

## **7- Day Sossusvlei, Swakopmund and Damaraland Camping Itinerary N\$12,500**

### **Day 1: Windhoek to Sesriem - 350 (217miles) (L,D)**



We start our journey with a drive south-west to the sand sea, one of the most scenic landscapes in Namibia. Coming out of the mountains we reach open plains and from here it is only a short distance to our next stop, the tiny village of Solitaire. We will stop here for some refreshments before continuing on through desert scenery.

We cross some open grass savannah and farmlands before the terrain begins to give way to the immense red sand dune desert of the Namib. We aim to arrive at our camp during the late afternoon and watch the colours glow and change on distant mountains to the east. Once we get to Sesriem, the gateway to world's largest dunes of Sossusvlei, we will set-up camp before heading to the closest dune where your guide will introduce you to what the famous Sossusvlei area is all about, and also the eco-tourism that has been at the forefront of conservation in this area.

### **Day 2: Sossusvlei; (B,L,D)**



A pre-dawn start is essential this morning as we want to catch the soft light of the sunrise from the top of Dune 45. Once all the perfect photos have been captured, we will enjoy a breakfast amongst these terrific dunes, famed for both their size and age.

We reach our final destination Sossusvlei itself 5 km (3.1miles) from our parking area, by means of a shuttle service through the dunes. The breath-taking views of the different dune formations and enjoying the changing light, coolness of the morning, and viewing the ancient mineral pans, stunted camel thorn trees and the chance of seeing a Gemsbok, Ostrich and Springbok.

We spend the morning in and around Sossusvlei and Deadvlei area, also having the opportunity to climb Big Daddy Dune, arguably the largest sand dune in the world.

As the desert warms up, we will head back to Sesriem for a delicious lunch, and some much needed time around the swimming pool. As the day cools off in the late afternoon we will take a short

excursion to the Sesriem Canyon, to catch another beautiful sunset (something you can perhaps never get tired of!)

**Day 3: Sesriem to Swakopmund - 375km (233miles) (B,L)**



Along the sand sea, via the Gaub and Kuiseb mountain passes and over the gravel plains of the Namib, we continue a scenic drive to the cosy town of Swakopmund on the mighty Atlantic Ocean.

Upon arrival we will have little time to relax we will embark on activities such as quad biking in the dunes, sand boarding, and skydiving for the adrenaline seekers, but visits to historical buildings and other monuments of interest, as well as the aquarium, and the Crystal gallery might be suited for the cultured types.

**Day 4: Swakopmund to Brandberg - 244km (152miles) (B,L,D)**



As we make our way to the Brandberg area, we'll have a quick stop to view in the distance, the massive granite boulders which are the Spitzkoppe, interesting and unique geological features on offer in the area.

**Day 5: Brandberg to Damaraland - 119km (74miles) (B,L,D)**



Today we head to the heart of the Damaraland area.

We learn of the active Volcano here, the famous Desert Elephants and their adaptation to this area as well as the Brandberg Acacia and other flora around the area

An afternoon in the... Discussion with Damara about Traditional Living at the **Living Museum**

Namibian Resources (Open Discussion)

Presentations and debate on the role and allocation of resources, such as copper,

gold, diamonds, uranium, oil, livestock

**Day 6: Damaraland, Twyfelfontein area; (B,L,D)**



Today we set out on an excursion of discovery. Massive open air gallery with more than 2000 unique rock engravings was declared as National Museum during 1952 and approved as World Heritage Site by UNESCO during 2007. We view the Ugab Terrace and Umbrella Thorn trees. It is here that your guide will provide you with a comprehensive knowledge of the Damara or Hai //Hom people, the language and ways.

With the help of the local guides we will embark on what is known as the Adam and Eve hiking excursion, the special bushman engravings.

**Day 7: Damaraland to Windhoek - 430km (267miles) (B)**



We have come to the end of our tour today and head back to Windhoek, with quick stops in Otjiwarongo, and Okahandja to browse the craft market

(B) = Breakfast

(L) = Lunch

(D) = Dinner