



Activity:
Wildlife

DAY 11: DEPARTURE

After Breakfast, transfer to Hosea Kutako International Airport for your flight back home.



Overnight:
N/A



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Travel



ACCOMMODATION AT A GLANCE

Subject change to availability

	Location	Accommodation Example
Nights: 1,10	Windhoek	Droombos The Vinyard
Nights: 2,3	Sossusvle	Namib Desert Lodge
Nights: 4,5	Swakopmund	The Delight Hotel Hotel
Nights: 6	Twyfelfontein	Twyfelfontein Lodge Lodge
Nights: 7,8,9	Etosha	Etosha Safari Camp

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

INCLUDED	EXCLUDED
➤ Professional Guide ➤ Comfortable safari vehicle ➤ Accommodation as per Itinerary ➤ Meals as per Itinerary (B - Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner) ➤ Park entrance fees ➤ Activities as per Itinerary	➤ Expenses of a personal nature, i.e. laundry, telephone expenses, gratuities, portage, etc ➤ Any additional meals ➤ Any additional activities ➤ Rental vehicle extras ➤ All relevant park- and entrance fees ➤ Any scheduled flights and related taxes ➤ Cancellation-, baggage-, medical- and evacuation Insurance ➤ Any new Government taxes, levies, etc which are ➤ beyond our control ➤ Flights ➤ Restaurant Meals as indicated ➤ Visa's, Airport Transfers, Curios and Tips ➤ Optional Excursions and Activities not in itinerary ➤ Beverages

WHEN TO GO

Partially covered by the Namib Desert, one of the world's driest deserts, Namibia's climate is generally very dry and pleasant – it's fine to visit all year round. Namibia only receives a fraction of the rain experienced by countries further east. Between about December to March some days will be humid and rain may follow, often in localised, afternoon thunderstorms. These are more common in the centre and east of the country, and more unusual in the desert. April and especially May are often lovely months in Namibia. Increasingly dry, with a real freshness in the air, and much greenery in the landscape; at this time the air is clear and largely free from dust. From June to August Namibia cools down and dries out more; nights can become cold, dropping below freezing in some desert areas. As the landscape dries so the game in the north of the country gravitates more to waterholes, and is more easily seen by visitors. By September and October it warms up again; game-viewing in most areas is at its best, although there's often a lot of dust around and the vegetation has lost its vibrancy. November is a highly variable month. Sometimes the hot, dry weather will continue, at other times the sky will fill with clouds and threaten to rain – but if you're lucky enough to witness the first rains of the season, you'll never forget the drama.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITY DURATION	2 – 5 hours per day
SEASON	June to October: Not too hot and little rain
BEST TIME TO GO	July to September
GROUP SIZE	2 - 8
EXPEDITION SCHEDULE	This is run as a private departure on dates to suit you
DIFFICULTY LEVEL	Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has a 'Medium' level (2 – 5 hours of activities per day). This means that you will need an average level of fitness.

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THE PIONEER BOOKING PROCESS

Where do you go from here?

Well, you can feel free to email us at info@pioneerexpeditions.com if you're interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world. Visit our website www.pioneerexpeditions.com to unearth all of our other equally amazing trips and destinations.

1. Contact us -

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

2. Leave everything to us -

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night's accommodation.

3. Wait for your adventure to begin -

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We'll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

If you feel like altering this itinerary to suit your personal preferences, we can arrange all of that and more – just get in contact with us and let us know your requirements and wishes. From here, we can simply tailor-make your dream holiday.

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