

#### <u>ATTA5day Namibia North Damaraland &</u> <u>Etosha – November 2013</u> <u>Ref ChamHol NNDM&Et</u>

*Highlights* – Brandberg Mountain and ancient rock paintings; Twyfelfontein Rock Etchings – UNESCO World Heritage Site & Damara Living Museum; Etosha National Park for game viewing

### 1 Nov Brandberg White Lady Lodge, Southern Damaraland – 1night twin share accommodation

Today's journey sees us heading north along the Skeleton Coast past the gravel plains and desert opening up one side and the ocean crashing down onto the shore on the other. From here we turn inland to Brandberg, Namibia's highest mountain and our base is at

this simple lodge, located under the shadow of the mountain. Later this afternoon, we will take a local guide to explore the region and visit the famous "White Lady Rock Painting" an ancient bushman work. Lunch at own expense and dinner is in the lodge. Twin share accommodation (BD) *Brandberg:* At 2,574m, the imposing Brandberg massif is the highest point in Namibia, its peak is

Konigstein and for the adventurous travellers, hikes to the top are arranged during the Winter months – it's a challenging climb and not for the faint-hearted! However, the region is stunning, rich in minerals such as amethyst and quartz; desert elephants roam the dry riverbeds and valleys. Endemic trees such as the *Acacia montis-usti* survive through the mountain valleys, and the desert plant *Welwitschia mirabilis* can be seen at the Messum Crater south west of the Brandberg. For visitors there is a trip available to visit the famous "White Lady" painting, one of many rock paintings that are believed to date





back between 2-4000 years and a local Daureb Mountain Guide will assist you to the site -a walk that takes you through river beds, over rocks and through gravel sands with great views along the way

## 2 Nov Damara Mopane Lodge, Northern Damaraland – 1night dinner, bed and breakfast

Departing after breakfast we head north through the heart of Damaraland stopping at the famous Twyfelfontein rock etchings – Namibia's only UNESCO World Heritage Site, as well as a visit to the Damara Living Museum where we enjoy a Traditional Village Tour. From here we continue our drive to Northern Damaraland with a short stop at the Petrified Forest – a unique geological site. We arrive at our lodge later in the afternoon. Dinner is served in the restaurant (BD)

*Damaraland Mopane Lodge*: Built in the wattle and daub style under Mopane trees and connected by a labyrinth of paths, the main building and chalets of the lodge look like an African village. The walls are adorned by copies of the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein. Each of the 55 double room chalets (with air conditioning) sits in a vegetable and herb garden surrounded by a low wall. The gardens supply fresh ingredients for supper, which consists of a hot starter followed by a delicious platter – the individual gardens certainly ensure fresh supplies are plentiful. There is a swimming pool for chilling out and a viewing point for relishing sunsets and the star-studded night sky!



# 3&4 Nov Etosha Safari Lodge, nr Etosha National Park – 2nights dinner, bed and breakfast

We leave Damara Mopane Lodge after breakfast - our destination today is just outside of Etosha National Park and this afternoon we will enter via Anderssons Gate for our first game drive departing the park just before sunset. The following day we will re-enter the park and enjoy a full day game driving, stopping at various waterholes along the way and seeing what wonderful game sightings we can find. Etosha is recognised as one of the best game parks in Southern Africa for the large numbers and various species of game, endemic species, as well as interesting geology. Overnight in twin bedded standard rooms with en-suite facilities, lunch at own expense and dinner in restaurant (BD)

*Etosha National Park:* With translations such as "Great, White Place", "Place of Mirages" and "Land of Dry Water", it's no wonder Etosha has a certain mystery around it. The Etosha Pan, a vast shallow depression of around 110km from east to west and 60km from south to north is likely to be the remains of a large inland lake that flowed from the Angolan highlands. However, continental

uplift changed the slope of the land and direction towards the Atlantic. Slowly, the lake dried – if the lake existed today, it would be the third largest in the world. Etosha is the largest of the pans, 4 760 km in extent, or about half the size of Lebanon. It is nowadays filled with water only when sufficient rain falls to the north in Angola to induce floods to flow southward along the Cuvelai drainage system. Etosha is open through out the year and is accessible with the tarred roads via the Andersson Gate in the central southern section and the Von Lindequist Gate in the east.



Each of Etosha's three traditional resorts, Okaukuejo in the centre of the park, Namutoni in the east and Halali halfway between the two, has its own distinctive character and atmosphere. Each has a floodlit waterhole where wildlife can be viewed throughout the day and night. Dolomite Camp, a new camp opened in 2010 is set on the western aspect and Onkoshi Camp lies north of Namutoni and is a luxury lodge that overlooks Fischers Pan. The roads are accessible in a 2x4 vehicle though care needs to be exercised after heavy rains. As a game reserve, it excels particularly during the dry season when huge amounts of animals congregate at the waterholes, as a visitor, watching the sun set as hundreds of animals come to quench their thirst, dust kicked up from hooves and bellows of animals across the veldt ring out makes it a wonderful experience. There are over 115 mammals in the park including endangered species such as cheetah and black rhino, as well as elephant, lion, leopard, hyena, giraffe and a whole host of plains game. In conjunction there's 340 species of bird recorded including uncommon members of hawk and vulture.

#### 5 Nov Windhoek

We return to Windhoek where you are dropped at your accommodation which can be arranged for you at an extra cost or the international airport, please do not book any flight prior to late afternoon to ensure you make your flight on time. Transfers can be arranged for you at your own expense. (B)

#### Price per person based on 8 people/twin share N\$6,190 Price per person based on 10 people/twin share N\$4,950

## Single supplement will apply

## Child Friendly: Min Age 12 yrs

**Price includes** – transport in a 2x4 safari vehicle services of an English speaking guide or driver; accommodation and entry fees to national parks and places of interest as stated in itinerary; meals as stated in itinerary; activities as stated;

**Price excludes:** personal travel insurance; commercial flights; drinks including mineral water; tips or gratuities; laundry; items of a personal nature; curios; telephone calls; medication; departure taxes and visa fees (if applicable); optional activities; additional meals not listed in itinerary; airport transfers; pre/post safari accommodation

**Insurance:** It is essential that you purchase comprehensive personal travel insurance before you embark on your safari. Travel insurance is for your own protection and we consider it to be a necessary part of modern international travel

**Meals:** Breakfasts will be in restaurants at the various accommodation establishments. Lunch packs are provided for driving days and excursions, with dinner at the lodge. 5x breakfast; 2x lunches and 5x dinners are included for the whole package. Please advise us of any special dietary requirements in advance

**Health Issues:** Namibia is a low risk malarial destination but we recommend that seek professional medical advice to enable you to make decisions on personal malaria protection. Note there is no malaria risk in this region of travel. Standard immunizations include: hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid and polio

All tap water in Namibia has been purified or comes directly from boreholes and is safe to drink. Tap drinking water is generally safe to drink but bottled mineral water is easily available at shops and rest camps should you prefer to drink this, at lodges it is provided. We recommend bottled water elsewhere

**Passport & Visas:** The onus is on the client to organize all visas required for clients prior to departure. Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after your scheduled departure date country of travel. If this is not the case, there is a danger of being turned away by the Immigration Service on arrival at the airport – assuming your airline has agreed to bring you and risk a fine in the first place. Please also ensure there are at least 2 full empty pages (if not more), per country you visit. The Company cannot be held liable for any necessary visas or other travel documents not held by the clients

**Clothing and other items:** suitable clothing for ATTA summit; shorts, light trousers/jeans, t-shirts and/or short sleeved shirts, long-sleeved shirt, jersey, warm/waterproof jacket or fleece for Swakopmund; walking shoes/trainers or similar, sandals, underwear and socks; swimming costume, sun hat, windbreaker, money belt; torch, & spare batteries, water bottle; UV protection, insect repellent; toiletries and any necessary medication; small first aid kit, camera and all equipment relating to it (lots of film/cards/spare batteries etc), plastic bags for use for camera (against sand and dust), and to protect clothing; copies of passports/tickets/insurances

**Luggage:** Most airlines allow 20-23kg in the hold and we recommend you bring less than this to allow for gifts, please note you may not always have immediate access to a porter and may need to carry your own bag so suggest you are able to comfortably carry your bag. In addition, a bag can be carried for photographic equipment and a small daypack. Please bring a backpack or soft barrel bag, not a hard suitcase. Most people bring too much clothing but generally there are laundry facilities along the way.

**Electrics:** Electrical plugs are 220V and are 3 pin (round pin as opposed to square pin). Adaptors can be purchased in Windhoek and are the same as South Africa (available internationally and at most airports). It is possible to re-charge batteries at some establishments but clients must be responsible for security of their possessions and Chameleon cannot be held responsible for client's personal possessions.

**Money:** The Namibian dollar is tied permanently against the South African rand on a 1/1 basis so you are able to check the current exchange rate against your local currency. Both Namibian dollars and South African rand are legal currencies in Namibia. You will need to bring extra money for additional expenses such as drinks, curios, additional meals and snacks, as well as any optional activities or excursions during your stay.

**Tipping**: It is customary to tip, usually, around 10% at restaurants.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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