

# AFRICAN SAFARI TOURS

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## CULTURAL MOSAIC

Tour Code GM : Silver & Gold Class Tour

Highlights: Swakopmund, Bushman rock art in Damaraland, Himba People and Culture, Epupa Falls in Kaokoveld, Ovambo Culture, Etosha National Park.

**Day 1 : Swakopmund** This morning your journey takes you to Swakopmund, an idyllic coastal town wedged between the Atlantic Ocean and the Namib Desert. Swakopmund prides itself as being one of the most exciting activity centers in Southern Africa and will definitely spice up your first two vacation days!

**Day 2 : Swakopmund**  
Today is your day at leisure. You can spend your time shopping, walking, taking in the sight or opt for the numerous activities available in Swakopmund or Walvis Bay. Activities in Walvis Bay include amongst others marine cruises, kayaking, birding and wind surfing, whilst Swakopmund offers quad biking, desert tours, dune boarding, golfing, parachuting and scenic flights. Both towns boast a multitude of excellent restaurants that tingle your taste buds.

**Day 3 : Twyfelfontein**  
On your way to the Damaraland you can visit the largest fur seal colony in southern Africa at Cape Cross. Your lodge for the evening is situated in the heart of the Damaraland, one of Namibia's most geographically diverse areas, where game such as Rhino, Desert Elephant and Kudu roam freely. A visit to the Burnt Mountain and the Organ Pipes is particularly rewarding in the later afternoon.

**Day 4 : Damaraland**  
After breakfast visit Twyfelfontein, a national heritage site where over 2500 rock engravings and rock paintings mysteriously cover the eroded surface of a pre-historic desert – this area was inhabited by Bushmen some 6000 years ago, as it was rich in water and consequently visited by a rich diversity of game. On your way to your lodge visit the Petrified Forest interspersed with Welwitschia Plants, the oldest living desert plant on earth.

**Day 5 : Damaraland**  
Your lodge allows you a breathtaking view onto the plains of the Pro-Namib. With a network of dry riverbeds and interspersed acacia plains, this area is the preferred habitat of the Desert Elephant and the rare Black Rhino. Join the guides on an experience of a lifetime, when they track these rare animals on foot. Other options include a scenic walk or a nature drive in the area.

**Day 6 : Kaokoveld**  
This morning you travel into the rugged and unspoilt Kaokoveld, a land marked by undulating hills and open plains inhabited by the Ovahimba. These proud and statuesque people still adhere to their traditional values and cultures; over the next few days enjoy marvelous opportunities to visit one or more of the inhabited villages. At your lodge you can enjoy a 360° view and witness the most spectacular sunset as the day draws to an end.

**Day 7 : Epupa Falls**  
Traveling further North, you may encounter Springbok, Ostrich, Kudu and huge Baobab Trees that stand like giants in the midst of the Mopane Savanna. Once at the spectacular Epupa Falls, this water wonderland in an arid environment will have you gasping in awe. Your lodge is situated close to the falls themselves, which delve into a 35 meter gauge and create one of Namibia's most celebrated pictures.

**Day 8 : Epupa Falls**  
You have the day at leisure. Taking pictures of the falls are particularly rewarding during the early morning and the late evening when the low sun accentuates the gushing mist rising high into the air. Other optional activities at your lodge include scenic walks, excellent birding opportunities and canoe trips to explore this pristine area from the water.

**Day 9 : Swartbooi's Drift**  
Having taken the last scenic photographs of the falls, travel to the western corner of the Kaokoland to Swartbooi's Drift. At your lodge, situated along the banks of the Kunene River, you have yet another marvelous opportunity to experience this paradise either by canoe or on foot. Bird lovers find here a wide diversity of rare species, while you may also come across a number of Hippo's that inhabit this river.

**Day 10 : Oshakati Area**  
After breakfast you travel west via Ruacana, and enter the area locally known as the Region of the four O's. It is characterized by interspersed clumps of real fan palm trees and inhabited by the Ovambo, the largest ethnic group in Namibia. Attractions on your way include Ongulumbashe, where the first shots in Namibia's independence struggle were fired as well as a Royal King's Homestead in Tsandi.

**Day 11 : Etosha National Park**  
As you head to the Etosha National Park, your time will be devoted purely to the abundant wildlife. The park surrounds a parched salt desert known as the Etosha Pan, and is home to 4 of the Big Five - Elephant, Lion, Leopard and Rhino. The parks waterholes support a diversity of mammals and birds, including species such as black-faced Impala, cheetah, and Namibia's smallest antelope, the Damara Dik-Dik.

**Day 12 : Etosha National Park**  
Shortly after sunrise the gates to the park open up, allowing you to experience the conundrum of animals and birds greeting the new day. You have the entire day available for extensive game drives, and have ample time available to wait at a selection of waterholes for different game species coming to the water to quench their thirst. In the late afternoon you travel back to your lodge, situated in close vicinity to the park gate.

**Day 13 : Optional**  
Depart back to Windhoek for your return flight / last overnight (not included) or continue your journey into the rich water world of the Caprivi Strip.