yonGO TRAVEL

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13 -29 Aug 2024 (17 days) Namibia Botswana Zimbabwe
Cost Rm18,300 (12-14 pax group) Rm17,600 (15 pax group) (EXCLUDED International flight)
(Note: Based on USD 1 = RM4.60. We will make final adjustment on the cost based on the USD exchange rate in June 2024)

Update 27JAN24 - Travel is confirmed to run and have 2-3 seats available. Please register and confirm your seat by email rachelheng123@gmail.com or whatsapp Rachel 012-3520868

Update 05JAN24 - Travel date changed to 13-29Aug24 due to flight availability. Limited seat available now. Please register and confirm your seat by email **rachelheng123@gmail.com** or <u>whatsapp Rachel 012-3520868</u>

Update 25Nov23 - Highlights of the trip are: Central Namibia - Sossusvlei - Swakopmund - Namib - Twyfelfontein - Etosha South - Etosha National Park - Etosha East - Divundu - Mahango Game Reserve - Kasane - Chobe River Front - Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)... 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 **whatsapp Rachel 012-3520868**

Flight fare is approximately Rm5900 (2023) and will be updated if there is any changes.



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 similiarly 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-Rehoboth</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.

Accommodation will be lodging on this night, to have a proper rest before our adventure. Local guide will use this time to go through entire program.

Overnight (O/N) Rehoboth. (Light Lunch & Dinner included)

Day 3 Sesriem

After breakfast, 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 be sure to get yourself a piece of apple pie, before we continue to our stay. We aim to arrive during the late afternoon. O/N lodge (All meals included)

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 to camp for dinner.

Be sure to take in all of these contrasting Sunsets while visiting the Elim Dune, absolute beautiful sight. O/N Sesriem Campsite. (All meals covered)

Elim Dune

Elim Dune is located just outside Sesriem, Namibia. It is the nearest dune to Sesriem and the first in a series of gigantic dunes. Atop Elim Dune, the colours at sunset are vivid and constantly changing, providing a strong contrast between the surrounding blue Naukluft Mountains on the east and the red dunes to the west. The dune is a hundred meters in height, and visitors can climb it from a parking spot beside it in more or less an hour.







Deadvlei

Day 4 Sesriem II:

After breakfast will take a desert walk in the cool of the morning, with the chance of seeing gemsboks, springboks, black-backed jackals and ostriches.

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.

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. O/N Sesriem Campsite. (All meals covered)

Named for its location 45 kilometres past the town of Sesriem, Dune 45 is renowned for its elegant shape, which – along with its position close to the road – have earned it the distinction of 'most photographed dune in the world'. If you're not keen for the strenuous hike to the top of Big Daddy, Dune 45 is a more forgiving alternative, standing at only 80 metres and featuring a much gentler gradient.

Sossusvlei - The Vlei

This is the vlei itself where, for now, the waters of the Tsauchab River disappear into the red sands of the Namib.





Namib Desert

<u>Day 5 Swakopmund</u>: Namibia is a land of contrasts. Today we 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.

Lunch will be in Walvis Bay. Dinner will be at a local restaurant and is included in the tour. We will be staying at lodge for two nights. O/N lodge. (All meals covered)

Swakopmund

Set along Namibia's spectacularly scenic coast, the seaside town of Swakopmund is known for its wide-open avenues, colonial architecture, and its surrounding otherworldly desert terrain. Founded in 1892 as the main harbour for German South-West Africa, Swakopmund is often described as being more German than Germany. Now a seaside resort town, Swakopmund is the capital of the Skeleton Coast tourism area and has plenty to keep visitors happy. The quirky mix of German and Namibian influences, adventure options, laid-back atmosphere and cool sea breeze make it a very popular Namibian destination. Visitors can look forward to a number of exciting activities including: quad biking, horse riding, paragliding, fishing, sightseeing and fascinating desert tours.

<u>Day 6 Swakopmund II:</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), quadbike 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. O/N Lodge (Lunch & Dinner excluded)

(Note:. all extra activities in Swakopmund are subject to availability and are made at the client's own risk and expense). Lunch & dinner today is not included and will be on your own expenses)





Fur Seals/ Group enjoy the superb nice weather

<u>Day 7 Twyfelfontein:</u> Heading for Damaraland along the Skeleton Coast we 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 the time. O/N Madisa Campsite. (All Meals covered)

Twyfelfontein

Set in the Kunene Region of northwestern Namibia, Twyfelfontein is a spectacularly scenic area, featuring one of the largest and most important concentrations of rock art in Africa. The name 'Twyfelfontein' translates to 'Fountain of Doubt', which refers to the perennial spring situated in the impressive Huab Valley flanked by the slopes of a sandstone table mountain. It was this spring that attracted Stone Age hunters over six thousand years ago, and it was during this time that the extensive group of rock engravings and paintings were produced. Visitors can look forward to basing themselves at some wonderfully shady campsites along the Aba-Huab riverbed, while exploring over thirty different sacred ritual sites of the traditional hunter-gatherer communities.

<u>Day 8 Etosha National Park (South):</u> Today we will continue towards Etosha National Park. On our way we will stop at the local Ovahimba tribe and learn the way of life from the Himba people if we have not seen them the day before. We will enter the park on the western side of the park. We will do game driving the whole day towards Okaukuejo resort camping where we will stay for 1 night inside the park.

After dinner, please be sure to make your way to the Waterhole at Okaukuejo. There is a big chance that you might see animals coming to drink from the waterhole. O/N Okaukuejo camp. (All meals covered).

Etosha South

Located just south of the boundary of Etosha National Park in northwestern Namibia, Etosha South makes up the southern region of this wild paradise. The area is comprised of a collection of world class private game reserves. The national park can be accessed via the southern entrance at Andersson's Gate. Visitors can catch a glimpse of a variety of wildlife including: lion, giraffe, elephant, white and black rhino, and a multitude of plains game. Popular activities include: enjoying an open 4x4 safari with an expert guide, half day or full day drives with the option of a picnic lunch with wine on the full day game drive.

Etosha National Park

Situated in northwestern Namibia, the Etosha National Park offers a premier game viewing experience. The park's diverse vegetation ranges from dense bush to open plains attracting a variety of wildlife. Located in the heart of the park is the Etosha Pan - a shallow depression that covers an area of 5000 square kilometres. Dry and shimmering for most of the year, the pans fill up with water after seasonal rains, making it the perfect habitat for wildlife. In the dry season, the wildlife is attracted to the perennial springs and waterholes that makes for excellent game viewing. Visitors can look forward to world-class game viewing including a variety of large mammals such as lion, elephant, leopard, rhino, zebra, giraffe, a diversity of birdlife such as flamingoes and pelicans.



Set up tent at beautiful campsite

<u>Day 9 Etosha National Park (East):</u> On this morning, after breakfast and pack up the tents and have a full day game drive inside the park. While we drive from one campsite to the other, nestled within a former German fort, Namutoni Camp exudes a distinct ambiance.

There are several different types of lodging options and a wealth of amenities within the fort. Great game viewing is possible without ever leaving the camp thanks to the fort's elevated overlook of the King Nehale Waterhole. For sundowners, the fort's walls make a great location. Marveling at the colors of the setting sun is maybe the best way to cap off a day in Namibia and the wilderness.

We will have lunch at one of the Camps inside the park, and make our way to Namutoni Campsite, where will be camping for one night. O/N Namutoni Campsite (All meals covered).

<u>Day 10 Dlvundu</u>: This morning will depart Etosha NP 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 Mahangu Safari Lodge. (*All meals included*).

Divundu

Set roughly 200 kilometres east of Rundu on the southeastern banks of the great Okavango River, the small village of Divundu is a wonderful destination from which to explore the river, game parks and national reserves of the area. Visitors can enjoy fishing or bird watching boat safaris, or visit the Mahango Game Park, which is home to herds of elephant as well as hippo, buffalo, giraffes, antelope, and many other animals. The spectacular Popa Falls, a dramatic series of cascades - are a popular must-see attraction. Divundu is also the perfect base for adventures in Botswana and the Okavango Delta.







<u>Day 11 Divundu II:</u> This morning will be a Mokoro Boat Trip. We will return to the lodge for lunch and have a rest until the afternoon, before having a Game Drive in Mahango Game Reserve.

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Mokoro Boat Ride

<u>Day 12 Chobe National Park:</u> This morning we will depart for the Chobe Safari Lodge campsite in Botswana. 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. The afternoon and evening may be used to relax at the pool site or, for those who so wish. O/N Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite (All meals covered)

Kasane -Tucked away in the northeastern corner of Botswana, on the banks of the famous Chobe River, the scenic little town of Kasane rests on the doorstep of the spectacular Chobe National Park. There are no boundary fences separating the village from the park and game such as elephant and hippo are often spotted roaming around the town. If on the lookout for elusive game, pay a visit to the Sedudu Valley Road, where large dead trees provide temporary homes for leopards. Within Kasane, an ancient baobab tree stands on display, once serving as a local prison. Visitors can look forward to a multitude of activities including: enjoying a game drive through the park, taking a sunset cruise down the Chobe River, visiting a local village or jumping on a day trip to the breathtaking Victoria Falls.

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.



Chobe National Park

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Morning to late morning hours is dedicated to game driving in and around the park before lunch.

In the afternoon you will have a boat cruise with the lodge. It may turn out to be one of the very highlights of your entire safari. O/N Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite (All meals covered)

<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 covered). O/N Victoria Falls Rainbow Hotel. (Dinner not included)

Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

Victoria Falls is one of the world's most impressive waterfalls. It is set on the magnificent Zambezi River which creates the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. These spectacular falls can be easily visited and viewed from the Zimbabwean side. Considered to be the world's widest waterfalls, Victoria Falls measures an impressive 1708 metres in width. The small town of Victoria Falls, which lies adjacent to the waterfalls, serves as a great base from which to explore the many attractions this area of Zimbabwe has to offer. The surrounding area provides a wide range of adrenalin-filled activities for adventure lovers. Visitors can look forward to an array of wonderful activities including: scenic flights, micro lighting, white water rafting, bungee jumping, kayaking, and once-in-a-lifetime expeditions into the incredible Chobe National Park.

<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).(Lunch & Dinner excluded).





Victoria Falls

<u>Day 16 Victoria Falls:</u> After breakfast will transfer to the airport and flight back to home. Take **ET885** @ **1600PM** to Addis Ababa (ADD) arrived **2140PM.** Take **ET638** @ **2350PM** to Kuala Lumpur. O/N Plane

Day 17 Fly Home: Arrived KL 1710PM (29AUG24)

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 mixed Camping Tent & Lodge.
- 3. Not covered are international flight flight fare or airport taxes, Lunch & Dinner (RM60-100 p/day) not stated above, intown 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 Rm4000 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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