

# SOUTH TOUR

SOUTH – 01.11.2019 – 31.10.2020



## Dates

Oct 2019	09
Nov 2019	11
Dec 2019	02
Jan 2020	-
Feb 2020	10
Mar 2020	02
Apr 2020	01/13
May 2020	04/18
Jun 2020	10/17
Jul 2020	01/29
Aug 2020	17/31
Sep 2020	21
Oct 2020	07/19

## Follow the Southern Cross

Landscapes, landscapes, landscapes! This trip takes us through the breath-taking landscapes of the Kalahari Basin and the south of Namibia. With mostly starry nights, we can see the infinite number of sparkling celestial bodies in the sky above us. The Southern Cross is the most famous constellation of the southern sky.

### DAY 1: WINDHOEK - GOCHAS

Our journey leads us through many little villages, across commercial farm land, all the way to the edge of the Kalahari Basin. Seemingly endless landscapes or camelthorn forests lead us to the first impressions of the beautiful Kalahari. In the afternoon, we enjoy a comfortable drive across the magnificent landscape and could even spot some game. Fascinated by the remarkable silence and the incredible colours, we return to our comfortable accommodation.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at Auob Lodge/ Kamelruhe Guesthouse or similar.*

### DAY 2: GOCHAS – REGION FISH RIVER CANYON

Today we are impressed by vast barren plains, incredible rock formations and a minimal population density. The main attraction of the day lies with our visit to the quiver tree forest, a fascinating succulent plant. The quiver tree (*Aloe dichotoma* – a succulent) is native to southern Namibia. The name stems from the time when the then-resident San hollowed out the branches and used them as quivers for their arrows. Our route continues through Keetmanshoop, an important city in the South, past the Naute Dam, to the breath-taking landscape that surrounds the Fish River Canyon. Our accommodation is in one of the lovingly designed Gondwana Lodges.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at the Canyon Roadhouse/ Lodge/ Village.*

### DAY 3: FISH RIVER – LÜDERITZ

Today we drive to the Fish River Canyon, one of the biggest Canyons in the world, that has a sudden drop of 550m from the mountainous landscape. After we have immersed ourselves in these impressions, our route continues via Seeheim and Aus until we reach Lüderitz. Our path leads us across a fascinating moon landscape and an endless desert with strange rock formations and a fantastic play of colors. In the afternoon we arrive in Lüderitz, a small and interesting town in the middle of the barren landscape that borders onto the cold Atlantic.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at Lüderitz Nest Hotel or Kairos Cottage.*



### DAY 4: LÜDERITZ

Lüderitz is the oldest German settlement in Namibia, named after the German businessman Lüderitz, who bought this area from the Hottentots in 1883. This small harbour city is built on a rock and is surrounded by bays and fjords. In the morning we pay a visit to the "ghost town" Kolmanskop – a once prosperous city, as the first diamonds in Namibia were found here. The old tales and pictures are just incredible! In the afternoon we embark on a sightseeing tour in and around Lüderitz.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at Lüderitz Nest Hotel or Kairos Cottage.*

### DAY 5: LÜDERITZ – NAMIB DESERT

Once again our drive takes us through diverse and incredible landscapes, such as the Neisip plain, the Tiras Mountains, alongside the red dunes of the edge of the Namib, through the Nubib Mountains until we reach our accommodation in the vicinity of the Tsaris Mountains.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at Hammerstein Lodge.*

### DAY 6: SOSSUSVLEI – SESRIEM CANYON

An old saying goes: The early bird catches the worm. In line with this we start our day while the stars are still out. We aim to absorb and enjoy the great mood of the early morning among the unique dune landscape around Sossusvlei. Sossusvlei is a large clay pan in the middle of the Namib Desert, surrounded by the highest sand dunes in the world in Namibia's largest nature reserve, the Namib Naukluft Park. We recommend hiking up one of the dunes to enjoy the sand between your toes, while it's still cold, and enjoy the view across the endless ocean of sand. In the late morning we visit the small, but interesting Sesriem Canyon that almost seems artificial. Our heart is full of impressions and we close our day off with a 4x 4 drive across the private reserve of our accommodation in the late afternoon.

*Dinner/ Accommodation/ Breakfast at the Namib Desert Lodge.*

### DAY 7: NAMIB DESERT - WINDHOEK

We return to Windhoek. We travel up the Great Escarpment and head towards the central mountain region. Near Rehoboth we visit Lake Oanob, a small oasis for residents and visitors. Afterwards we continue our drive to Windhoek and arrive in the late afternoon.

