

30 years Experience

perfecting the art of remote horse riding safaris in one of the most beautiful places on the planet,

the Namil desert

All our safaris are scheduled 10-nights, 8 of which are camping wild in some of the most remote and dramatic terrain Namibia has to offer. First and last nights are accommodated (first night <u>River</u> <u>Crossing Lodge</u>)

Included in the rate is your transfer from Windhoek International Airport to first overnight; transfer next day to start of the ride in the Tiras Reserve. On the last day of safari, transfer back to Windhoek International Airport from Aus.

Wild Horses Safari

Iconic Namibia

This adventurous ride includes some of the Namib's most breath-taking desert landscapes. From the great dune sea of the central Namib to the edge of the infamous Sperrgebiet (German for restricted area) this ride covers very diverse desert terrain - from the rugged Tiras Mountain Reserve, across the immense grassy plains dotted with inselbergs (island mountains), to the dunes of the Namib Sand Sea.

This safari starts in the Tiras Biosphere Reserve and ends at Klein Aus Vista, near the home of the Namib's, Namibia's Wild Horses.

About This Safari

• Timing: Arrive in Windhoek on the first day of your safari preferably in time for pre-dinner group briefing at 18:00 and arrive back at Windhoek International Airport (Hosea Kutako) on last day of safari in time for fights leaving after 17:00

• Excursion: We visit the <u>Wild Horses</u>, the 'ghost town' of <u>Kolmanskop</u> and the remote coastal town of Luderitz on penultimate day of safari.

• To book follow <u>this link</u> for instructions and <u>booking forms</u>, recommended <u>packing list</u>, <u>Indemnity</u> and our <u>Riding Policy</u> - we assume you have read our riding policy when you sign the <u>indemnity form</u>.

• The well-being of our **horses** are our first priority - please be accurate about your weight, fitness and riding ability when filling in the booking form.

• Note that this is a fairly challenging ride and not for inexperienced riders, but both intermediate plus and advanced riders will find it comfortable. It is however undeniably our most scenic safari with the added thrill of seeing the wild horses at the end of the ride.

• Because of the remoteness of our riding safaris, all guests require comprehensive medical insurance including repatriation. Consult our Riding Policy before booking - by signing the required Indemnity it is assumed you have understood the terms and conditions contained therein. Travel insurance is highly recommended. Link to our <u>YouTube Channel</u>

Being on Safari

- Camp life has a leisurely pace days begin at sunrise with the aroma of freshly brewed coffee wafting through camp. After an ample breakfast we start riding around 8 am for 4 5 hours with a dismounted apple-break in-between. Lunch breaks are 1 2 hours, followed by another 2 3 hours riding in the afternoon.
- We ride 20 50 km per day at all paces over rough desert terrain. This ride has a challenging 27 km crossing of the Namib Dune Sea of course this is very much part of this safari's appeal, as are the inspiring landscapes
- Our <u>Gallery</u> page gives good insights into what it's like being on safari eating, sleeping, riding....living with horses 24/7 and those perfect evenings around the campfire. Also see our <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> page for more information

- While camping hot bucket showers are available in the evenings and either chemical or long drop toilets at all campsites.
- You sleep in a warm, comfortable bedroll on a stretcher tents are available if required although you miss out on the spectacular stars overhead - few places on earth have zero light pollution.....this is one of those few. See our blog on the <u>Milky Way</u> and the legend of Phaeton's Scar.
- We try to cater for dietary exclusions, however, the remote nature of these safaris makes some difficult to cater for.

Summary of Hinerary

Days 1 + 2 Arrival and Transfer

Welcome to Namibia

A shuttle service will collect you from Windhoek International Airport (Hosea Kutako) to your first overnight in Windhoek (your name will be on a welcome board). Meet your fellow riders and host/ riding guide Andrew Gillies for sundowners and dinner at River Crossing Lodge. Andrew will give you a briefing about your adventure.

After breakfast on day two, there is a 5-hour commute to our lunch spot in the quaint hamlet of Maltahöhe, followed by a decent down the picturesque Zaris Pass to our camp in the Tiras Biosphere Reserve. Settle in and explore your surroundings - here you will meet your crew, your horse and be instructed in how to be 'desert savvy'.

Days 3 - 9 Tiras Mountains to the Desert Plains

We set off up the rugged Tiras Mountains via one of the meandering dry washes coming down from the plateau above. This unspoiled landscape has forced landowners to find sensitive ways to utilise this fragile area which is generally left to be natural. Boasting exceptional panoramic views from above - sentinel inselbergs (island mountains) dot the desertscape below with the distant dune sea towards which we are heading.

Desert adapted game are encountered during the day and open country with good going allows for some fast-paced riding. Lunch is enjoyed under a convenient tree or interesting spot with a good view. Overnight camps are chosen for their spectacular views - sleeping under the magnificent starry sky is a must - it has its own kind of magic. Few places on earth afford so little light pollution - allowing for an in- comparable view of the magnificent southern constellation. Our route may vary depending on weather conditions, or other circumstances but be assured every day will be memorable. Crossing the dune sea is an experience in itself and you will come to appreciate why we chose this route - the remark- able desert-scapes on the far side are as true "Namib" as one can get.

Day 10 Excursion Day

On our penultimate day we visit the coastal town of Luderitz, and explore the historic 'ghost town' of Kolmanskop – the historic mining town the desert is 'reclaiming'.

On our way back to our lodge, we stop for a sundowner at the water-hole of the Namib's -Namibia's wild horses.

Day 11 Departure

Early breakfast and transfer to Windhoek (just over 7-hour commute) arriving in time for departure flights from Windhoek International Airport after 17:00

Rate Includes

• All riding, accommodation and meals and drinks while on the ride - excluded are drinks at lodges, restaurants, and petrol stations en-route.

• Ground transfers from Windhoek International Airport to starting point of ride and return transfer to central Windhoek or Windhoek International airport on day of departure.

• A visit to the coastal town of Luderitz, and Kolmanskop as well as Garub, home of the Wild Horses

Rate Excludes

• Extra horse charge for riders 85kg and over in riding gear. For our horses' sake, please be accurate regarding weight and level of fitness. Please consult our Riding Policy. Maximum weight 95kg

• Single supplement will be waived if prepared to share lodge and guesthouse accommodation on first and last night of safari only.

• Personal drinks and refreshments at all lodges, restaurants, and petrol stations en-route.

• Accommodation and transfers not listed on the itinerary. Any extra transfers (for any reason including flight delays) other than those included in the itinerary – will be for guest's personal account.

- Additional activities and packages. We are happy to assist with recommendations.
- Safari staff gratuities.