



# Gauteng to Namibia

Self-Drive Guided Road Trips hosted by Platteland Tours

Travel in your own vehicle

Document last updated: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Duration:** 15 Days/14 Nights      **Dates:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024      Nam # 1 **Fully booked**  
22<sup>nd</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024      Nam # 2 **Fully booked**  
Saturday to Saturday  
9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024  
Tuesday to Tuesday      Nam # 3 **2<sup>nd</sup> Extra tour**

**Depart:** Sasol Pinehaven on N14      **Arrive:** Sasol Pinehaven on N14  
Krugersdorp      Krugersdorp

**Departure time:** 08:00 (Route briefing and welcome **at 07:30**)

**Max. No:** 10 Vehicles      Max. 22 persons

**Price:** R23800 per person      **Distance:** 5700+ km  
R5200 pp single supplement      About 1650 km on gravel roads

## Tour Details:

We have been visiting and touring Namibia for more than two decades – sometimes multiple tours per annum (pre-Covid). Come and enjoy this country with us.

Go and visit our beautiful neighbouring country and discover interesting tourist spots, breath taking landscapes, the oldest desert in the world, clean and well maintained towns, friendly people, good food, stunning fauna and flora, hidden gems and interesting back roads.

You'll travel on gravel roads (**NO** 4x4 needed), no-pothole tar roads, salt roads and even a bit of highway!

We'll stop en route for sightseeing, snacks, road stalls, photographic opportunities, toilets, coffee/tea, tourist destinations and less familiar places. Enjoy the drive and ride in your own vehicle. This is currently our longest tour in terms of km and days to be travelled.

We've done a lot of homework in putting this Road Trip together and we've hosted two fully booked tours in 2022 & 2023. Come and enjoy and experience it with us at an affordable price, staying at good venues and going home with lots of pictures and many good memories.

At night and en route you'll have the opportunity to mix, mingle and have fun with the other people on the trip.

Please note that we'll be hosting only one Road Trip to Namibia in 2024.

**Departure & Return Location:** Depart from Sasol Pinehaven, on the N14, right opposite the Cradlestone Mall in the outskirts of Krugersdorp. The Road Trip will end at the same venue, late afternoon on the last day, or you can join or leave the group at a suitable place en route closer for you to home. Just inform us accordingly on the Booking Form.

I.e.: People from KZN have in the past joined at Vryburg; people from the Free State, Eastern Cape & Western Cape have joined the tour at Upington.

If you join en route or leave early from the tour, the tour price will be discounted with the costs for the overnight venues you're missing out on.

**Price includes:** Accommodation for 14 nights (B&B), three dinners, a tour leader with his own vehicle, all administration and leading of the tour (including booking of accommodation, meals & excursions, etc.), high frequency two-way radio per vehicle to use during the tour, LOTS of relevant info, a travel report with pictures after the tour, daily briefings of the tour, limited vehicle breakdown support, group safety, peace of mind, new friends, new routes, lots of fun and laughter.

**Tour price excludes:** Meals on tour (breakfasts are included), fuel for vehicle, Comprehensive Travel Insurance, gratuities, entry fees to venues or places, drinks, breakdown recovery costs and personal expenses.

**Accommodation:** We stay overnight in good family guest houses, guest farms, hotels & lodges, including breakfast.

**Dinner:** All other meals are optional, but budget for about R250+ pp/dinner at the venue where we overnight. Three dinners are included in your tour package.

**Lunch:** Enjoy your own snacks en route. We don't stop for official lunch breaks.

**Bookings:** Bookings have opened. A completed Booking Form, with the Proof Payment (PoP) for the deposit, to be send to us at [info@plattelandtours.co.za](mailto:info@plattelandtours.co.za) and it will secure your place on this Road Trip. Your booking will be confirmed in writing. Book **NOW**.

Both our 2023 tours were fully booked well in advance.

**Deposit:** At least 25% of the tour price with the booking, another 25% three (3) months before departure date and the outstanding balance by latest 6 weeks before departure date. There is maximum space for 24 people on tour (if 4 persons to some vehicles. Book **NOW**.

If booked within the 3 months period prior to departure of the Road Trip, 50% deposit is required. If booked within the 6 weeks period prior to departure of the Road Trip, full payment is needed.

**Take on tour (suggested):** Your vehicle, your family & friends, pocket money, a smile and goodwill. Some other extras should include: Sneakers (walking shoes), a hat, binoculars, toilet paper, wet wipes, coffee flask, drinking water, camera, torch and sunglasses. Biltong you can purchase in Namibia!

**Vehicle:** Any 4 x 2 or SUV or 4 x 4 or Sedan vehicle with high ground clearance, for when traveling on the gravel roads, is suitable for the tour. Only 10 vehicles allowed per tour. We do not speed whilst on tour, but we expect all vehicles to travel at the speed set by the tour leader.

**Who should go on this tour:** People who love travelling, enjoy back roads, singles, couples, those who have never been to Namibia and those who'd like to go again, people who would like to enjoy the natural beauty and friendliness of the local people, people who are unfamiliar with driving at foreign places, people who'd prefer to travel with other people in a safe environment, people who don't like getting lost, those who'd like to be well informed as they drive along, those who like driving their own cars, those who need cross-border assistance, people who like sharing their lives, interest, knowledge, fun and care with others. People who enjoy life at an easy pace.

**Who should NOT go on this tour:** Moaners, groaners, whiners, speedsters, hooligans, boozers, people who can't drive on a gravel road, etc.

**VHF Radio:** We provide each vehicle with a two-way radio for the duration of the tour in order to communicate with everyone. It charges on the vehicle's cigarette lighter. (Please make sure your vehicle's cigarette lighter is working **before** the tour starts).

**Money:** A credit or debit card, plus some cash, will be needed. You can use RSA notes (not coins) at any place in Namibia. One Namibian Dollar = One South African Rand.

**Fuel:** We'll stop regularly to fill up. RSA Petro cards and Garage cards are **NOT** accepted in Namibia. **Credit and debit cards can be used** for fuel. Fortunately fuel is about R2.50 per litre cheaper in Namibia compared to South Africa!

**Clothing/Dress:** Casual – though it is winter and it can get fairly cold at night.

**Excursions:** Entry fees are not included in the tour price. You can book and pay an excursion on the day of arrival at the venue.

**What you DO need:** (Before departure)

- A vehicle in a good condition (check the tyres, spare wheel & tools to replace a flat tyre)
- A valid passport – with at least six months and two empty pages available before expiry when entering Namibia
- Your vehicles documents to be able to cross international borders
- Travel insurance – we can refer you to someone to help with it
- A credit card, as well as some cash (pocket money). RSA notes can be used in Namibia.
- All your personal medicines
- Respect for your neighbouring country
- Energy to drive long distances – it is after all a Road Trip
- A big smile

**What to expect:**

An orderly and well planned Road Trip, with a few surprises en route. Good food, a beautiful country, interesting roads and routes, tar and lots of gravel roads, mountain passes and small towns, cute shops and road stalls, a desert, dry barren areas, interesting landscapes, friendly people and something new...

**Just some of the places to be visited in Namibia:**

Sossusvlei, Fish River Canyon, Goanikontes, Etosha Game Reserve, Kolmanskop (ghost town), Aus' wild horses, Luderitz, Swakopmund, Dune 7, the Namib Desert, a wine cellar, Sesriem, Solitaire, the capital city (Windhoek), Joe's Beerhouse and much more...

We highly recommend and invite you to visit our Facebook [www.facebook.com/plattelandtours](http://www.facebook.com/plattelandtours) and see pictures taken on previous Namibia trips. It will whet your appetite!

We are looking forward to welcoming you on this Road Trip.



Johan Badenhorst

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**Note:** Day # 1 (see below) is quite a long distance to travel. We suggest that people coming from afar to overnight close to the departure point in Krugersdorp (we can recommend some places) OR to overnight in E.g.: Vryburg or Upington and meet up with the convoy when passing through the town en route to Upington on Day # 1.



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## 15-day Road Trip

1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024 **Fully booked**

22<sup>nd</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024 **Fully booked**

9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 **2<sup>nd</sup> Extra tour**



### Itinerary:

**Day # 1**      **Sasol Pinehaven on the N14 – Krugersdorp to Upington**      **751 km**

Welcome, briefing & handing out 2-way radios before departing via Ventersdorp, Sannieshof & Delareyville for Vryburg – the cattle capital of South Africa. Then onwards to Kuruman, Kathu, Olifantshoek to Upington.

Book in, enjoy dinner and stay overnight in the Upington Inn. This is a long day on tour in terms of km travelled. The longest day on this trip.



**Upington's SAPS Camel**

**Day # 2**      **Upington to Aussenkehr**      **505 km**

On Day # 2 we travel via Nakop Border post into Namibia and will go through towns like Ariamsvlei, Karasburg, Grunau and Violsdrift before arriving at our first overnight stop in Namibia at the Norotshama River Resort at Aussenkehr in the south of Namibia.

Today you'll start to experience the vastness of this country, the small towns, the friendly people and a 'miracle' agricultural project on the banks of the Orange River.



**Orange River at Aussenkehr**

**Day # 3**      **Aussenkehr to Keetmanshoop**      **339 km**

Popular landmarks in Namibia, like the Fish River canyon, Ai-Ais Resort, Canon Road House and Naute Kristall & Naute Dam will be visited today.

We overnight in a lodge close to Keetmanshoop. Dinner is available at the venue.



*Fish River Canyon on a clear morning*



*Canyon Road House*

**Day # 4**

**Keetmanshoop to Luderitz**

**361 km**

A visit to Luderitz, via the towns of Goageb and Aus, will take you via the Wild Horses of the Namib, Diaz Cross and the town itself with its typical German architecture houses and small harbour.

En route you'll see how desert sand negatively affect an operational railway line. We overnight in a B&B in this coastal (& windy) town. Dinner is available in town.



**Oryx in full flight**



**Wild horses of the Namib**

**Day # 5**

**Luderitz to Duwisib**

**338 km**

This morning we'll pay a visit to ghost town Kolmanskop on our way to Duwisib. The changing scenery will keep you and your camera busy. Tonight we sleep on an operational farm where the local farmer and his son will share stories with you about their lives on a remote farm.

A visit to the Duwisib Castle, and its history, will entertain you.

We overnight on a Guest Farm – dinner is included in the tour package.



**Duwisib Castle**

**Day # 6****Duwisib to Sesriem****325 km**

Sossusvlei will be visited today. It's an early rise to be at the main entrance gate in the morning. You'll have the opportunity to climb Dune 45, as well as visiting Dead Vlei & the Sesriem Canyon.

We'll sleep again on a guest farm in the gravel Namib Desert where dinner is again included in the tour package.



**Desert dunes**

**Day # 7****Sesriem to Swakopmund****379 km**

Today we travel to the coast, but before arriving we'll visit Solitaire to taste the famous apple tart and traverse two mountain passes, visit an interesting lookout point and enter the Namib Desert.

A visit to the famous Dune 7 is on the cards as well. There is a standing challenge for a case of beers – ask us about it.



**Gravel road in Namibia**

We book in at a hotel in Swakopmund's CBD where we'll stay for three consecutive nights. We dine at an interesting restaurant.

**Day # 8****Swakopmund & surroundings****50 km**

This tourist town has got lots to offer, including famous Anton's Cafe, a traditional German brauhaus, an aquarium, a crystal rock display and lots of activities, including quad bikes riding in the desert, camel riding, flights over the desert, parachute jumping and much more.

It is the day for shopping and just walking around in this beautiful 'Town of the Year' of 2019.

Take note that it is Saturday and shops close early! In the afternoon we'll do a short drive into the countryside.



**The Dome Indoor Sport Centre**



**Lighthouse in Swakopmund**

Tonight we'll dine at another interesting German restaurant.

**Day # 9**      **Swakopmund & surroundings**

**120 km**

A visit to Walvis Bay and surroundings is part of today's visits. We highly recommend that you so a cruise on a catamaran yacht in the Walvis Bay harbour.



You'll see the processing of salt and observe a 'mountain' of salt. The pink flamingos & pelicans of this town provide a spectacular experience.

Tonight you can dine at a place of your choice.

**Day # 10**      **Swakopmund to Uis District**

**265 km**

Places like Wlotzkasbaken and Henties Bay will be visited before arriving in the old mining town of Uis. We'll overnight close to the Brandberg and experience a magnificent sun setting. Dinner at this venue is included in the tour package.



**Stranded ship close to shore**

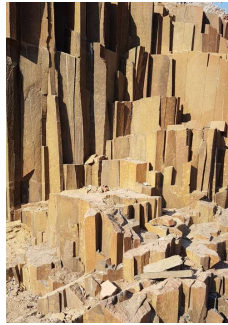


**Day # 11**

**Uis to Outjo**

**397 km**

Today you can view the natural 'organ pipes', the Damara live Culture Museum, a petrified forest and view the Brandberg from a distance. Travel through the town of Khorixas and view 'the Finger of God' rock formation (time permitting).



**Nature's Organ pipes**

Accommodation is at the Etotongwe Lodge where we'll overnight for two nights. Dinner is available at the venue.

**Day # 12**

**Outjo to Etosha & back**

**340 km**

The Etosha National Park is a must-to-see when visiting Namibia. Sitting at a waterhole at the Ukaukuejo Rest Camp will guarantee views of many antelope, elephant and perhaps a few predators as well.



**Okaukuejo's observation tower**

**Day # 13**

**Outjo to Windhoek**

**324 km**

Today's trip will take you via Kalkveld, Omaruru and Okahandja before arriving in the capital city of Namibia. Experience the Tikolosh root carving factory en route.

You'll observe the well-known landmarks of the city, including the Christus Kirche, Windhoek's railway station and the 'Pink Palace'.



**Christus Kirche**

Tonight you'll dine at Joe's Beerhouse – a place not to forget and to be enjoyed.

Overnight in Windhoek.

**Day # 14**      **Windhoek to Kang in Botswana**      **699 km**

After breakfast we travel east towards Botswana via Witvlei, Gobabis and Buitepos. En route we'll drive past the Hosea Kutako International Airport.

We'll travel further through the heartland of cattle and game hunting farms.



**Quiver tree**

Overnight is at Kang halfway en route to Gauteng. Dinner is available at the venue.

**Day # 15**      **Kang to Sasol Pinehaven, Krugersdorp**      **636 km**

Today we travel via Jwaneng, Lobatse and Zeerust to Gauteng on the Trans Kalahari Highway.

The Kalahari landscape changes to bushveld and eventually to grasslands. En route we'll drive past the biggest diamond mine in the world.

Late afternoon you'll arrive home after passing through the border gate at Skilpadsnek.

#### **GENERAL**

Please note that we'll stop at many more places, not mentioned in the above itinerary. On a Road Trip the leader driver can fit in anything interesting at any time....

**Note:** Travellers can leave the group at any place en route to turn off for home.



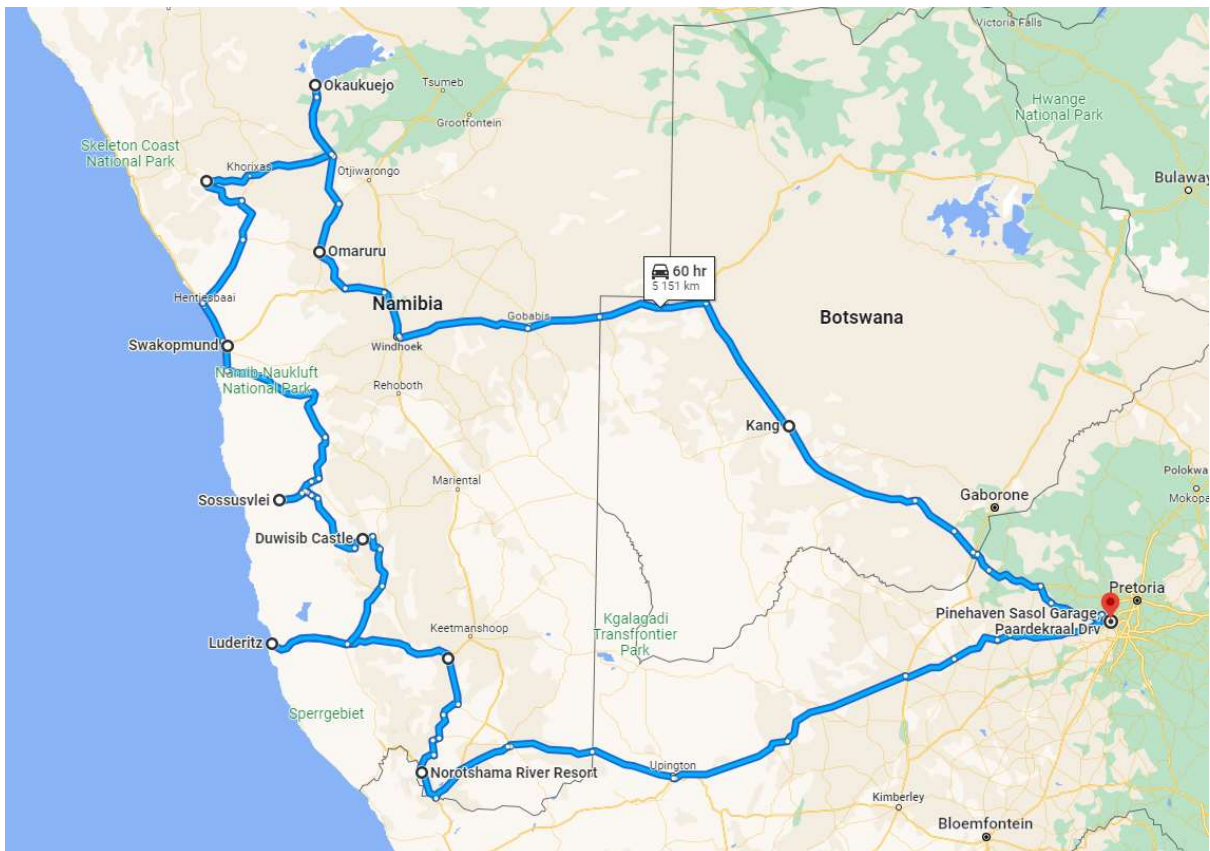
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**15-day Road Trip**



## Map:

**Note:** The Road Trip could & will deviate from the map. I.e.: Due to visits to places not mentioned in the itinerary.



Distance: 5700+ km