Home PDF 2023 Trip

28 Jul -13 Aug 2023 (17 days) Namibia Botswana Zimbabwe Cost Rm13,500 (per pax for 15 pax group) (*Excluded International flight*)

(Note : Based on USD 1 = RM4.40. We will make final adjustment on the cost based on the USD exchange rate in May-June 2023)

Update 21Jul23 - Some changes on itinerary for better arrangement.

Update 24 Feb23 - Due to some group members fly from Singapore to Namibia directly, as such air ticket will be individual ticket and less out from trip cost and adjust accordingly.

Update 26Jan23 - Trip is FULL. Change airlines for better connection and air fare is based on RM4800 as per today and also modified the itinerary for better route. As such trip cost adjusted accordingly.

Update 23Dec22 - Trip costs is based on today's flight fare approximately Rm4716 and will be updated if there is any changes. If fares are higher, group tops up. If lower, overall cost will be lowered. Stay will be more on set up camp and few lodge. Please register and confirm your seat by email **rachelheng123@gmail.com** or <u>whatsapp Rachel 012-</u>3520868

Update 12Dec22 - Highlights of the trip are : Windhoek- Sesriem- Sossusvlei- Swakopmund- Twyfelfontein-Etosha South- Etosha National Park-Dlvundu- Guma Lagoon- Okavango Delta-Kwando River- Kasane-Chobe River Front-Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe). Beside two places stay lodge, stay mainly **CAMPING style**. July-Aug is best season to this region as weather is pefectly nice (21-25'C) and cold (7'C) at night time. Please register and confirm your seat by email **rachelheng123@gmail.com** or <u>whatsapp Rachel 012-3520868</u>



IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humour, and above all, have the <u>right attitude</u> for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fuss-pots, and other similarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun!

Day 1 KLIA : Meet at KLIA for flight ET639 at 2315PM. O/N Plane.

<u>Day 2 Windhoek:</u> Stopover Addis Ababa (ADD) arrived **0550AM** and then will connect flight **ET835** at **0835AM** to Windhoek (Namibia), reached Windhoek **1320PM** and start our road journey upon arrival. Drive to small town Rehoboth for overnight.

Windhoek is surrounded by mountains and we pass first over the Eros Mountains and then the Khomas Hochland Range. As we travel through this splendid landscape, we drop down from the central Namibian plateau to grassy desert savannah. We stop at Solitaire for petrol and perhaps afternoon tea, before we continue to our campsite. We aim to arrive during the late afternoon.

Overnight (O/N) Lake Oanob Campsite. (Lunch & Dinner included)

<u>Day 3 Sesriem</u>: As there is no accommodation at Sossusvlei, visitors to this desert wilderness are likely to end up staying at Sesriem, 65 kilometres away, where camps and lodges serve as a base from which to explore the dunes. Sesriem Canyon, a

deep chasm carved through the rocks by water, is a striking natural feature of the area that is best explored on foot. Stony walls rise up sharply on both sides of the canyon, while birds roost in its crags and lizards dart along the ledges. The canyon's name was coined when early settlers used it as a water source, using six lengths of leather ('ses riem – six thongs) tied together to lower buckets into the water at the base of canyon).

As the day cools down in the afternoon, we will enjoy a short excursion to Sesriem Canyon.

After setting up camp we will go on a short excursion to the nearby Elim Dune to enjoy the sunset and watch the colors glow and change on the mountains before going back for dinner. Overnight: Sesriem Campsite

At the entry to Sossusvlei is Sesriem Canyon, At the foot of the gorge, which plunges down to 30 to 40 m, are pools that become replenished after good rains. Located perfectly at the entry to Sossusvlei inside the park gate is Sesriem Camping, right beside the gate into the desert and just a short drive from Sesriem Canyon where centuries of erosion have incised a narrow gorge about 1 km in length.

It is perfect for campers who want to experience the beauty of the Namib Desert with the sun setting over the Elim dune then the stars emerging until they fill the sky above you and the clicking of the desert barking Geckos and distant howl of the Jackal. Sit by the fire and imagine what you will.

After a good nights rest its up early (one hour before sunrise) for a drive to the sossusvlei where can climb a sand dune and watch the colours change as the sun rises over the horizon slipping its morning warmth over the Namib desert dunes. Sesriem derives its name from the time when earlier pioneers tied six lengths of rawhide thongs (riem) together to draw water from the pools. O/N Sesriem Campsite. (*All meals included*)



Deadvlei

Day 4 Namib Desert-Swakopmund :

We make an early start so as to catch the soft light of sunrise over the desert. After passing through Sesriem we continue towards Sossusvlei with sand dunes rising along both sides of the road. This iconic landscape is made up of white plains and red dunes which tower majestically against a deep blue sky and are among the highest in the world. We will stop at the famous Dune 45, a beautiful star dune which reaches over 170 meters in height. Those who feel fit enough to climb the dune will be rewarded with breathtaking views of the surrounding Namibian desert. After breakfast we will take a desert walk in the cool of the morning, with the chance of seeing gemsboks, springboks, black-backed jackals and ostriches. We will also visit the picturesque Dead Vlei. This white clay pan lies between towering orange dunes and is dotted with the skeletal remains of hundreds of dead camelthorn trees, making it a striking vista and photographer's dream.

Namibia is a land of contrasts. Today will move from desert to sea, crossing the Tropic of Capricorn and traversing the Gaub and Kuiseb passes. As we climb out the dry river bed at the bottom of Kuiseb Canyon, a spectacular desert landscape will unfold before us. We will stop over in Walvis Bay to enjoy the sight of flamingos and other birds in the lagoon and to visit the salt works. Dinner will be at a local restaurant and is included in the tour. We will be staying at a travelers lodge. O/N Swakopmund. (*All Meals included*)



Namib Desert

<u>Day 5 Swakopmund</u>: Swakopmund is a very pleasant seaside town with lots of shops, a good stretch of beach (although the Atlantic is quite cold here) and an open-air curio market. There is also a very good museum and the Namibian National Marine Aquarium is located in Swakopmund. Alternatively, there are various optional activities that can be arranged. These include a boat-tour (with oysters and champagne!), scenic flights and micro-light flights over the desert, fishing trips (either from the beach or in a boat), quad-bike trips into the desert and over the sand dunes around Swakopmund, sand boarding, skydiving and many other activities. Your guide will discuss all the possible optional activities with you and offer to make pre-booking in advance.). (*Note : all extra activities in Swakopmund are subject to availability and are made at the your own risk and expense. Dinner today is not included*). O/N Swakopmund.

<u>Day 6 Damaraland-Twyfelfontein</u>: Heading for Damaraland along the Skeleton Coast, stop at the seal colony of Cape Cross where we may have a close encounter with thousands of fur seals. We continue to the small town of Uis for supplies. Uis is an old mining town and a good place to buy semi-precious stones. We pass by the Brandberg, the highest mountain in Namibia, and arrive in Twyfelfontein in time for sunset. We will visit the unesco site, the twyfelfontein rock paintings and engravings this afternoon or the next morning depending on time. O/N Madisa Campsite (All meals included).



Fur Seals/ Group enjoy the superb nice weather

Day 7 Etosha National Park (South): Today will continue towards Etosha National Park . On the way will stop at the local Ovahimba tribe and learn the way of life from the Himba people is we have not seen them the day before. We will enter the park on the south side of the park. We will do game driving the whole day towards Okaukuejo resort camping where we will stay for 2 nights inside the park. O/N Okaukuejo Camp. (All meals included)

Day 8 Etosha National Park (East): Today will spend the whole day in and around the park. Will have lunch at the lodges inside the park. We will continue toward Etosha east - where we will spend one night. Dinner will be served at the

lodge. O/N Okaukuejo Camp. (All meals included)

Day 9 Dlvundu : This morning will depart Etosha and making way to Dlvundu. Today will be a long drive but scenic journey. Today picnic lunch will be served. The Mahango Game Reserve is characterised by woodlands, vast floodplains and the Kavango River. It is home to a reported 99 species including a large number of elephant, lion, leopard and a variety of antelope including the red lechwe, sable and roan. This park is an excellent destination for avid bird watchers boasting over 400 species and provides the perfect location for seeing crocodile and hippo in the Kavango River. O/N Camp. (All meals included)



Himba people

<u>Day 10 Okavango Delta</u>: After an early start, we travel from desert to greener pastures. We will arrive at our night camp in before lunch, having changed to 4-wheel drive during the last part of the trip in order to make it through the sand.

Our campsite is situated along the banks of the Guma Lagoon in the northwestern Okavango Delta. It is part of the Okavango Panhandle, a stretch of the Okavango River that follows a more-or-less straight course for about 70 kilometres before entering the wetlands. This deep channel serves as the main water source feeding the delta and the surrounding woodlands and the river's shallow waters teem with a myriad of birds.

We will try to do the Mokkoro activity in the afternoon, if not the next morning.

We will move out into the delta, first by motorboat and then by canoe - mokoros.

Standing in the mokoros, skillfully balancing, our polers will take us through the shallow, clear water out to one of the many islands. We will travel through lush vegetation, alternating between narrow and open stretches of water. We might see an elephant or two on one of the nearby islands. If we so wish, we can stop for a swim in a suitable location. We will go ashore and enjoy a nature walk with our guide. Here we might encounter some of the wildlife that lives in the delta, including red lechwes, warthogs and elephants. We return to our camp for dinner after a day full of adventure. *(All meals & Mokkoro Boat Tour included)*



Okavango Delta

Day 11 Kwando River : After our night next to the Okavango River we will proceed through the Caprivi Strip, stopping over at Popa Falls, a scenic series of cascades. We will arrive at our campsite in time for lunch.

Our green-lawned campsite at Namushasha River Lodge is situated on the Kwando River in eastern Caprivi. The area surrounding the Kwando River is known for its protected game reserves, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. It offers excellent game viewing with the perennial waters of the river attracting plentiful wildlife including large herds of elephant, hippo, crocodile, red lechwe, zebra, impala, turtle, spotted-necked otter and over 400 species of bird.

In the afternoon we will visit one of the local traditional villages and learn about the culture of the Caprivian people. O/N Namushasha Campsite. (*All Meals included*)

Day 12 Chobe National Park : This morning we will depart for the campsite in Botswana. We aim to arrive just in time for an afternoon boat cruise on the Chobe river.

The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the Chobe National Park, renowned for its diverse and abundant game viewing opportunities. This section of the park is best known for its dense concentration of wildlife including elephant and hippo populations, but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them. A visit to this area guarantees close encounters with an array of African wildlife. O/N Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite. (All meals included)

<u>Day 13 Chobe National Park II</u>: Morning to late morning hours is dedicated to game driving in and around the park before lunch. Like the boat-tour yesterday it may turn out to be one of the very highlights of our entire safari. The afternoon and evening may be used to relax at the pool site or, for those who so wish, another boat-tour or game drive *(Note: extra boat-tour or game drive is not included in the cost of the safari and will be at own expense). (All meals & Chobe River cruise included)*

The Chobe National Park, which is the second largest national park in Botswana and covers more than 10,000 km2, has one of the greatest concentrations of game found on the African continent. Its uniqueness in the abundance of wildlife, and the true African nature of the region, offers a safari experience of a lifetime. It is particularly well known for the large amounts of elephants, which are said to be the largest in body size of all living elephants.

<u>Day 14 Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)</u>: This morning will depart for Zimbabwe. There will be a border crossing where you will have to pay your single entry visa fee into Zimbabwe. We will arrive at our camp in time for lunch, then visit the magnificent Victoria Falls.

The noise of the Falls can be heard from a distance of 40 kilometers, while the spray and mist from the falling water can rise to a height of over 400 meters. Local tribes used to call the waterfall, Mosi-o-Tunya, "The smoke that thunders". It is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and famous for being the largest waterfall in the world.

This afternoon will enjoy a sunset cruise on the Zambezi. The cruise includes finger snacks, beer, wine, local spirits and soft drinks. (*Sunset cruise, All meals included*)

<u>Day 15 Victoria Falls II (Zimbabwe)</u>: Today will be free to explore the town. There are a lot of activities on offer including white water rafting, helicopter flights, bungee jumping and elephant back rides. (*Note : Discuss with guide for activities booking at own cost*).(*All meals included*)



Victoria Falls

Day 16 Victoria Falls : After breakfast will transfer to the airport and flight back to home. Take ET829 @ 1310PM to Addis Ababa (ADD) arrived 2045PM. Take ET638 @ 2320PM to Kuala Lumpur. O/N Plane

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Cost covers accommodation, transportation, entrance fees, English speaking guide, conservation fees, Game drives Etosha, Himba Village, Sossusvlei excursion.
- 2. Accommodation will be in most Camping Tent & Lodge.
- 3. Not covered are international flight flight fare or airport taxes, Lunch & Dinner (RM30-60 p/day) not stated above, in-town taxis, Yellow Fever Vaccine, travel insurance.
- 4. Guide/driver accompanying group do expect tips. Yongo encourages group members to be generous but should commensurate with services rendered.
- 5. A Non-refundable deposit of Rm3600 is payable to confirm your place.
- 6. Cost is subject to change if there's significant changes in foreign exchange rates and airfares.

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