



Bike-Adventure in the wilderness of Namibia

Namibia's Capital Windhoek

Arrival – City tour - relaxation

The Dunes of Sossusvlei

The ultimate desert experience

Namib Naukluft National Park

exciting mountain trails

Huab Wilderness Adventure

Secluded trails in Damaraland

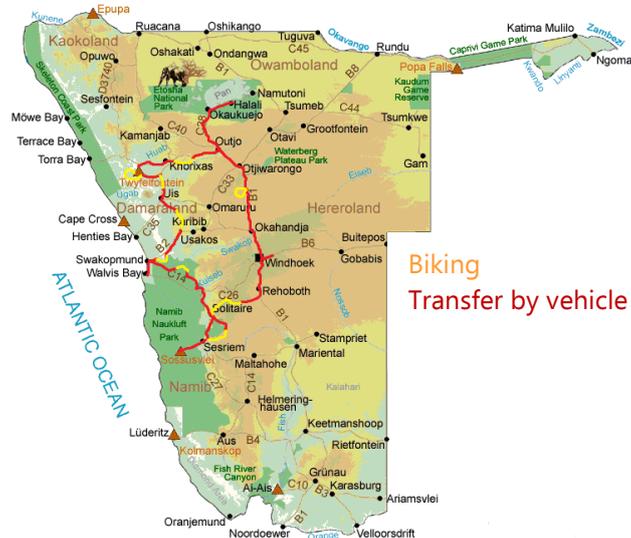
Safari in Etosha National Park

World famous game park



MOUNTAIN BIKE NAMIBIA

Namibia Classic Bike Tour 2019 / 14 days (13 nights)



Namibia is a country of breath-taking landscapes and untouched nature with endless roads and trails. With Mountain Bike Namibia, visitors have the opportunity, to explore the country, meet its people and see the sights from the saddle of their bikes. From good gravel roads to adventurous nature trails, we have something in store for everyone depending on your taste for adventure, degree of challenge and performance.

The sun's rays light up the dunes of the Namib Desert in a play of light and shadows. Rare plants burrow their roots deep into the Namibian soil in search of precious moisture. The quietness and isolation in nature satisfy our need for endless horizons and solitude. We experience the barren beauty of the desert landscape full of contrasts from the saddle of our bikes. We are fascinated by the huge red dunes of Sossusvlei, the deserted beaches along the Atlantic Ocean, the endless horizons of the savanna and the mountain ranges with bizarre rock formations. Nature provides the backdrop for an unforgettable adventure and Mountain Bike Namibia adds the colours.

NAMIBIA CLASSIC bike tour Highlights

- The Auas Mountains near Windhoek
- The Khomas Hochland
- The Naukluft- and Zebra-Mountains
- The dunes and gravel plains of the Namib Desert
- Blutkoppe, the Moon-landscape and Spitzkoppe
- The Brandberg-Mountain area-the highest mountain in Namibia
- Damaraland
- Game drives in the Etosha National Park
- Biking in search of wild animals at Otjiwa Game Ranch

Itinerary:

Day 1

(-/-/-)

Arrive in Windhoek

Guests and bicycles are transferred to a guestfarm on the outskirts of Windhoek. The afternoon is spent relaxing, assembling the bicycles and testing equipment. If there is time we do a short test ride at the foot of the Auas Mountains and we explore the historic and cultural highlights of Namibian capital on a city tour. We visit buildings like the Christ Church, Tintenpalast (German for Ink Palace – the house of parliament) and "Alte Feste" where the German colonial past is clearly visible. We enjoy dinner at the well-known Joe's Beerhouse.

Accommodation: Vineyard Country Lodge

Day 2

(B/-/D)

Windhoek – Namibgrens Guestfarm on the edge of the Namib escarpment

We depart from Windhoek and travel westwards into the great outdoors. We continue through the Khomas Hochland to reach the Rantberg Mountains on the edge of the Namib Desert. We bike a good gravel road to reach Namibgrens Guestfarm, with its many granite hills and enjoyable biking trails. In the afternoon we bike the jeep trails to view the many highlights on the farm and we get to enjoy this large biking playground all to ourselves.

Cycle duration: 2- 3 h, distance: 30- 40 km, altitude difference: 150 m

Accommodation: Namibgrens Gästefarm

Day 3

(B/-/D)

Over the Remhoogte or Spreetshoogte Pass to the Tsauchab River Camp between the Zaris and Naukluft Mountains

Our bike route takes us along the escarpment and down a mountain pass into the Namib Desert. The lesser travelled Remhoogte Pass takes us on a gradual downhill ride through valleys of unique flora and at times baboons, kudu and oryx antelope. Alternatively, the Spreetshoogte Pass is steeper and has better views. We stop for a picnic lunch before driving to the Tsauchab River Camp with its views of two unique Namibian mountain ranges towering above. We find our bungalows under the fig trees in this pristine nature area. In the afternoon we may choose to bike up the nearby sundowner hill or go and relax at the desert swimming pool and take it easy.

Cycle duration: 3- 4 h, distance: 40- 50 km, altitude difference: 300 m

Accommodation: Tsauchab River Camp

Day 4

(B/-/-)

Tsauchab River – Sesriem

Today we enjoy a true mountain bike adventure into the Zaris/Zebra Mountains. We depart from our camp to ride on jeep tracks into the mountainous home of the Hartmans Mountain Zebra. Along the way we enjoy some challenging terrain, rugged tracks and exciting downhills. The highlights include views over the desert plains below and if we are lucky, herds of mountain zebra on more than one occasion. After this exhilarating adventure, we drive for an hour to reach Sesriem, the gateway to Sossusvlei, for an early lunch. We enjoy an excursion with our safari vehicle 60 km into the dune sea to reach Sossusvlei dune which we may climb. The scene is one of breath-taking beauty with huge dunes as far as the eye can see. Our journey then continues north to Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge.

Cycle duration: 3- 4 h, distance: 30- 40 km, altitude difference: 400 m

Accommodation: Rostock Ritz Desert Lodge

Day 5

(B/-/-)

Via Blutkoppe to Swakopmund

We depart in our tour vehicle to reach the northern part of the Namib Naukluft Park, where we enjoy a picnic lunch under the Acacia trees. We embark on an afternoon cycle on a trail that takes us through a boulder strewn area and along the grassy plains of the pre-Namib. It is a scenic route and we have a good chance of viewing ostriches, springbok, oryx antelope, mountain zebra and other desert adapted animals all the way till we reach the Blutkoppe granite inselberg. We load our bikes for the final drive to Swakopmund. We book into

our comfortable hotel and look forward to some great seafood.

Cycle duration: 1- 2 h, distance: 20- 30 km, altitude difference: 200 m

Accommodation: Swakopmund Plaza Hotel

Day 6

(B/-/-)

Swakopmund

After breakfast, we depart to Walvis Bay and undertake an adventurous morning catamaran trip on the Atlantic Ocean. This enjoyable and eco-friendly excursion takes us within metres of the seals, pelicans, two different species of dolphin and a variety of different sea birds. On our return to Swakopmund we have an afternoon to enjoy this historically interesting town with some great shops, a museum and various other adventure activities to choose from. The daily scenic flight over the Namib sand sea all the way to Sossusvlei, is a great way to experience the Namib Desert from above and departs every afternoon from the Swakop airport.

Accommodation: Swakopmund Plaza Hotel

Day 7

(B/L/D)

Spitzkoppe

We transfer by vehicle to the edge of the Swakop Canyon and the Moon Landscape, unique to this area. We cycle through the side canyons of the Swakop River viewing unique flora and fauna to reach the Goanikontes Oasis for lunch. We continue in our safari vehicle to the Spitzkoppe area and cycle the final 30 km to our campsite at the foot of this beautiful solid granite inselberg, known as the 'Matterhorn' of Namibia.

Cycle duration: ca. 3- 4 h, distance: 40- 50 km, altitude difference: 200 m

Accommodation: Spitzkoppe, Camping

Day 8

(B/L/D)

Brandberg White Lady, camping at the Brandberg

The Spitzkoppe Inselberg and surrounding granite mountains are unique to the central Namib Desert. One could spend a few days here, exploring, climbing and studying the interesting fauna and flora. We enjoy an early breakfast in the shadow of the Spitzkoppe. We depart on our bikes on a route that takes us around the Spitzkoppe and onto a dirt road towards Uis and the Brandberg Mountain, Namibia's largest mountain at 2573 meters above sea level. We drive the remaining kilometres to the Ugab River, an ephemeral river that is home to a few small herds of the desert-adapted elephants. Our campsite under the Ana trees is the ideal starting point for a walk down the river with views of the Brandberg and its many gorges.

Cycle duration: 3- 4 h, distance: 30- 40 km, altitude difference: 220 m

Accommodation: Brandberg White Lady Lodge, Camping

Day 9

(B/L/D)

Madisa camping near Twyfelfontein

The Brandberg is famous for the many bushman paintings found here, one of the most famous of these being the White lady of the Brandberg. We break camp and cycle a route that takes us across the Ugab River on dirt roads and trails towards Sorris Sorris. From here we continue in our tour vehicle to reach the sandstone and granite hills south of Twyfelfontein. We bike the final kilometres into our camp hidden amongst the granite boulders. The area is home to the Damara ethnic group. We can meet these friendly people and learn about their culture. Our camp is near the Aba-Huab river which at certain times of the year is home to small herds of elephant or sometimes lonesome bulls in search of something to eat and a little shade.

Cycle duration: 3- 4 h, distance: 30- 45 km, altitude difference: 180 m

Accommodation: Madisa Camp, Camping

Day 10**(B/L/D)****Biking in Damaraland**

We depart from our camp along a gravel road to reach a trail that takes us deep into an untouched nature area leading to Doros Crater and the Skeleton Coast to the west. We enter rocky hills, home to a large variety of unique plants and trees and an even more fascinating geology. The sandstone mountains that surround us are the result of a powerful geological event that happened millions of years ago, turning a sand desert into a wonderland of petrified stone dunes. To the north, the volcanic mountains of the Etendeka Plateau and to the south the towering Brandberg massif, Namibia's highest mountain, watch over our progress through the hills and valleys.

If we are lucky, we may meet mountain zebra, oryx, ostrich and giraffe along the way, all depends on how good a rainy the previous summer brought the thirsty Namib Desert. Our scenic round trip brings us to burnt mountain and the organ pipes from where we visit the famous World Heritage Site at Twyfelfontein, home to a large variety of fascinating bushman engravings. After an interesting walk at the "Louvre" of Damaraland, we enjoy a sleepy drive back to our comfortable camp site under the Mopane trees to enjoy the final rays of the afternoon sun from atop an easy to climb sundowner hill.

Cycle duration: 3 - 5 h, distance: 35- 55 km, altitude difference: 60 m

Accommodation: Madisa Camp, Camping

Day 11 + 12**(B/-/D)****Etosha National Park**

After many days in the Namib Desert of western Namibia, our journey takes us eastwards via Khorixas to the Ugab Terraces and the Vingerklip. We bike this "Marlboro Country" along the banks of the Ugab River with views of the sedimentary rock formations created millions of years ago, one of the most unique one's being the finger like rock protrusion called the "Finger Rock". After lunch at the Vingerklip Lodge, we transfer by vehicle to the border of the Etosha National Park. Etosha is one of the most special game parks in Southern Africa and is over 22000 Sq. Km in size. Etosha means "great white place" and refers to the huge 5000 Sq. Km salt pan that gives its name to the park. The park is teeming with different animal species, including lion, rhino and elephants. The landscape is also very special and different to what we have experienced on our tour thus far. No visit to Namibia is complete without spending two days at Etosha. We overnight in comfortable bungalows and spend our time on game drives to find the many animals that are found here.

Cycle duration: 2 h, distance: 20-30 km, altitude difference: 190 m

Accommodation: Taleni Etosha Village or similar

Day 13**(B/-/D)****Otjiwa Game Ranch**

We depart from Etosha to travel via Otjiwarongo to a game/wildlife ranch in the central north of Namibia. After lunch and a siesta, we are taken on our final biking adventure. The hard Kalahari sands of this bush savannah are ideal to bike on and we go in search of the many different wild animals found here, including the rare white rhinoceros, giraffe and various different antelope. It is an experience that combines riding bikes on good jeep tracks and at the same time finding and viewing animals in their natural habitat, the African bush. Our final sundowner in Africa is enjoyed at the lodge before a fine dinner under the stars.

Cycle duration: 1- 2 h, distance: 10- 20 km, altitude difference: 100 m

Accommodation: Otjiwa Game Ranch

Day 14**(B/-/-)****Departure**

In the morning we can consider a walk in this lovely area or another outing on our mountain bikes. We then travel via the well-known wood carvers market at Okahandja to Windhoek and the International Airport. If there is time, we will include a short tour of the capital city, home to over 400 000 Namibians.



Tour dates 2019 (from/to Windhoek):

- 20 April to 03 May 2019
- 13 July to 26 July 2019
- 21 September to 04 October 2019
- 26 October to 08 November 2019

Price from/to Windhoek:

Per person sharing ZAR 51'400

(approx. CHF 3'870 or approx. EUR 3'340)*

Single supplement ZAR 5'850

(approx. CHF 440 or approx. EUR 380)*

Mountain Bike Rental ZAR 6'000 (Scott Spark 960 full suspension MTB with 29-inch rims)

(approx. CHF 450 or approx. EUR 390)*

* with exchange rate in July 2018

Participants minimum 4 and maximum 12

Tour dates 2020 (from/to Windhoek):

- 18 April to 01 May 2020
- 27 June to 10 July 2020
- 19 September to 02 October 2020
- 31 October to 13 November 2020

The rates for these departures will be published during 2019.

Included

- Meals and accommodations as stated (or similar)
- Mineral water
- Activities as stated
- Park entrance fees
- Professional Tour guide with additional driver / camp assistant
- 4x4-Landcruiser or VW Crafter/Combi with bike trailer for the transport of the bikes
- Fuel
- 9 nights Lodge/Hotel and 4 nights camping
- Comfortable tents including bedroll with towel, camping equipment

Excluded

- Flights
- Tips and Souvenirs
- Own drinks
- Meals not mentioned
- activities not included in the above program
- Mountain Bike
- Bike-helmet

Please note

Accommodations are subject to change.

General Information:

The concept of our NAMIBIA CLASIC BIKE tour is designed in such a way that our guests get their money's worth. Namibia is a Huge country and during our two weeks tour we cover up to 2000 km. The trip is planned in such a way that you can cycle the most beautiful sections, thus avoiding long hours spend in the vehicle and spending more time on the bike in the great outdoors. We are daily looking forward to place of interest.

Level of difficulty:

The bike tour is divided into 2 difficulty levels:

Level 1 – Beginners

Level 2 – Intermediate biking experience

Our two weeks NAMIBIA CLASSIC BIKE tour is an interesting mixture of both difficulty levels. This allows experienced bikers to enjoy this tour with family or friends who have a different level of biking experience and fitness. Guest with less experience can ride as far as they can and then load the bike onto the trailer and continue in the vehicle. The support vehicle is always at hand, should you require assistance.

Fixed departure dates and individually planned bike tours:

For the NAMIBIA CLASSIC BIKE Tour there are four fixed departure dates. The exact dates and travel itinerary can be found on our website: www.mountainbikenamibia.com.

Alternatively, we can work out a tailor-made tour for you, depending on your time available, level of difficulty, standard of the accommodation and the travel route.

Travel service, vehicle and equipment

The NAMIBIA CLASSIC BIKE tour will be guided by an experienced bike guide. On most of the biking sections the guide will be joining you on his bike. A tour assistant will drive the support vehicle and on camping nights will build up the camp.

The NAMIBIA CLASSIC BIKE tour is ideal for groups with 4 to 12 participants. For smaller groups a Toyota Landcruiser 4x4 will be used, however for larger groups we use a 14-seater VW Crafter.

Our Scott Bikes, Model 960 (or alternatives with comparable quality standards) are equipped with 29-inch rims and full suspension and are regularly serviced and in excellent condition. These bikes are suitable for our local conditions. All bikes are equipped with tubeless tires, which are resilient and perfect for the local terrain. We leave nothing to change, to ensure our guest have the ultimate biking experience. Specially designed trailers for transporting the bikes warrant easy loading and have enough space for other equipment and luggage.

Scott 960 Model with 29-inch rims (our rental bike)

Tour Operator in Namibia:

Namibia Individual Travel cc

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