OFFROAD TOURS & SAFARIS

Guided Self Drive - Camping Safari through Namibia ‘Sperrgebiet’(forbidden zone) - Atlantic Coast - Namib Desert

Dates: On request

Day 1) After arrival in Windhoek take over your rental car. Shopping for the tour and departure towards the south to Harry’s Farm, approx 160 Km. There is a large camping place with a view over the dam and an ‘island-bar’

Day 2) We shall explore the area on farm drives, which also serves as excellent training in off-road driving and to get to know the vehicle.

Day 3) We leave Harry’s Farm to Betta where we are able to fill up petrol for the last time before entering the concession area of the Sperrgebiet (forbidden zone) This is a pristine and uninhabited wilderness landscape. The route leads to Farm Springbokvlakte, which borders the park, through scenic landscapes which sports a variety of antelopes and other desert game. We camp on the edge of a valley next to an imposing granite hill in the middle of the wilderness.

Day 4) Today the real adventure starts. The route leads westwards to a bulldozer which was used for Diamond prospecting and was left behind in the desert. From here we turn north-westwards through captivating dune landscapes until we reach the Atlantic coast, where we shall camp in the wilderness again.

Day 5&6) We drive along the beach until Reutersbrunn at the southern end of Meob bay. We will notice a few trawlers which were used by diamond prospectors to transport their valuable findings ashore. Along the way we shall view old horse carriages and deserted mining villages like Grillenberg and Charlotenburg. We turn further north-eastwards into the dune belt where we camp between the dunes for the next two nights.

Day 6&7) The Namib Desert offers a personal challenge for any serious all-wheel enthusiast. Driver and vehicle will be highly stressed during this trip. We drive over and along high sand dunes and spot the Tsodab Vlei (pan) from the distance with its large grassy plains between the dunes. Again our camp is erected under a clear & sparkling african sky, which allows for excellent stargazing.

Day 9) This extraordinary wilderness safari which leads us through unexplored desert landscapes of the ‘Sperrgebiet’, ends at the small town of Solitaire. The former forbidden diamond area (Sperrgebiet) has only recently been made accessible to the public (i.e. operators). Offroad Tours & Safaris is the only safari operator with a concession to operate safaris in this specific region.

An extension programme to the northern part of Namibia is offered on request (see suggestive itinerary below).
9 Days Sperrgebiet – Desert Safari
ZAR/N$16800 per Person (Rates 2009/2010)

Included: 9 days tour with a rental vehicle inclusive of standard insurance, camping equipment, Leading vehicle with guide(s) and radio transmitter, all meals on tour, entrance permits, camping fees, rental vehicle with unlimited km (Toyota Hilux 2.7i Double Cab or Nissan DBL Cab 2.4) Fee for second driver, 2 spare tires, tool kit, cleaning of vehicle after the tour; capacity of petrol tank = 150L;
Excluded: Petrol, own drinks, accommodation in Windhoek after the tour.
The excess of ZAR/N$20 000 for the rental vehicle which includes standard insurance has to be guaranteed by credit card: Following extra payable amounts reduce the excess
Excess reduction to N$10 000 – pay ZAR/N$120 per day extra (netto). No excess (i.e. full insurance inclusive of tires and windscreen cover) – pay ZAR/N$250 per day extra (netto) (however, it excludes gross negligence)

Please note: Please note: Due to the nature of this adventure trip we reserve the right to stay flexible in the routing at all times. If changes due to weather, road-conditions or vehicle problems are necessary, the itinerary may be adjusted during the trip.

Price if guests take part on safari as passenger (i.e. on guided basis): ZAR 9000.- pp

Suggestion for extension trip: 8 days (7 nights)
Travel from Solitaire to the popular seaside resort town of Swakopmund (o/n at a guesthouse for 2 nights) and than carry on into the Damaraland. At Cape Cross turn into the rocky desert region, passed the Messum crater and the Gobobseb Mountains. The area is very scenic and dotted with ancient welwitchia, hoodia and euphorbia plants. We also meet local small miners who prospect semi precious minerals like amethyst, tourmaline, and prenite und rose quartz. We carry on further northwards through the dry river beds of the Ugab and the Huab River where desert elephants are a common occurrence. Near Twyelffontein we overnight at Camp Xaragu. From Khorixas we depart back to Windhoek where the last night is spent in a guesthouse.

Price per person (on guided self-drive basis): ZAR/N$18000 pp
Price if guests take part on safari as passenger (i.e. on guided basis): ZAR/N$ 9000.- pp

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