



Namibia

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Leo's (p865)
- ➔ Sam's Giardino Hotel (p881)
- ➔ 22° South (p882)
- ➔ Restaurant Gathemann (p865)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Serra Cafema Camp (p878)
- ➔ Sossusvlei Desert Lodge (p884)
- ➔ Little Kulala (p884)
- ➔ Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp (p878)

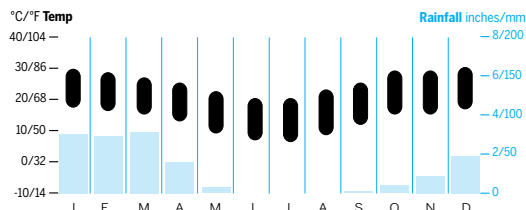
Why Go?

Namibia possesses some of the most stunning landscapes in Africa, and a trip through the country is one of the great road adventures. Natural wonders such as that mighty gash in the earth at Fish River Canyon and the wildlife utopia of Etosha National Park enthrall, but it's the lonely desert roads, where mighty slabs of granite rise out of swirling desert sands, that will sear themselves in your mind. It's like a coffee-table book come to life as sand dunes in the world's oldest desert meet the crashing rollers along the wild Atlantic coast.

Among all this is a German legacy, evident in the cuisine and art nouveau architecture and in festivals such as Windhoek's legendary Oktoberfest. Namibia is also the headquarters of adventure activities in the region, so whether you're a dreamer or love hearing the crunch of earth under your boots, travel in Namibia will stay with you long after the desert vistas fade.

When to Go

Windhoek



Jun-Oct

Accommodation at a premium. Temperatures soar by September.

May & Nov

Cheaper accommodation. Heavy rains sometimes occur in November; May is mild.

Dec-Apr

Rains begin in December. Humidity and high temperatures can make days unpleasant.

Namibia Highlights

1 Etosha National Park (p870)

Crouching by a water hole in one of the world's premier wildlife venues.

2 Sossusvlei (p883)

Watching the sun rise from the top of the fiery coloured dunes.

3 Fish River Canyon (p885)

Hiking through one of Africa's greatest natural wonders.

4 Skeleton Coast (p878)

Getting off the beaten track (and the tarred road) in the true African wilderness.

5 Waterberg Plateau (p869)

Hiking to the top for breathtaking views, while keeping an eye out for rare sable and roan antelope.

6 Swakopmund (p878)

Getting your adrenaline fix at Namibia's extreme-sport capital.

7 Damaraland (p874)

Tracking rhinos and desert elephants in a stunning landscape of red-bouldered mountains.

