# The Best of Namibia

14 days / 13 nights

This motorbike tour will take you on paths and roads, into the most beautiful parts of the country towards the Angolan border and Atlantic Ocean.

Experience the Etosha National Park with all its fauna and flora and thanks to your local guide the encounters are likely to be numerous!

It is important to note that this route involves passages on complex paths. Therefore, this trip is only available for solo riders on a motorbike.

The 4X4 is an option for those who want to discover this magnificent route without being encumbered by their luggage.

Tour Extension Victoria Falls & Chobe riverHow to prepare your stay

# YOUR PROGRAM

# Day 1 - Welcome to Windhoek

On arrival at the Hosea Kutako International Airport, you will be transferred to the city centre to retrieve your motorcycle.

Then, you will be taken to your Boutique Hotel with a guide, and depending on the time available, you will be offered Havana area's tour.

This will allow you to discover its atypical districts, a completely different vision of Windhoek, in complete safety with your host.

You will have a dinner in Joe's Beer House restaurant.

Spend your first night in a boutique hotel in Windhoek, handpicked by us.

# Day 2 - A motorbike ride in the middle of wild animals

After breakfast, you will join a private reserve that you can cross by motorbike.

A real paradise and a home to many species of animals and birds, enjoy a quiet slow walk among gazelles, antelopes and rhinos supervised by a local guide, who will make sure that the animals are respected.

You also can experience a safari (optional), or simply an aperitif at sunset while observing the wildlife...

Approximately 215 km (3 hours' drive).

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Spend the night in a lodge.

# Day 3 - Etosha National Park

This is the epitome of experiences for nature lovers and all things wild animals!

Depart at 5:30 am for an exceptional sunrise experience, with a tracker guide.

After breakfast, we will leave for the most popular place in Namibia, the Etosha National Park.

This former hunting reserve from the time of the Germans is now a unique area, where hundreds of species of mammals and birds live in the wild.

While on Safari (included) you will have up close and almost personal experiences with the wild animals, feel your adrenaline pump as you may even witness a hunt in real life. At nightfall, you will reach your camp which is located a few meters from the entrance of the park.

This camp has a wonderful bush styled restaurant and bar, you will relax into the evening with some local musicians and wind down to the friendly atmosphere.

Approximately 310 km (4 hours 5 minutes' drive).

Have a dinner and spend a night in a camp near the entrance of Etosha.

# Day 4 - The Ondangwa region

Today, your itinerary will take you to an area where the wildlife is much less wild than in the old days. Travel through dramatic scenery of the Kaoko and Damara regions.

The almost untouched local culture in the surrounding areas is balanced with the lively markets and the vibrant culture. Watch out for cows, goats and other donkeys that might cross the road right in front of you. A small section of difficult track awaits you for a few hundred meters at the end of the stage.

This track will take you to Ovamboland, north of Etosha Park. An area that is run in a unique way compared to the rest of the country, with its own form of traditional authorities. The people that live here come from a traditional farming or a modern mining background.

You will spend the night in traditional huts, where you will try your hand at making traditional food and drinks. This is a one of a kind experience that not a lot of people get a chance to do!

You will also see other handicrafts such as basketry and pottery.

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Approximately 215 km (3 hours 30 minutes' drive).

# Day 5 - Heading for Angola

And off we go on a route that crosses the Outapi which is mainly known for the Ombalantu baobab tree or the tree of life. A giant tree 28metres tall and almost just as wide in the trunk, standing strong for over 800 years old! Did you know that this magnificent hollow tree has housed a post office, a prison, a bar and even a church! You will believe it when you see it!

Further on, near the Kunene river gorges, you will visit a traditional Ovambo house. Built within a homestead that is fenced in by wooden poles. These round houses are a myriad of palisades and passages and each section of the homestead has a function. Another, one of a kind experience!

Night in a camp, for a moment as close as possible to nature!

Approximately 225 km (3hours 30minutes'drive).

# Day 6 - Free day at Ruacana

Today is laundry day! ... just kidding. It is actually an awesome opportunity to discover the surroundings of the Kunene River, empty the sand out of your riding boots and dip into the pool or go exploring a Himba village.

It's up to you to see what you want to do, knowing that you will have to travel 300 km the next day.

# Day 7 - Meeting the Ovahimbas

Regarded as the last (semi-) nomadic people of Namibia, live in homesteads where crops are cultivated, moving annually following rainfalls and access to water.

The Himbas – a people who were persecuted in the 19th century by German settlers-are a major part of the history's country that you will be exposed to on this day.

These majestic and elegant people are a cult of beauty covered in ochre-colored dirt. The tall slender women cover themselves in this dirt to protect their skin from the sun and insects while the men adorn themselves with creative and statement hairstyles symbolising their masculinity.

Discover the Himba village and its people, before joining your evening stopover at Kaokoland, in Onjowewe. The road goes along the Etosha park whose fence is regularly destroyed by elephants, so don't be surprised to come across all kinds of animals...

Approximately 300 km (4 hours' drive).

Spend a night in the middle of nature with a unique accommodation.

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# Day 8 - Transition to Otjiwarongo

This quiet day allows you to take your time in preparation for the long stage of the following day.

Enjoy the swimming pool or discover the cheetah rescue centre nearby. It is also possible to do a short detour to the township of Otjiwarongo. Your guide has family there!

Your evening accommodation is comfortable, air-conditioned, and perfect for resting.

About 205 km (2 hours 45 minutes' drive).

The possibilities to have pleasant discoveries on a day like today is pretty good.

#### Day 9 - Spitzkoppe- The Matterhorn of Africa

The road is long and passes by the Otjiwarongo township.

A visit to a nursery school is possible if you wish (please let us know in advance) and the children will be delighted to welcome you.

You will continue on a combined ride of gravel roads and tarmac roads for the rest of the route which will take you to the Spitzkoppe massif. One of Namibia's most recognized landmarks. Located between the Namib desert, Swapkopmund and Usakos, these granite rock formations are shaped like a sharp head, thus its name.

Ancient Bushman artworks can be seen in the company of a local guide who will be happy to explain them to you.

At the foot of these artistic mountains, will be comfortable tents waiting to welcome you for the night.

Approximately 300 km (4 hours' drive).

#### Day 10 - From Windhoek to Atlantic

You start your trip heading towards the Atlantic Ocean. Cross the tracks of the Namib Desert towards Swakopmund – a German town stuck in time where you can discover a very complete historical museum on all things culture, fauna, flora, geology and everything that's gives you a snapshot of what Namibia is all about.

Take a detour to a moonlike landscape in the Namib Desert, where you can admire plants that are more than 1500 years old.

You continue to Walvis Bay, the first port of the country which lives by the rhythm of the ocean and fishing. If you arrive early, you can enjoy the lagoon where flamingos, pelicans and even sea lions can be found.

Approximately 195 km (2 hours 30 minutes' drive).

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Spend a night at the hotel on the Walvis Bay's lagoon.

# Day 11 - Discovery of Walvis Bay

A great day to discover Namibian coastal nature! Early in the morning, you embark on a boat to visit the dolphins and seals of Walvis Bay.

After having captured as many pictures as you can, you will disembark on a deserted beach where a 4WD will be waiting to pick you up.

A generous picnic will follow, after which you will reach the wild creek of Sandwich Harbour located between a bay and a lagoon. Known for its birdlife, historical whaling station and small-scale fishing. Look out for the solo standing managers house of an ambitious project that went bust!

The superb Walvis coastline will leave you with great memories...

Return to your hotel around 4pm.

Spend the night in the same hotel as the day before.

# Day 12 - The Gamsberg Mountains

Today you will explore the Gamsberg pass, one of the highest and longest roads of Namibia at an elevation of 2.347m (7,770ft) above the sea level.

The route was chosen for its superb landscapes in the middle of immense open spaces.

You are now in the heart of wild Namibia as you have never seen it before. Due to its elevation and the fact that you can overlook the Kuiseb River in the valley below, makes it one of the most scenic routes for any adventure rider or avid 4x4 enthusiast. This is the Garden Route of Namibia.

Your goal at the end of the stage is a beautiful farmhouse, on a plateau of one of the highest Namibian mountains.

Activities ranging from geological excursions to bushmen art and farm life will be offered on site.

About 210 km (4 hours' drive).

20% road and 80% paths.

#### Day 13 - Back to Windhoek

This is your one-way ticket back towards Windhoek, your last ride back will be an fun and memorable one that takes you back to the capital and ends there.

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You will spend your last night in Namibia enjoying this beautiful city.

About 175 km (3 hours' drive).

Night in Windhoek is in a handpicked Boutique Hotel.

# Day 14 - End of trip

Leave your metal steeds behind today for the airport transfers according to your departure schedule.

End of your trip at the airport.

# Additional information

# TARIFFS

Price from 4199 euros per person.

# OPTIONS

Option Duo with Pillion

(included Royal Enfield 500cc) : 1 euros per person. Option Duo / pers.

(included Royal Enfield 500cc) : 230 euros per person. Option Solo in Shared Hosting / pers.

(included Royal Enfield 500cc) : 230 euros per person. Option Solo (individual room) / pers.

(included Royal Enfield 500cc) : 650 euros per person. /!\ SELECT ONE OF THE ABOVE OPTIONS /!\

INCLUDED - a motorbike type Royal Enfield 500cc

/!\ EXTRA CHARGE /!\ CHOOSE ANOTHER BIKE THAN THE ROYAL ENFIELD 500 CC : 1 euros per person. Rental of a motorbike type BMW 800GS Adventure

: 800 euros per person. Rental of a motorbike type Honda Africa Twin

: 900 euros per person. Rental of a motorbike type BMW 1200GS Adventure

: 1200 euros per person.

Rental of a 4WD vehicle : 1799 euros per person.

A return-flight with stopover (subject to availability at the time of booking) / pers. : 750 euros per person. Extension to Victoria Falls, Houseboat cruise and photo safari in the Chobe Reserve

(5 days / 4 nights) / pers.

: 2999 euros per person.

# INCLUDED

Airport reception and airport-city center transfers Accommodation in a double room with breakfasts Eleven dinners A local English-speaking tour guide A following assistance vehicle A boat tour of Walvis Bay A 4WD trip to Sandwich Harbour A visit of the Himba Village A guided afternoon safari in Etosha Park A motorbike Safari in a private reserve Be near to rhinos with a tracking guide The traditional Ovambo house tour

# NOT INCLUDED

Rental a 4WD Drinks and alcohol Optional visits (in the description) Helmets and personal equipment

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Rental of GPS Cancellation and repatriation insurance (compulsory)

# LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

This trip is designed for people who are used to travelling by motorcycle and ready to adapt to all situations. An international driving license is required.

# CARRYING

Luggage transfer to the assistance vehicle.

# ACCOMMODATION

In double room in hotels, lodges or 4\*\*\*\* cottages

# DEPARTURES

December to March - this is summer, the only time when you can expect a storm at the end of the day to cool the atmosphere. The vegetation turns into a lush green.

April to May - rains might still occur. The temperatures slowly start to drop.

June to September it is winter in Namibia. No more rain (except for in the winter rain areas). Temperatures in the day are moderate to warm. The nights are severely cold, in the inland and desert overnight frost occurs. The vegetation changes from green to brown.

October and November see an increase in temperature, and it gets hot again. They have the "little rainy season" which brings a most welcome end to the long dry day.

The country enjoys an average of 300 days of sunshine per year. This exceptional climate makes it possible to visit it in all seasons.

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# DEPARTURE

Airport of Windhoek

DISPERSION Airport of Windhoek

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This route is not possible for two people on the motorbike. Accompanying persons must rent a 4X4.

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