

Namibia & Swakopmund Pocket Travel Guide

PERSONAL DETAILS

YOUR NAME:

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:

PASSPORT NO:

HEALTH INSURANCE DETAILS:

TRAVEL INSURANCE DETAILS:

EMERGENCY / RELATIVE S CONTACT NO:

NAMIBIA CONTACT NO (HOTEL / TRAVEL AGENCY)

ITINERARY NOTES:



Kristall Galerie
Visit us on the corner of Tobias Hainyeko & Theo-Ben
Guriab Avenue, Swakopmund, Namibia

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CONTACTS

NAMIBIA TELEPHONES:

The international country calling code of Namibia is +264.

Namibia City Area Telephone Codes

+264 61 Windhoek
+264 65 Oshakati
+264 62 Rehoboth
+264 66 Rundu
+264 64 Swakopmund

Namibia Emergency Telephone Numbers 10011

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Namibian Tourist Office, Windhoek: +264 (0)61 290 6000 or
www.namibia-tourism.com.na

NAMIBIA EMBASSIES

Embassy of Namibia, Washington DC, United States (also responsible for Canada): +1 202 986 0540.

High Commission for the Republic of Namibia, London, United Kingdom (also responsible for Ireland): +44 (0)20 7636 6244.

Namibia High Commission, Pretoria, South Africa:
+27 (0)12 481 9100.

FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN NAMIBIA

United States Embassy, Windhoek: +264 (0)61 295 8500.

British High Commission, Windhoek: +264 (0)61 274 800.

Canadian Consulate, Windhoek: +264 (0)61 251 254.

Australian High Commission, Pretoria, South Africa (also responsible for Namibia): +27 (0)12 423 6000.

South African High Commission, Windhoek:
+264 (0)61 205 7111.

Irish Embassy, Lusaka, Zambia (also responsible for Namibia):
+260 1291 298.

New Zealand High Commission, Pretoria, South Africa (also responsible for Namibia): +27 (0)12 435 9000.

NAMIBIA EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergencies: 1011 (Police); 2032276 (Ambulance).



In La Tourmaline Jewellery Boutique you will find fine jewellery, exquisitely crafted to scrupulous German standards, as well as beautifully cut stones. Stones are set in 14 and 18 carat gold and some are enhanced by the addition of sparkling diamonds



Kristall Galerie

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c/o Tobias Hainyeko & Theo-Ben Guriab Ave, Swakopmund

Tel: +264 64 406080 • Fax: +264 64 406084
gems@kristallgalerie.com • www.kristallgalerie.com

GPS Coordinates: 22° 40'28.74"S • 14° 31'34.72"E

INTRODUCTION: NAMIBIA

Namibia is situated just north of South Africa, wedged between the chilly South Atlantic ocean, Angola and Botswana, just touching a piece of Zambia in the far north.

Along the Skeleton Coast in the west stretches the Namib desert with its huge red dunes and the Sossusvlei oasis. In the east the huge Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park spans across three countries.

The huge Orange River forms the southern border with South Africa. The South is a natural lover's paradise with its barren landscape of desert, Ai-Ai's hot springs and the Fish River Canyon, popular with hikers.

The Northern part of the country is where the majority of the population live and here the climate is more tropical and humid. Here is Etosha, at 22 000 m², Africa's largest game park and home to more than 110 mammal and 340 bird species.

In Namibia the ancient lives next to the modern. Tribes still cling to tradition as the Herero women proudly wear their colourful traditional headdress. Wide roads lead inland, to luxury lodges and small towns. It is a country of mixed cultures where the San, Afrikaner, Ovambo, Kavango, Herero, Khoi en European live proud.



FACTS ABOUT NAMIBIA

- ♦ **Capital:** Windhoek, Area total: 825,418 m²
- ♦ **Population:** 2,030,692
- ♦ **Currency:** Namibian dollar (NAD); South African rand (ZAR)
- ♦ **Languages:** English (official), Afrikaans and German are also widely spoken. Indigenous languages: Oshivambo, Herero, Nama.
- ♦ The country was colonized by Germany in 1884.
- ♦ After democratic elections in 1989 Namibia gained independence from South Africa in 1990.
- ♦ The highest point is the Brandberg at 2 606 metres.
- ♦ Mining accounts for 20% of the GDP. Namibia is the world's fifth largest producer of uranium.
- ♦ The first rail line was opened in 1895 from Cape Cross to Swakopmund for the transport of guano.
- ♦ Tapwater is purified and safe to drink.
- ♦ Electrical Appliances all run on 220/240 volts AC, 50 Hz. Three-pin round plugs are in use, as in South Africa.
- ♦ **Time Zone:** Local time is GMT +1 (GMT +2 between the first Sunday in November and the first Sunday in April).

NAMIBIA HIGHLIGHTS

Known as the "Gem of Africa", Namibia is world renowned for its remarkable natural beauty, endless open spaces, star-filled night skies and breathtaking scenery.

MUST SEE S:

The lively town of **Swakopmund** is Namibia's premier seaside resort, with a colonial feel and a variety of adventure- and water sports on offer. *Windhoek Tourism:* • Tel: +264 (0)61-2906000 *info@namibiatourism.com.na* • *www.namibia.tourism.com.na*

Etosha National Park with its gleaming salt pans is Namibia's prime wildlife and game viewing destination. The park is situated in the far north of the country and is easily accessible by road, hence ideal for a self-drive holiday. • Tel: +27 (0)21-8537952 *info@ethoshanationalpark.co.za* • *www.ethoshanationalpark.co.za*

The **Namib Naukluft National Park** is home to the highest and most impressive sand dunes in the world. A romantic hot air balloon ride over the red sand dunes of **Sossusvlei** offers a life changing experience.

Info@namibweb.com • *www.namib.com/naukluft.htm*

The **Skeleton Coast** offers one of the wildest and most remote experiences on the planet. The area is renowned for its magnificent shoreline dotted with bleached whalebones, a host of shipwrecks and large seal colonies.

info@namibiatourism.com.na • *www.namibia.tourism.com.na*

The **Fish River Canyon** is situated in the far south of the country and is the second largest canyon in the world at 161 km long and noted for its remarkable geological features.

Namibia Wildlife Resorts • Tel: +264 (0)61-2857200 • *www.nwr.com.na*

NAMIBIAN GEMSTONES

Namibia has one of the largest selections of precious stones and other mineral products in the world, ranging from diamonds, gold, uranium, lead and copper to natural gas and industrial minerals.

Namibian **diamonds** are unrivalled in both size and quality, making these stones highly prized in the world market.

Other quality gemstones found in abundance include such favourites as **amethysts, topaz, rose quartz** and especially **tourmaline**, which is particularly sought after by jewellers for its versatility, brilliance and myriad of colours. **Garnets, diopase** and the more common but extremely variable agate are also fashioned into a wide range of stylish and contemporary jewellery, including necklaces, rings, pendants and brooches.

The local jewellery industry is well established and is supported by a high-tech cutting and polishing industry, producing jewellers and goldsmiths that are renowned for their unique and creative craftsmanship. *Source: Namibia Ministry of Trade & Industry*



FACTS ABOUT SWAKOPMUND

The picturesque seaside town of Swakopmund is situated on the north western coast of the country, 280 km west of Windhoek. Swakopmund is Namibia's most loved summer destination and its moderate climate offers relief from the blazing heat of the desert.

It is Namibia's second biggest town and also known as the adventure capital of the country offering an abundance of thrilling outdoor activities, tourist attractions, historical sites and unforgettable shopping experiences.



THINGS TO DO

Apart from action and adventure activities, visitors can simply enjoy long walks on the beach or explore the beautiful town of Swakopmund with its many shops, restaurants and historical places. The Swakopmund Hotel is also a popular attraction, offering a casino and a cinema.



Activities in the area include:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Sand-boarding | Quad biking |
| Horse trails | Desert tours |
| Camel rides | Skydiving |
| Scenic Flights | Hot Air Ballooning |
| Microlight flights | Skeleton Coast Tours |
| Desert camping | Bird-watching |
| Namib Naukluft Park Tours | |

Ocean activities include:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Surfing | Kayaking |
| Dolphin Cruises | Fishing |
| Shore-based angling | Kite-surfing |
| Parasailing | |

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN SWAKOPMUND:

- The **Kristall Galerie** is a must-see and houses the largest known crystal cluster in the world
- The **Transport museum**
- The **National Marine Aquarium** and a crystal gallery
- The **Woermann House**
- The 25 meter **Damara Tower**
- The **War Memorial**
- City Library**, Art Gallery and Snake Park
- Golf:** Swakopmund is home to The Rossmund Desert Golf Course; one of only 5 all-grass desert golf courses in the world offering a unique golfing experience.