



### **13 Day Southern Explorer**

**2018**

The 13 Day Safari focuses on both comfort and a little adventure that begins in Johannesburg and ends in Windhoek/Namibia. The safari takes the traveller through the Great Karoo of South Africa and through the Southern Namib to Windhoek/Namibia.

The Namib Desert is nothing short of a magical experience that should be done at least once in a life time if not again. The traveller will be exposed to the heart of the Namib Desert as well as the cold Benguela current of the Atlantic Ocean.

#### **Included:**

- Professional Guide
- Air-conditioned Safari vehicle
- Accommodation as per Itinerary
- Meals as per Itinerary (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner)
- Park Entrance Fees

#### **Excluded:**

- Restaurant Meals as indicated
- Visa's, Airport Transfers, Curios and Tips
- Optional Excursions as indicated
- Beverages

#### **Day 01 Arrival (B&B) (Garden Court – Sandton)**

On arrival at O.R.Tambo International airport, your Adventour representative will meet you and transfer you to your Hotel where you will be met by your guide who will brief you. Enjoy an ice cold welcome drink and discuss with your guide the adventures that await you for the next 2 weeks.

#### **Day 02 Johannesburg (B&B) (Garden Court - Sandton)**

Enjoy this vibrant, fast-paced financial epicentre of South Africa on a fun filled day of the City and town ship tours. Choose a restaurant that will meet your every expectation or enjoy a night out at one of the many bars or clubs

#### **Day 03: Johannesburg to Kuruman. (B, D) (Red Sands Country Lodge) 572km**

An early morning start from Johannesburg and across the Northern Cape farmlands to the small town of Kuruman that boasts its own small part in History, namely "The Eye of Kuruman" and holds fantastic historical secrets of early missionary and military colonisation of the early settlers. Evidence of this can be seen in the historic buildings.

The Eye of Kuruman is a natural phenomenon that is said to deliver an astounding 20 to 30 million litres of natural spring water to the town daily and makes up an important natural resource for the town. After a short break, we continue to our overnight stop at the Red Sands Country Lodge.

**Day 04: Kuruman – Augrabies Falls. (B, D) (Chalet) 368km**

Departing our lodge after an early morning breakfast, our route is relatively short as we make our way to the Augrabies Falls where we settle at our lodge a short distance away from the Augrabies Falls on the banks of the Orange River.

A view of the falls can vary season to season based on the amount of rainfall received in the river catchment area. Either way, this is a very special site to visit.

**Day 05: Augrabies Falls – Fish River canyon (B, L, D) (Chalet) (Canyon Road House)362km**

Leaving South Africa and entering Namibia this morning, we must ensure that our passports (*Check Visa requirements*) are at hand with all relevant entry Visa's. It must be made clear that some time will be spent at the border crossing before continuing our route via Karasburg to the Fish River Canyon.

Afternoon visit at the Fish River Canyon standing over the second largest Canyon to that of the Grand Canyon can be described as a humbling awe-inspiring experience.

**Day 06: Fish River Canyon to Aus. (B, L, D) (Chalet) (Klein Aus Vista) 338km**

After an early breakfast, we take a short drive to the Canyons edge to enjoy the early morning shadows over the canyon before the route to Aus.

The Fish River Canyon is said to be the world's second largest canyon to that of the Grand Canyon. The rock faces and deep ravines were formed by water erosion and the collapse of the valley due to movements in the earth's crust over 500 million year ago. The canyon stretches 160km in length and up to 27km in width and 500m vertical drop. All this makes for a dramatic and breathtaking view.

Crossing the edge of the Kalahari and into the winter rainfall area that boasts spectacular desert flora, we arrive in Aus mid-afternoon we can take time to wander the many short hikes around the Klein-Aus Vista property or relax at the pool and take in the Desert Sunset before dinner.

**Day 07: Aus – Luderitz - Aus (B, D) (Chalet) (Klein Aus Vista) 250km**

An early morning start with a visit to the Desert Feral horses on route to Luderitz. It is said that the feral horses are descendants of the horses abandoned by the German cavalry during World War 1 or were from the horse farm from Baron von Wolff in the early colonial days, but either way, the feral horses today have uniquely adapted to the harsh desert environment.

An optional excursion on the Catamaran trip to Halifax Island to view the Jackass Penguins is a highlight of the day, but is of course weather permitting. Please pre- book this through your guide.

Kolmanskop was established in the 1920's during the diamond rush when alluvial diamonds were literally scattered across the desert ground which was known as the "forbidden Zone" The small town flourished which can still be seen today by the lavish houses, theatre and bowling alley built at

the time. Sadly, the town dwindled to a “Ghost Town, overrun by the desert after larger diamond mines took over.

After the visit to Kolmanskop, a light lunch is taken at one of the many cafes in Luderitz, before we head off back to Aus, but not before visiting Diaz Point, which is a replica of a cross planted by the Portuguese mariner – Bartholomew Diaz.

#### **Day 08: Aus - Sossusvlei (B, L, D) (Chalet) (Desert Lodge) 340km**

The Namib boasts some of the most spectacular desert scenery in the world ranging from the massive mountain ranges and the rolling linear and star dunes of the Namib Desert. The route takes us through this where we are privileged enough to say that we have been there!

Lunch is taken under one of the desert Camelthorn trees on route. The sheer expanse and silence of the Namib Desert can be deafening and is something to experience at least once in a life time.

#### **Day 09: Sossusvlei (B, L, D) (Chalet) (Desert Lodge)**

The highlight of the safari. We start off just before sunrise and travel into the Namib Dune belt to Sossusvlei. An early pre-dawn starts this morning as it is essential to catch the sunrise of the Namib dune belt. The last 5km to Sossusvlei is walked in as it's restricted to 4x4 vehicles only (4x4 shuttle to the Dead Vlei can be arranged beforehand). The walk itself is a privilege on its own where we pass dried up pans and venture over dunes to get to Sossusvlei and the Dead Vlei.

Time is spent in this area taking in the desert views and of course the Dune 45 on route back before the desert heat takes over. An afternoon lunch at the camp before we venture onto the Sesriem canyon for a lazy walk in the canyon itself.

#### **Day 10: Sossusvlei – Swakopmund (B)(Hotel) (The Delight Hotel or Similar) 136km**

A lazy morning before the short trip to the harbour town of Walvis Bay. 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 its 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 towns best restaurants.

#### **Day 11: Swakopmund (B)(Hotel) (The Delight Hotel or similar)**

The day is spent participating in any one of the available activities on offer. We do recommend taking a Catamaran tour with Sun Sail Catamaran Charters.

## Day 12: Swakopmund – Windhoek (B) (Guesthouse) (Londingini Guest House) 365km

The last day of the safari takes us to the Spitzkoppe Mountains before continuing to Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia.

## Day 13: Departure

Your guide will transfer you to Hosea Kutako International Airport for your flight home

### ***End of Adventour Services:***

#### Rates in SA Rands:

Rate Per Person 2 – 4 Pax:     \$ 2 930pp  
Rate per Person: 5 – 7+ Pax:   \$ 2 400pp

Single Supplement Per Person: \$ 135

Solo Traveller: \$ 3 730

#### **2018 Scheduled Departure Dates**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
9	6	6	3	1	12
23	20	20	17	15	26
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
10	7	4	2	13	11
24	21	18	16	27	
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On every safari to Southern Africa, it is essential to know what to pack and that you pack the correct gear so as to avoid any mishaps while on tour. Below is a guideline to some of the basic requirements.

Please remember to **NOT** pack your gear into hard cover suitcases as this is difficult to carry around and could get damaged. It's also very important to limit your luggage to the below weight limits.

Your Luggage should consist of:

- One large kit bag.
- No hard suitcases (max. weight =20 kg (44 lbs)).
- One item of hand luggage (e.g. a small backpack).

### Personal Equipment For Luxury Safaris To Southern Africa

- Passport (must be valid at least another 6 months from date of entry.)
- Warm Sleeping Bag. (Camping Safaris)
- Torch with spare batteries and globes
- Hat/Cap
- Warm Jacket
- Swimming Costume
- Natural Clothing (i.e. No bright colors)
- A pair of light weight long pants and a lightweight long sleeve shirt (to use against the sun)
- Comfortable walking shoes and strops/sandals
- Camera Equipment, Binoculars, and lots of spare memory cards & batteries
- Water bottle

### Toiletries For Luxury Safaris To Southern Africa

- Personal Toiletries in small bag, not a vanity case
- Suntan Lotion and block out for the face
- Malaria Prophylaxis. (Northern Namibia, Botswana and Kruger National Park)
- Mosquito repellent lotion/spray

### **Important Information:**

The below important information is for each traveller to read through and to understand before arriving on your African safari. Please contact Adventour consultants should there be any queries.  
African Safari Insurance (Compulsory)

All travellers booking a safari to Southern Africa must have adequate medical insurance. This is compulsory as activity providers on safari may refuse participation of activities without proper insurance in place. Should you not have medical insurance you may be required to pay cash before being airlifted should this become necessary.

### ***Health***

Please note that we need to be informed of any pre-existing health conditions such as diabetes or asthma or any other condition that requires prescription medicine. Please note that Adventour or any of its travel partners will not be held liable or responsible for damage or loss to such medication and the safe-keeping of such medication must be looked after by its respective user.

### ***Diet Requirements:***

In order for Adventour and its travel partners to properly cater whilst on tour, it is important to inform us at the point of booking should there be any special dietary requirement.

## ***Visas***

As visa requirements vary considerably from country to country and nationality to nationality, please contact the various embassies or a visa service agent in your home country to re-check your visa requirements at least 4 weeks prior to travelling.

Please note that visas are the responsibility of the traveller and that Adventour or its partners will not be held responsible for guests being denied entry should they not be in the possession of the relevant visas.

PLEASE NOTE: Should the adventure tour you are joining be re-entering a country, be sure to have a multiple entry visa that enables you to re-enter the country.

All travellers must be in possession of a valid onward/return air ticket or proof of other means of transport enabling the traveller to leave the country in which your adventure tour passes or terminates. You should also have proof of sufficient funds (e.g. credit card) to see you through your time in the country.