

## 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS NAMIBIA DESERTS & CANYONS

Duration : 8 nights / 9 Days  
Minimum : 2 adults

Arrival flights on the day of tour departure to be no later than 09h00

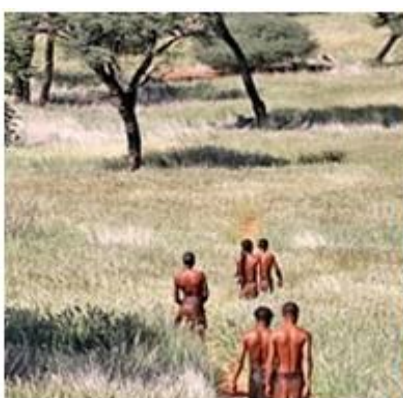
Same day flight departures out of Windhoek International are only possible after 19h00

Scheduled departure dates

Alternative accommodation may be used

### DAY 1 / Saturday KALAHARI DESERT

Leaving Windhoek, we travel into the largest sand mass on Earth, the **Kalahari Desert**. The Kalahari is a vast semi-desert of wind-blown sand held by a sparse mantle of thorn scrub making it the most extensive continuous stretch of sand covering 9 African countries. Unlike other true deserts, the Kalahari does receive erratic rainfall. For many therefore "thirstland" is a more fitting description. Lacking permanent surface water, the Kalahari is a challenging place to live except for those who have adapted to not only survive but flourish here. The Bushmen refer to it as the "Soul of the World", an emotive description for this area! With its deep red dunes and endless grass plains interspersed with acacia's and shrubs, it is still home to a surprisingly large amount of specially adapted wildlife. Enjoy the opportunity to experience the red dunes, wildlife and plants, in this desert environment on an optional nature drive Overnight at **Intu Afrika Collection**



### DAY 2 / Sunday FISH RIVER CANYON

We continue south through arid and extensive rocky plains. Visiting the unique Garas quiver tree forest you are welcomed by quirky human-made sculptures of scrap metal which set a contrast to this serene, timeless space with Quiver trees and aloes nestled amongst huge dolerite boulders, stacked mysteriously, the area is also aptly referred to as "Giant's Playground". We continue to our lodge, situated in close vicinity to the Fish River Canyon. Here we can explore the area on foot or an optional guided nature drive in the later afternoon highlighting the Quiver trees, rugged landscape and impressive sweeping rock formations. Overnight at **Canyon Village – Breakfast**



### Day3 / Monday LÜDERITZ

Our morning starts on the edge of the **Fish River Canyon** where we gaze into this magnificent geological phenomenon. The Fish River Canyon is located in the northern part of the Nama Karoo and is the second largest canyon on earth, featuring a gigantic ravine that measures in total about 160 km long, up to 27 km wide and in places almost 550 meters deep. The Fish River is the longest interior river found in Namibia, but its current flow is just a drop compared

with the immense volume of water that poured down its length in ages past. We continue our journey past the Naute dam, where we shortly stop at the Naute Kristall Cellar and Distillery, to optionally taste some of the unique liquors or enjoy a delicious cup of coffee. Proceeding onwards we head towards the coastal town of Lüderitz. On the way to Lüderitz, we stop at Garub, viewing point for the **Wild Horses of the Namib Desert**. Overnight at **Nest Hotel - Breakfast**



**DAY 4 / Tuesday** **LÜDERITZ**

Our morning starts with a visit to **Kolmanskop** ghost town. Kolmanskop is a deserted Diamond Mining Town in the Sperrgebiet National Park. Once an opulent and decadent town, a monument to the Diamond boom and built to last...until the diamonds ran out. Today Kolmanskop stands as a haunting monument to the thriving past, offering visitor's unique photo motives into a bygone era. On our return to town, we visit **Diaz Point** with its Padrao on a cliff overlooking the harsh Atlantic Ocean commemorating the initial Portuguese explorers and explore the desolate coast. Arriving back in Lüderitz we explore this small, historic town. Overnight at **Nest Hotel - Breakfast**

**Day 5 / Wednesday** **NAMIB DESERT**

After an early breakfast, we travel across vast open plains north along with the Tiras Mountain range to our lodge in the Namib Desert. We are located close to Sesriem the gateway to **Sossusvlei, Dead Vlei and Sesriem Canyon**, with some of the highest dunes on Earth towering over the white desert plains. The afternoon can be spent relaxing at the sparkling pool, enjoying the vast open desert plains, or taking part in optional activities offered at the lodge. Overnight at **The Elegant Desert Lodge – Breakfast**



**DAY 6 / Thursday** **NAMIB DESERT**

The morning demands an early start. Entering the Namib Naukluft National Park with sunrise, the first rays of sunlight paint the mountains of sand into a variety of apricot, red and orange, contrasted against a crisp blue skyline, enrapturing our senses, and providing an opportunity to capture this impressive landscape on film. You will be captivated by the surreal **Deadvlei** surrounded by some of the highest dunes on earth and **Sossusvlei**, where the dry Tsauchab River ends abruptly amongst dunes. Take the opportunity to walk up one of these majestic dunes to admire the desert landscape beneath. After that, we visit the **Sesriem Canyon**, a life-sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert. Overnight at **The Elegant Desert Lodge - Breakfast**

**Day 7 / Friday** **SWAKOPMUND**

After breakfast we continue our journey approaching the little settlement of Solitaire on the edge of the Namib Naukluft National Park, feeling like you have arrived in the middle of nowhere. Here it is worthwhile to enjoy a cup of coffee with the delightful apple-pie written about in so many travel books before travelling via the desolate, rolling hills of the Kuiseb Valley towards the Atlantic Ocean. Reaching the coastal harbour town of Walvis Bay, we visit the shallow lagoon, one of the most important wetland areas on the African continent and a RAMSAR World Heritage Site. Over 80% of Africa's lesser flamingos breed in this lagoon and present a breath-taking picture when they appear in groups. Continuing along the scenic route between the dune belt and the Atlantic Ocean we reach **Swakopmund**, where the rest of the day is spent at leisure. With palm-lined streets and seaside promenades, Swakopmund is a popular holiday

destination in Namibia. Its pleasant summer climate and long stretched beaches attract anglers and surfers from all over Southern Africa. For the international guest, Swakopmund is a bohemian mix of German architecture and African rhythms, a laid back attitude with adrenalin activities, misty mornings and desert heat. It is colourful, it is vibrant, but most of all, it is pure fun. Overnight at **Swakopmund Plaza – Breakfast**



**Day 8 / Saturday** **SWAKOPMUND**

Swakopmund is often fondly referred to as the "playground of Namibia", it has numerous activities ranging from, adventure to exploring the fascinating features of the Namib Desert and the animals and plants that occur and survive here. Embrace the relaxed pace of this idyllic coastal town while enjoying coffee and freshly baked pastries in one of the many café's. Alternatively explore the rugged, sweltering desert on a day tour, or view this awesome, environment from the air on a scenic flight. Find your inner child and push adrenaline to its limits with extreme adventures such as skydiving over the desert or quad biking and sand boarding on the dunes. Take time to get the feel of this quaint town with its historic buildings, museums, shopping arcades and beach bar that has transformed into its personality by the vibrant use of colour and the bohemian lifestyle. Overnight at **Swakopmund Plaza – Breakfast**

**Day 9 / Sunday** **DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, we travel back to Windhoek to our hotel or the international airport for our return flight.  
**Breakfast**

**END of our journey**

9 day Namibia Deserts & Canyons

Based on a Minimum 2 adults:

Price starting from....

ZAR 30,000 per person sharing

*(subject to travel dates, availability and currency fluctuations)*

**Terms and conditions apply**

Please send your enquiry to [info@grandexpeditions.co.za](mailto:info@grandexpeditions.co.za)

**PRICE INCLUDES**

Accommodation 8N | Meals 8 Breakfasts | Transport in a Minibus or Coach | English speaking driver/guide | Fish River Canyon & Namib Naukluft National Park entrance fees as per itinerary | All Activities as per the itinerary | Still mineral water on bus | Tourism levy & Government Taxes where applicable | 24hrs Medical Evacuation Insurance | Portages

**PRICE EXCLUDES**

All flights | Travel/Medical/Personal insurances | All items of a personal nature | Alcoholic Beverages | Additional activities not listed | Gratuities | Visa's | All services not mentioned