

Namibia Photo Tour & Safari 2012

A photo tour of the people and wildlife of Namibia with Roger Nelson
Aug 6 - 19, 2012

Namibia is unlike any other African country. It has more variety of landscape and people while still supporting the wildlife that most expect in Africa. The landscape varies from sand dunes to scrub forest to open plains. The indigenous people of this country, the Himba, San and Herero are very friendly and photogenic. In certain areas, the wildlife population is still high enough to please any wildlife photographer. It is this variety that attracts photographers who want more than a wildlife safari.



For this tour, Global Travel Photography has selected a combination of photographic interests to help you take your photography to the next level. You will meet and photograph the Herero ladies, the Himba people and the San Bushmen. You will see ancient rock carvings, towering waterfalls, and desert coastlines. And yes, you will still get one of the best wildlife safaris ever offered. The special equipment used on this safari limits the trip to only 6 photographers who will come home with jaw dropping photos of Namibia people, wildlife and landscapes. Both photography workshops and photo processing sessions will be held to help you get the best images possible.

Namibia Photo Tour & Safari is specifically designed for people that want to experience this unique travel destination while improving their travel and wildlife photography skills. You will start your journey in Johannesburg, South Africa with a flight to Windhoek, Namibia. A short drive to Okahandja delivers you to your first photo shoot, the colorful Herero women that still wear colonial



European dresses. The next day you board a chartered plane and fly to Cape Cross on the Atlantic Ocean where a large colony of fur seals live. After photographing

these interesting creatures you will fly over the coastline and land at Twyfelfontein where you will have an opportunity to photograph many different rock carvings and paintings that are over 2,000 years old. Next you fly north to Opuwo to visit the Himba people and see how they live. With another flight you arrive at Epupa Falls a magnificent cataract on the border with Angola and another place to see more Himba people. The last cultural stop will be in Tsumkwe where you will meet the San Bushmen and learn how they have lived off this barren land for centuries.



The second part of the trip is a safari so we have joined with experts in this field Coetzer Nature Photography. You will be flown to the eastern end of Etosha National Park where you will stay in a comfortable lodge for 5 nights. Each day you will venture out into Etosha for a great wildlife viewing experience. Coetzer has built specialized swivel mounted chairs with adjustable posts for Wimberly tripod heads and put them on an elongated safari vehicle. The result is a very stable platform for big lenses and only 3 photographers in each vehicle for unbeatable wildlife photography. Professional Nikon cameras with 500 mm and 600 mm lenses will even be provided for your use at this location if you do not have your own equipment.



Etosha National Park is a huge area in northern Namibia where wildlife is protected. There are numerous waterholes in the park that attract herds of plains animals and the predators that follow them, especially in the dry season. There are over 100 different species of mammals in the park including Zebra, Oryx, Kudu, Impala, Wildebeest, Giraffe, Hyenas, Elephant, Lion and Rhino. You will have a front row seat at some of the best waterholes in the park with the best photo gear and the best platform to photograph from. Your vehicle will be able to move around all sides of these waterholes to put the animals in the best light possible.

After 5 days in Etosha National Park, you will be driven back to Windhoek where you will join your tour participants in a farewell dinner. The following day you will be transported to the airport for a flight back to Johannesburg and the end of your tour. Or, if you want to continue your African safari, add the *Botswana Photo Safari 2012* to the end of this trip and you will fly to Maun instead to join a Botswana safari from Aug 19 – 31. Details for this trip are published separately.

ITINERARY

Mon Aug 6 Your international flight arrives in Johannesburg, South Africa. You will be met at the airport and transferred to a nearby hotel. You will meet the tour leader and other tour participants for orientation and your first photography workshop in the late afternoon. You will spend the night in Johannesburg.

Tue Aug 7 You will be transferred back to the airport this morning for a flight to Windhoek, Namibia. When you arrive you will be driven to Okahandja where you will have lunch in a country lodge. Later in the afternoon you will meet a group of Herero ladies for your first photo shoot. The Herero continue to dress in the style of colonial Europeans and their colorful dresses are very photogenic. After your photo shoot you will be driven back to Windhoek where you will spend the night.



Wed Aug 8 After breakfast you will be driven to the airport where you will board a small chartered plane for a flight to Cape Cross on the Atlantic Ocean. Cape Cross is home to a huge fur seal colony so you will have a chance to photograph them in their natural environment. After lunch at a nearby hotel, you will board the plane again and continue flying to Twyfelfontein. The flight will take you along the coast and over the Ugab River so you might be able to capture some aerial shots as well. You will spend the night at Twyfelfontein.



Thu Aug 9 This morning you will walk through an area with ancient rock carvings and paintings that are estimated to be over 2,000 years old. The paintings depict the lives of people who lived here ages ago and the animals they hunted. Once you have captured all the images you want of the rock art, you will be flown to Opuwo in the northwestern part of the country. After

lunch you will have a second photography workshop. Later in the afternoon you will visit a Himba village to meet these people and see how they live. The Himba women cover their bodies with a reddish paste and wear a lot of leather jewelry giving them a very unique appearance. You will spend the night in Opuwo.



Fri Aug 10

After breakfast you will continue travelling north with a flight to Epupa Falls on the border with Angola. You will visit another Himba village this morning. The Himba people move their small villages as they move their grazing animals in search of grass so the villages have a different look here. After lunch you will have a third photography workshop. Later in the afternoon, you will travel to a vantage point overlooking the falls for sunset. You will spend the night at Epupa Falls.

Sat Aug 11

This morning you will board the plane again for a flight to Tsumkwe in northeastern Namibia. In the afternoon you will meet the San Bushmen and get your first chance to photograph these small but resourceful people. You will spend the night in Tsumkwe.

Sun Aug 12

You will spend the day with the San Bushmen and learn how they have lived on this barren land for centuries. They will show you how they find and save water, how they hunt and how they survive. You will spend the night in Tsumkwe again.



Mon Aug 13

After breakfast you will fly to Mushara Lodge at the eastern end of Etosha National Park. This is the beginning of your safari experience so your photographic focus will shift a bit. After lunch you will have another photography workshop to help you get prepared for a different type of photography. Later in the afternoon, you will take your first game drive to

photograph wildlife. You will spend the night at Mushara Lodge.

Tue Aug 14

Your day will begin early with a morning game drive. The vehicle you will be riding has been custom built by Coetzer Nature Photography. Instead of the normal two or three rows of seats in the back of a jeep, this vehicle has 3 custom photography chairs mounted on swivel platforms each with a pedestal for a Wimberley head to hold a big camera. You will be provided with professional photography equipment and 'big glass' (500 and 600 mm lenses) to enable you to capture



photographs that you only dreamt about before. Your custom vehicle will travel into Etosha National Park to one of several remote waterholes to photograph the wildlife that visits the waterhole. You will be there in the dry season so all the wildlife needs to come to a waterhole sooner or later and the predators know it. The interaction of the animals at the waterhole will be the focus of your attention and, with your long lens, you will be able to capture it in great detail. On most days you will return to the lodge after your morning game drive for a late breakfast followed by camp time. Camp time is the middle of the day when wildlife is not very active and the light is harsh anyway. There will be group photo processing sessions during this time to help you get the best images possible. By mid afternoon, you are ready to venture out on



another game drive and will stay out in the park until the sun goes down. When you return to the lodge you will have time to freshen up and join the other participants around the campfire and eventually for a hearty dinner. You

will spend the night at Mushara Lodge.

Wed Aug 15

Your activities today will be similar to Aug 14. Your custom safari vehicle will visit several different waterholes that are not open to the public. This assures you that other 'tourists' will not be driving through your pictures or scaring off the animals. Your driver will be able to position the vehicle at any location around the waterhole to make the best possible use of available light. You will spend the night at Mushara Lodge again.



Thu Aug 16

Your activities today will be similar to Aug 14. You will spend the night at Mushara Lodge again.

Fri Aug 17

Your activities today will be similar to Aug 14. You will spend the night at Mushara Lodge again.

Sat Aug 18

You will have one last game drive this morning followed by a hearty breakfast. Then you will be driven back to Windhoek for your last night in Namibia. You will join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner and will spend the night in Windhoek.



Sun Aug 19

This morning you will be driven to the airport for a flight back to Johannesburg, South Africa where the tour ends. You can board an evening flight home or on to your next destination.

Or

If you would like to continue your African safari, you can join the next Global Travel Photography tour next door in Botswana from Aug 19 – 31. If you select this option, you will be flown directly to Maun, Botswana where you will join other participants beginning this safari.

Fees for This Trip

- Tour Cost: \$ 10,500 per person
- Single Supplement Fee: \$ 600 per person

Rates are quoted per person, based on sharing double accommodations. If you prefer single accommodations, the Single Supplement Fee is added. If you're travelling alone and wish to share accommodations, we'll try our best to find you a roommate. If that's not possible, we will only charge you half of the single supplement.

What's Included

- Professional photography guide and trip leader
- Local English speaking guides / trackers
- Accommodations in South Africa and Namibia
- All meals while traveling as a group
- Custom safari vehicles at Etosha (3 photographers per vehicle)
- Airport transfers and ground transportation for group activities
- Chartered and commercial flights as noted in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and activities as noted in the itinerary
- Use of professional Nikon cameras and telephoto lenses in Etosha
- Tips for guides, drivers, waiters (for group meals), porters and bellhops
- One photo book of the tour created by Roger Nelson

What's Not Included

- International airfare to and from Johannesburg, South Africa
- Accommodations or meals en route to and from Johannesburg, South Africa
- Trip Insurance
- Excess baggage charges
- Alcoholic beverages where not included
- Hotel services such as internet, laundry or massage services
- Camera equipment at any location other than Etosha
- Passport and visa fees
- Other personal expenses

Payment & Booking Policy

A deposit of \$1,000 is required to confirm a reservation for this trip. The deposit payment must be accompanied by a completed Trip Application Form that includes a Release of Liability and Assumption of All Risks Agreement. The balance of all trip fees is due 90 days prior to departure.

Cancellation Policy

If written notice of cancellation is received	cancellation fee
At least 90 days prior to departure	\$200
89 to 60 days prior to departure	\$400
59 to 30 days prior to departure	50% of all applicable fees for this trip
Less than 30 days prior to departure	100% of all applicable fees for this trip

If Global Travel Photography cancels the trip due to insufficient participation, all monies paid will be refunded to you or applied to another trip at your discretion.

Flight Reservations

International airfare is not included in the cost of our trips. For air reservations, we recommend you contact the airlines directly, either by phone or Internet. Many travelers elect to use their "frequent flyer" miles when traveling internationally. **Please do not book your international flights without verifying that we have enough participants to operate the trip.**

Insurance

You are strongly encouraged to purchase travel and liability insurance. If you are hurt in a remote area, it can be very expensive to air lift you to the nearest reliable medical facility. Global Travel Photography does not provide any insurance for trip participants. You will need to purchase a travel insurance policy that meets your needs for medical expenses, emergency medical evacuation, trip cancellation and interruption, and baggage protection. There are a number of companies that offer policies with varying levels of coverage. Check the web and purchase a policy that provides the coverage you need.

Health & Fitness

This trip involves a lot of walking on uneven surfaces and stairs. There are very few accommodations for handicapped individuals. **We recommend that you consult a physician before the trip to ensure that you are healthy enough for this type of trip.**

If you want to enjoy all the activities on this trip you should participate in an active exercise regime before the trip. Naturally, you will be able to opt out of any of the activities if you wish.

What to Expect

You will have an exciting and unforgettable experience! No other photo tour offers this combination of activities, workshops and photo opportunities.

This tour will be led by Roger Nelson, a professional travel photographer that leads photo tours around the world. He has visited Namibia numerous times and has designed the trip to give you the best combination of people and wildlife possible. You will also have a local English speaking guide/tracker at most locations on the trip to share local knowledge, find wildlife and ensure that the trip runs smoothly and safely. The trip will be limited to 6 participants.

When being transported by road from one area to another, you will travel together in a small bus or van with ample room for all participants. Most bus travel will be short trips around a local area. The longest trip will be 5 hours (Etosha to Windhoek). You will also take a number of chartered and commercial flights in order to minimize travel time. You will fly from Johannesburg to Windhoek, Windhoek to Cape Cross to Twyfelfontein, Twyfelfontein to Opuwo, Opuwo to Epupa Falls, Epupa Falls to Tsumkwe, Tsumkwe to Mushara and Windhoek back to Johannesburg or on to Maun, Botswana (if you select to combine both tours). The two custom safari vehicles will be limited to 3 photographers each. Luggage is limited to 20 kg (44 lbs) per person due to the small planes you will fly (normally they limit it to 10kg but we've doubled it to accommodate the camera gear).

You will be staying in comfortable accommodations in all destinations. In Johannesburg and Windhoek you will stay in 3 or 4 star western style hotels. In other areas of Namibia you will be staying in lodges that provide basic comforts equivalent to a 3 star hotel. You dine together for all meals while traveling as a group in order to share experiences, convey information and stay on the same schedule. Your days often start early with a quick cup of coffee in order to be ready for sunrise photography. On the safari portion of the trip, breakfast is usually served in the late morning after your morning game drive so lunch is usually skipped. Afternoon tea or snacks are usually served so there is plenty to eat. Dinner is served at your lodge after the sun sets and you return from late afternoon photography.

If you have a spirit of adventure, a positive attitude and a desire to take inspiring photographs of your trip, Global Travel Photography tours are designed for you. While we will do our best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change. Sometimes, a special event is taking place and you will want to be part of it. Other times travel delays simply make us rearrange schedules. In any event, you can be assured of a very memorable trip.

Signing Up

Download the 'Namibia Photo Tour & Safari' Trip Application Form from the GTP website (www.globaltravelphoto.com). Complete all 3 pages of the form, signing where required, and send the completed form along with a deposit check for \$1,000 to: Global Travel Photography, 1031 1st St S, #906, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250. If you prefer, you can pay by credit card using the PayPal link on the website.

You will be provided with extensive planning information to prepare for the trip including advice on camera gear, baggage and packing as well as what to expect in Namibia. In the meantime, if you have any questions, just send us an email at info@globaltravelphoto.com and we'll do our best to get you a quick answer. If you would rather talk by phone, call us at 904-537-3136 or 904-372-4600.

The deadline to sign up for this tour is June 6, 2012
Limit of 6 participants