



# Travel Planning

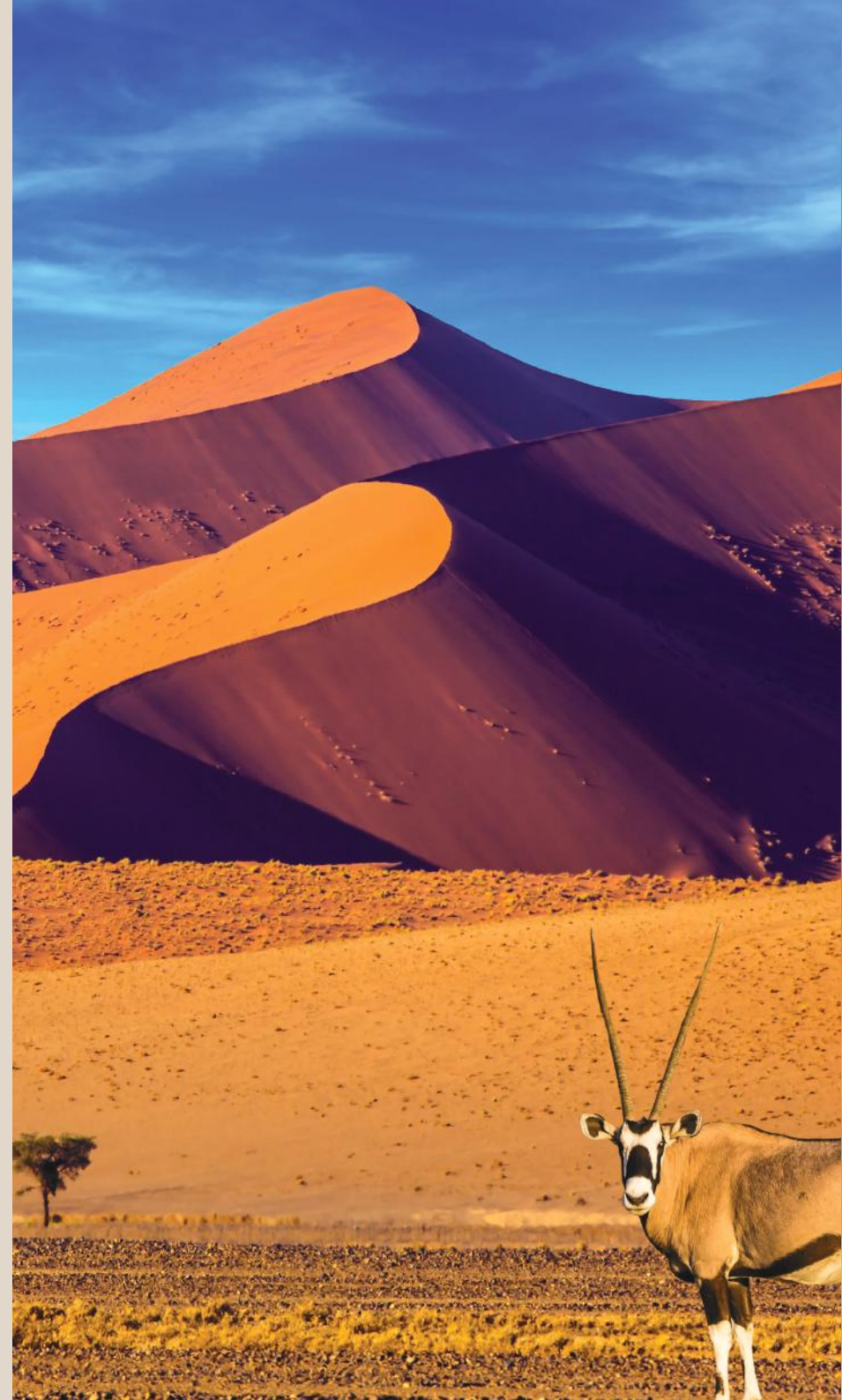
## FOR NAMIBIA

*This document offers useful information on travel to Namibia, health planning advice & what to pack.*



# About NAMIBIA

Namibia is a country of stunning, contrasting landscapes. The Namib, the oldest desert on Earth, runs along the Atlantic coastline, while the Kalahari Desert in the eastern interior forms a partially vegetated, sprawling savannah ecosphere. In between lies the central plateau, with expansive plains and rugged mountains. The country is famed for its enormous open vistas, endless sunshine and glittering night skies. The coastline of Namibia is a protected conservation area and home to the Skeleton Coast, aptly named for the extraordinary number of shipwrecks beneath these treacherous waters. The Skeleton Coast National Park showcases this wild coastline's unusual, strange beauty. Inland national parks and wilderness conservancies overlap most of the Namibian borders with neighbouring countries, including Angola to the north, Botswana to the east and South Africa to the south and south-east. The gigantic Etosha salt pan – so huge it is visible from space – shimmers in the heart of the Etosha National Park in the far northwest. The park is acclaimed for its surprising abundance of wildlife that has adapted to survive in harsh, arid conditions. The second largest canyon on Earth, the ancient Fish River Canyon, lies in the south of Namibia. This magnificent, intriguing natural wonder attracts visitors from far and wide. Despite the sizeable landmass of Namibia, covering 824,292 square kilometres, the country has a population of only 2.6 million (reported figures as of 2021). The capital city is Windhoek.





## CURRENCY

The local currency of Namibia is the Namibian Dollar (NAD) which is paired with the South African Rand (ZAR) with an equal exchange rate. Please remember that the Namibian Dollar (NAD) is not accepted in South Africa. Foreign currencies such as United States Dollars (USD), UK Pound Sterling (GBP) and Euros (EUR) are accepted at most tourist destinations, and small denominations should be carried where possible. Although local currency is preferred, Foreign Exchange centres are in the main cities, towns, and Windhoek Hosea Kutako International Airport.

## BANKS

Banks are open Mondays to Fridays from 09h00 to 15h30 and Saturdays from 09h00 to 11h00. Several international banks have branches in the main cities. Various automated teller machines (ATMs) are found in cities and most towns.

## CREDIT CARDS

Mastercard and Visa Cards are widely accepted throughout the country. In contrast, Diners Club Cards and American Express Cards are accepted to a lesser extent, especially in remote areas of the country.

## LANGUAGE

The official language is English, while Afrikaans and German are also widely used. Numerous local languages and dialects are also spoken throughout Namibia.







## CLIMATE

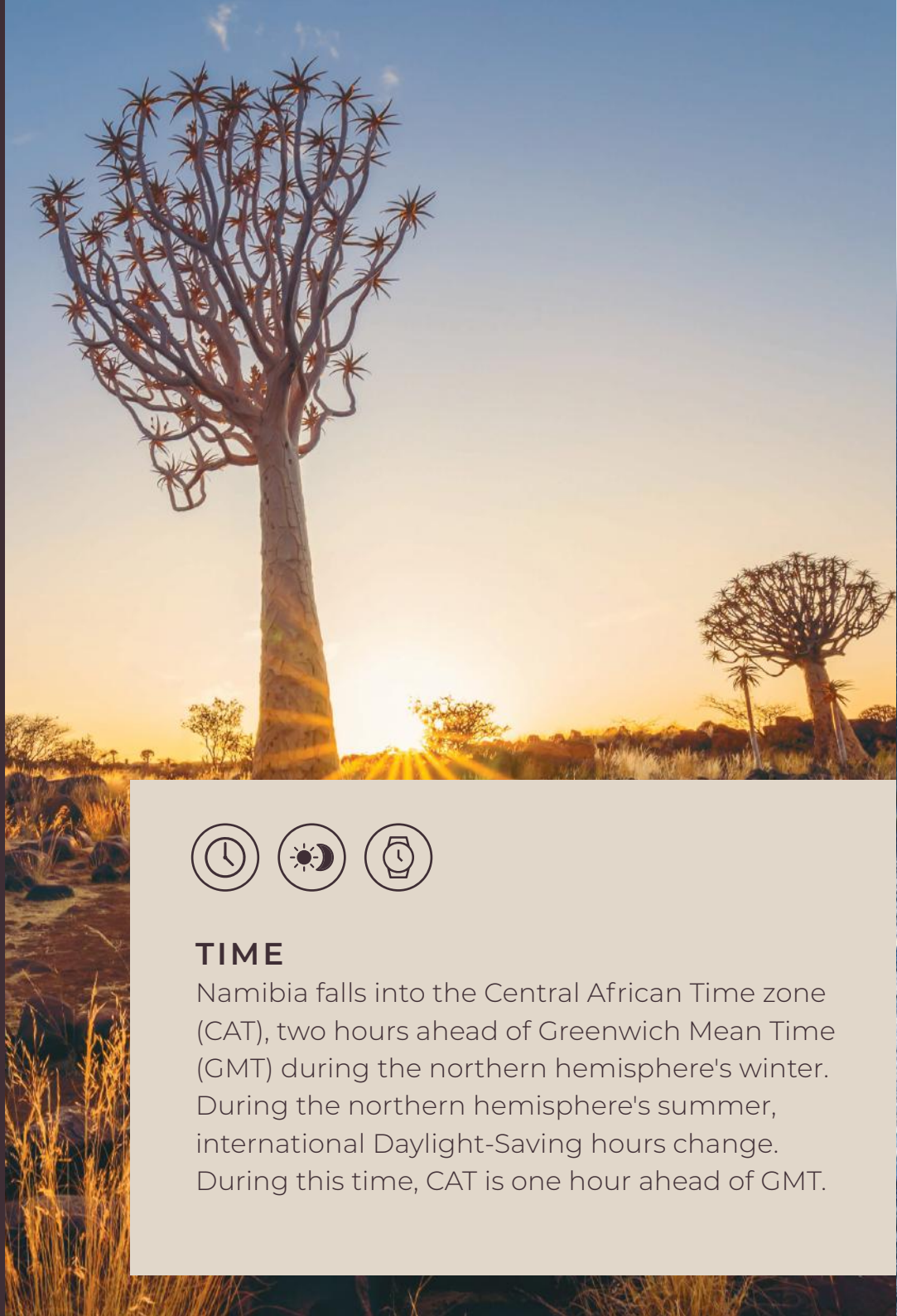
The climate of Namibia is defined by its vast tracts of desert, central inland altitude and the cold Benguela Current, which flows down the Atlantic coastline. Throughout the year, the weather in Namibia is generally pleasant, with hot, dry days and cool to cold nights. Extreme temperature fluctuations occur during the winter months from May to September, when warm days often transition into freezing nights. From October to February, mid-summer daytime temperatures may rise to over 40°C (104°F) however, nights are usually significantly cooler.

Along the coast, temperatures are less extreme, and throughout the year, advection fog (caused when warm coastal hinterland air meets the icy Atlantic waters) often moves inland from late afternoon until mid-morning.

Namibia is a low rainfall area and is the driest country in the world outside of the Sahara Desert. Although rainfall patterns are erratic and unpredictable, the northern sub-tropical regions – including the Caprivi – tend to attract the highest rainfall from November to March.

Year-round, it can get cool to very cold at night and in the early morning whilst on safari.

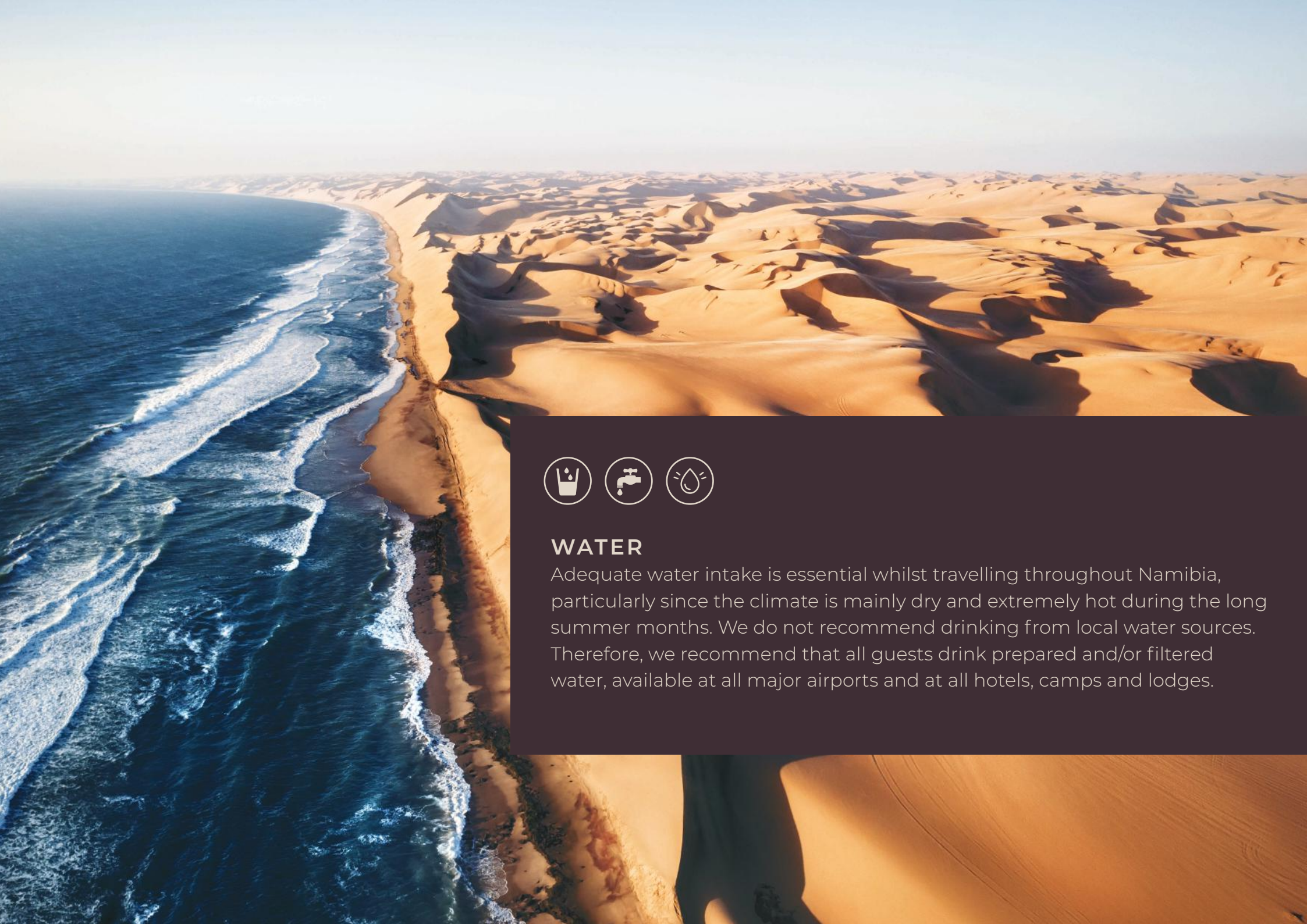
Please refer to our Packing Suggestions in this document for recommended seasonal attire.



## TIME

Namibia falls into the Central African Time zone (CAT), two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) during the northern hemisphere's winter. During the northern hemisphere's summer, international Daylight-Saving hours change. During this time, CAT is one hour ahead of GMT.





## **WATER**

Adequate water intake is essential whilst travelling throughout Namibia, particularly since the climate is mainly dry and extremely hot during the long summer months. We do not recommend drinking from local water sources. Therefore, we recommend that all guests drink prepared and/or filtered water, available at all major airports and at all hotels, camps and lodges.





## LUGGAGE LIMITATIONS ON SCHEDULED LIGHT AIRCRAFT TRANSFERS

There are strict luggage weight restrictions for all scheduled light aircraft transfers. These restrictions are as follows:

- Camera & Hand Luggage per person is restricted to 5kgs (11 pounds).
- Only soft-sided bags will be accepted.
- Suitcases, bags with wheels, frames or hard sides will not be permitted on scheduled light aircraft flights.

### Maximum dimensions Soft-sided bags which can be accommodated are as follows:

- 25cm (10 inches) wide x 30cm (12 inches) high and 62cm (24 inches) long.
- Please remember that baggage compartments on light aircraft are only 25cm high (10 inches), so the pilots must be able to manipulate the bag into the compartment.
- A collapsible wheeled luggage frame/trolley (separate from the bag) is allowed as long as the basic dimensions are similar to that of the bag.

### Excess Luggage:

- Requirements and costs for excess luggage on any light aircraft transfers vary depending on the charter company, aircraft used and routing. In most cases, you will have to purchase an extra seat which allows for additional 20kgs (44 pounds) per person.





## PASSENGER LIMITATIONS ON SCHEDULED LIGHT AIRCRAFT TRANSFERS

- Besides luggage allowances, light aircraft are designed to carry a specific maximum body weight.
- Many airfields utilised for safari destinations are above 1,000 metres (3,280 feet) above sea level. Many of these airfields are also located in tropical regions, therefore, the permissible aircraft carrying capacity is further reduced.
- Please inform us in advance if guests weigh more than 100kg (220 pounds), as additional weight allowance on the aircraft must be purchased for safety and comfort.
- The costs for this are calculated on request, according to specific region and routing, and provide for a maximum of 70kg (154 pounds) excess weight per passenger.
- These limits apply to guests travelling on a seat rate, scheduled light aircraft transfer basis.
- This requirement may differ if guests have booked sole use of an aircraft or private charter option, in which case the maximum passenger weights will depend on the type of aircraft and the number of passengers booked.

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***“One cannot resist the lure  
of Africa”***

RUDYARD KIPLING



## TRAVEL INSURANCE

- Fully Comprehensive Travel Insurance Cover, including Comprehensive Medical Cover, is essential and must be purchased before travelling.
- Comprehensive Insurance Cover can be extended to cover loss of luggage, personal items, and trip cancellations.
- Depending on your country of origin, a separate Comprehensive Medical Travel Insurance policy may be required, over and above your Fully Comprehensive Travel Insurance policy.
- Please ensure you have these Insurance Documents with you at all times during your trip.





## VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO NAMIBIA

Citizens of countries that do not have a reciprocal visa waiver agreement with Namibia must obtain a visa before travelling. This applies in addition to those nationalities that previously required pre-approved visas, who must continue following the existing visa application procedures.

## NEW VISA ON ARRIVAL (VOA) POLICY

Nationals from the following countries are now eligible for Namibia's Visa on Arrival (VOA) program:

### ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES:

- **Americas & Europe:** Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cambodia, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vatican/Holy See, Venezuela, Vietnam.
- **African Nations:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Togo, Tunisia, Western Sahara Republic, Uganda.







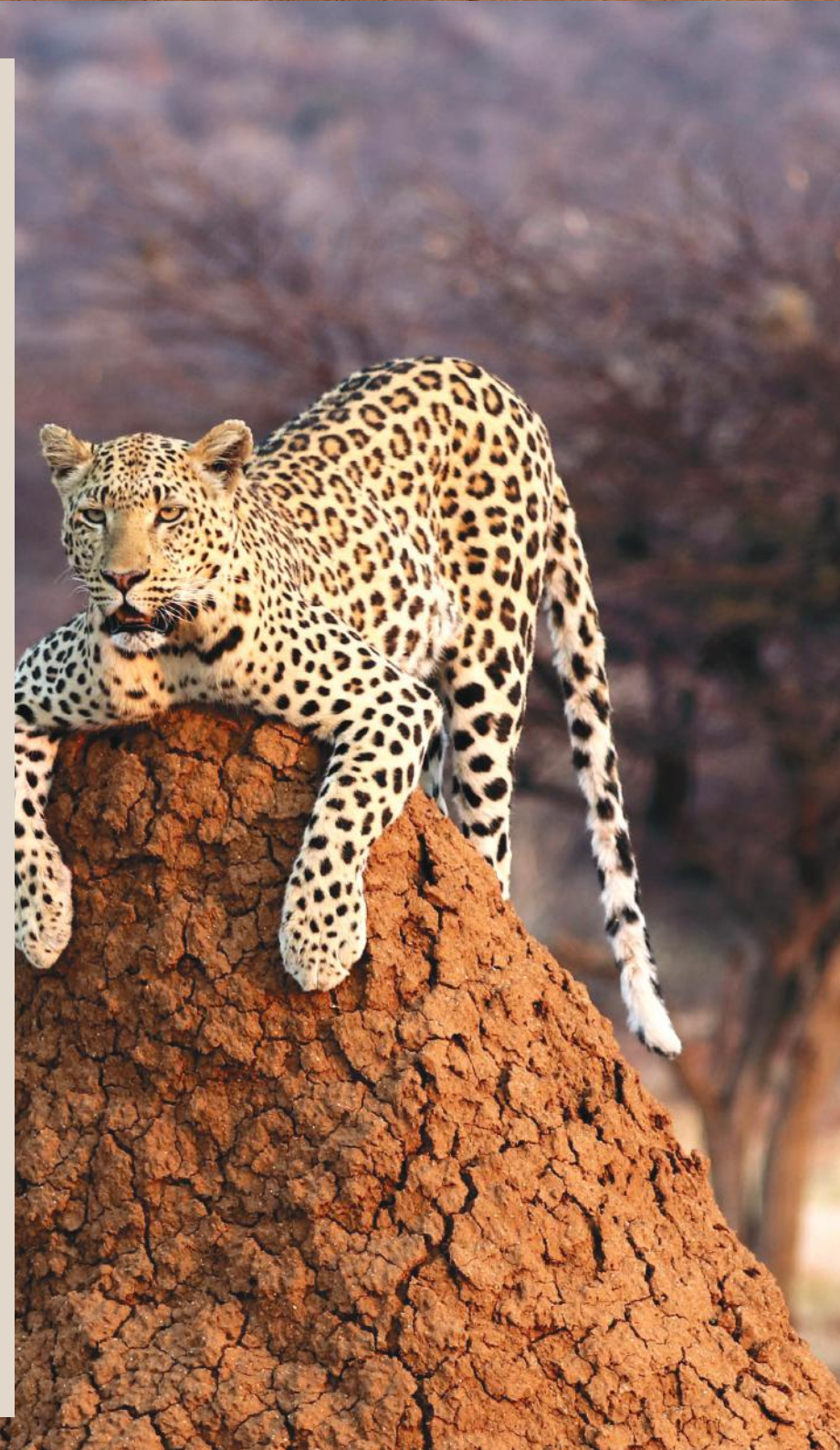
## IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR VISA ON ARRIVAL APPLICANTS

- Travellers from eligible VOA countries must select the "Visa on Arrival" option, not "Holiday Visa." This applies to travellers from countries including the UK, USA, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand.
- Once the online visa application is approved, travellers must print their approval letter and complete the Namibia Arrival Form before presenting these documents upon arrival.
- To avoid long queues, it is recommended to process the Visa on Arrival in advance.

## VISA ON ARRIVAL REQUIREMENTS

### To qualify for a Visa on Arrival, travellers must provide:

- Original passport (valid for at least 6 months with three blank pages).
- Return ticket (proof of onward travel).
- Health/travel insurance (in English). A standard policy suffices, but travellers may be asked to present proof upon arrival.
- Hotel accommodation details (Only first and last night's stay required for travellers on a pre-booked safari; full itinerary details do not need to be uploaded).
- Proof of financial means: Travelers should declare N\$1,000 in cash, with the remainder available on credit/debit cards. No additional bank statements or proof is required.







## TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS:

- Please contact your local Namibian Embassy, Consulate or other Namibian Representative Office for advice regarding travelling with children, as the following guidelines may change at short notice. Furthermore, requirements for travelling with children may depend on the visitors' countries of origin.
- Parents of children under the age of 18 years may be required to provide the following documentation (certified copies may be accepted, or original documents, together with non-certified copies, are accepted) when entering or leaving the borders of Namibia:

### Both parents travelling with children:

- A certified copy of each child's unabridged birth certificate must include the biological father and mother's full names, identity numbers, and place of birth.

### One parent travelling with children:

- A certified copy of each child's unabridged birth certificate must include the biological father and mother's full names, identity numbers, and place of birth.
- An affidavit signed by the parent who is not travelling authorising the parent who is travelling with each child to do so, together with a certified copy of the non-travelling parent's passport or identity document and their contact details.
- If the parent travelling with each child has been granted full parental rights and responsibilities or is the legal guardian of each child, they must provide a certified copy of the court order granting them those rights.
- If one parent is deceased, the parent or legal guardian travelling must provide a certified copy of the death certificate.







### **An adult travelling with children who are not their biological children:**

- A certified copy of each child's unabridged birth certificate must include the biological father and mother's full names, identity numbers, and place of birth.
- An affidavit from each child's parents or legal guardians confirming that they have permission to travel with each child.
- Certified copies of the identity documents or passports of each child's parents or legal guardians.
- Certified proof of the contact details of each child's parents or legal guardians.

### **Children travelling unaccompanied by an adult: •**

- A certified copy of each child's unabridged birth certificate must include the biological father and mother's full names, identity numbers, and place of birth.
- An affidavit of proof of consent for each child to travel from both parents or legal guardians. If only one parent or legal guardian provides proof of consent, each child must also travel with a certified copy of a court order granting that parent or legal guardian full parental responsibilities.
- A certified copy of a letter/affidavit from the person in authority in Namibia who will be responsible for each child on arrival. This letter/affidavit must include the said person of authority's contact number, residential address, and all contact details for where each child will be staying in Namibia.
- A certified copy of the identity document, passport, visa or permanent residence permit of the person in authority who will be responsible for each child on arrival.
- Certified proof of the contact details of each child's parents or legal guardians.



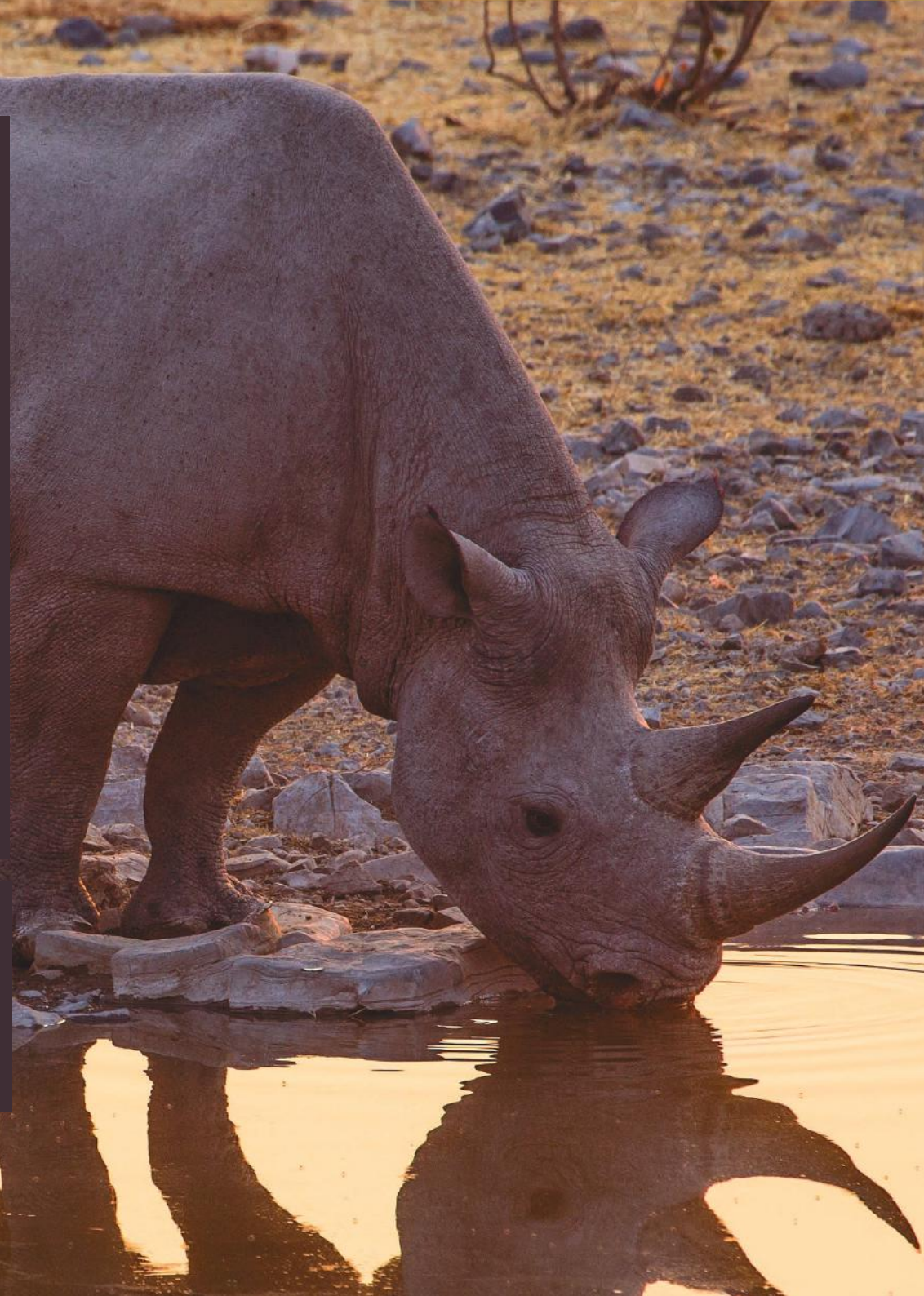




## PLEASE NOTE

- As indicated, all supporting documents required should be certified copies.
- Parental consent documents must be issued within six months before the date of travel.
- Families travelling with children under the age of 18 years may be restricted from entering and/or departing from Namibia without the above-mentioned documentation.
- The above-mentioned documentation must be available when visiting neighbouring countries when travelling with minors, where the point of entry and/or exit is Namibia.
- It is recommended that should the documentation not be in English, an English version is obtained.

**For all VISA requirements, including the entire application process and costs, please contact your local Namibian Embassy, Consulate or other Namibian Representative Office for further details.**







## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- Namibia is an endemic Malaria area, therefore, Malaria prophylactics are strongly recommended. Please contact your Local Travel Clinic or Medical Practitioner before travel to determine the appropriate anti-Malaria measures. The use of additional precautionary measures, such as topical insect repellents and wearing long-sleeved clothing, long trousers and socks when outside at night are recommended, especially when on safari.
- It is inadvisable for pregnant women to visit Malaria areas.
- A Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is only required for travellers arriving from or travelling onwards to countries with a risk of Yellow Fever transmission, i.e., the Yellow Fever belts of Africa and/or South America.
- Although additional vaccinations (such as Hepatitis A and B, Polio, Tetanus and others) are not mandatory, certain vaccinations may be recommended by your Local Travel Clinic or Medical Practitioner.



- Should any visitor to Namibia be on prescription medication or require any other types of medications, they must please ensure they have an adequate supply of all medicines for the duration of their trip.
- For prescription medications, an English version of each prescription must be obtained and carried with relevant medications.
- Please keep all medicines in their original labelled packaging.

**Please get in touch with your Local Travel Clinic or Medical Practitioner before your departure date about all the above-mentioned health requirements. Vaccination requirements may be subject to change at short notice.**



## PHOTOGRAPHY

Please be mindful of others when taking photographs at all times. Should you wish to photograph local people, particularly children, please be courteous and ask permission before taking pictures. Some local people may not wish to be photographed for cultural reasons.

Photography is not permitted at specific locations, including government buildings, museums, art galleries, private houses, etc., these areas are usually clearly marked. If in doubt, please ask, otherwise, camera equipment may be confiscated. Flash photography may be prohibited in certain night-time situations, notably when on safari. While game viewing, be respectful of animal life and your fellow travellers. Do not startle or disturb animals or birds whilst taking photographs.

## SHOPPING

In major cities and towns, your hotel or guesthouse concierge will assist you with locating the best local shops and handicraft markets to visit. Curio shops can be found at numerous game lodges/camps throughout Namibia.



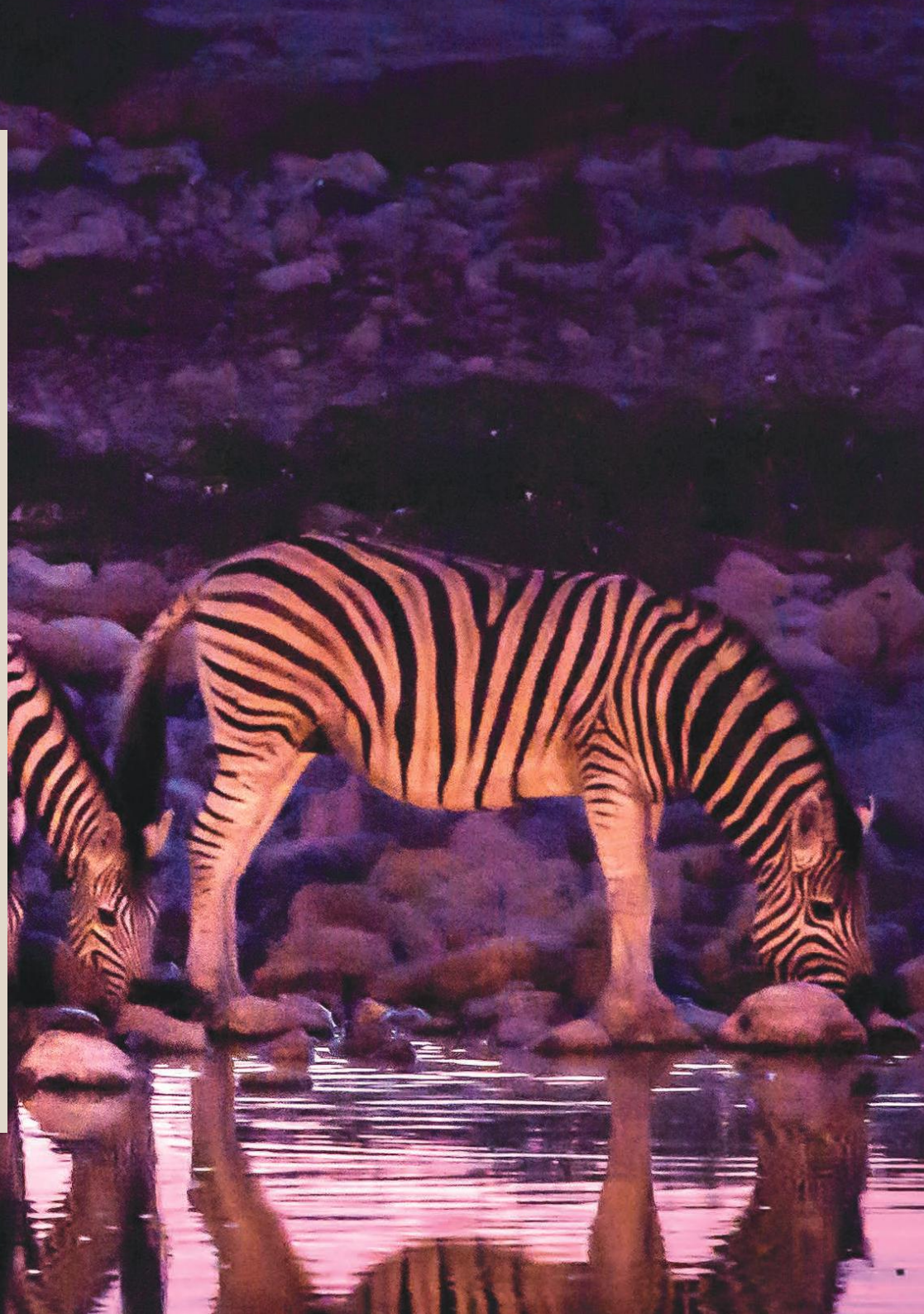




## POWER SUPPLY

All electrical appliances run on 220V (AC – alternating current). Special adaptors for charging photographic equipment, mobile phones, laptops, tablets, hairdryers, etc., are required. These can be purchased at major airports and shopping centres.

Some hotels and lodges may be able to supply guests with adaptors – however, we recommend that you carry your adaptors and converters, particularly if you have specific charging devices that operate at different currents/voltages. Some safari camps/lodges may not have 220V (AC – alternating current) and may operate on solar-powered 12V electricity (direct current – DC). Please bring spare batteries that can be charged at the camp/lodge while you are out on safari activities.







## SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

### CLOTHING

- Sun hat
- Golf shirts and/or T-shirts – preferably with a sleeve to protect your shoulders from the sun
- Long-sleeved cotton shirts
- Shorts and/or skirts
- Long trousers/slacks
- Comfortable walking shoes such as trainers, tennis shoes or similar sports shoes
- Sandals
- Swimming costume
- Lightweight jumper for summer evenings
- A warm jacket and/or fleece jacket is recommended not only for winter but also year-round whilst on safari
- Light rain gear or waterproof jacket

Please note that most luxury trains have a specific formal dress code for dining.





## EQUIPMENT/OTHER

- Good quality sunglasses with UV protection – preferably polarised
- Personal toiletries
- Moisturising cream and suntan lotion – SPF 30 or higher recommended
- Insect repellent for topical application
- Torch
- Namibia wildlife and/or bird guides, especially if you have specific areas of interest
- Binoculars
- Camera equipment, including spare batteries, chargers, film, memory cards, memory sticks, etc.
- Converter plugs to 220V Alternating current, and 12V Direct current, as detailed in the section on power supply above.
- Waterproof/dustproof bag or cover for your camera
- Dive card and logbook (if applicable)
- An adequate supply of all prescription medications and/or other medicines required for the duration of your trip
- Visas, tickets, passports, money, credit cards, insurance documents, etc.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There may be a restriction on luggage limits on your journey – please ensure that you have the details from your agent according to your itinerary. Please ask your agent ahead of time if you would like details on the feasibility and costs of taking excess luggage with you, as noted above in Luggage and Passenger Limitations on Scheduled Light Aircraft Transfers.







## GRATUITIES GUIDELINES

We would like to reiterate that tipping is not compulsory. Guests should not feel obliged to do so. Tipping should be offered only by choice, subject to the service received.

As such, we have enclosed a brief guideline to assist guests. In addition, guests may wish to add a nominal amount for incidentals (subject to personal budget choice) – i.e. if additional activities are booked once on their journey, if travel arrangements change for any reason, in acknowledgement of good service received in another area, etc.





## NAD GRATUITIES GUIDELINE

### SERVICE

Meet & Greet  
Airport Transfer Driver  
Hotel / Airport Porters  
Guides for City Sightseeing (Half Day)  
Guides for City Sightseeing (Full Day)  
Local Safari Guides at camps/lodges  
Local Safari Trackers at camps/lodges  
Housekeepers  
General staff at camps/lodges

*- Gratuities are then shared among the general staff*

Meals at Restaurant, incl Room Services **10-15%** unless already included/

### OUR RECOMMENDATION

**NAD 100.00** per person, per Meet & Greet  
**NAD 100.00** per person, per transfer  
**NAD 30.00** per person per bag movement  
**NAD 200.00** per person per Half Day  
**NAD 300.00** per person per Full Day  
**NAD 300.00** per person per day  
**NAD 150.00** per person per day  
**NAD 50.00** per person per night  
**NAD 150.00** per person per day

## USD GRATUITIES GUIDELINE

### SERVICE

Meet & Greet  
Airport Transfer Driver  
Hotel / Airport Porters  
Guides for City Sightseeing (Half Day)  
Guides for City Sightseeing (Full Day)  
Local Safari Guides at camps/lodges  
Local Safari Trackers at camps/lodges  
Housekeepers  
General staff at camps/lodges

*- Gratuities are then shared among the general staff*

Meals at Restaurant, incl Room Services **10-15%** \*Unless already included

### OUR RECOMMENDATION

**US\$ 5** per person, per Meet & Greet  
**US\$ 10** per person, per transfer  
**US\$ 2** per person per bag movement  
**US\$ 10** per person per Half Day  
**US\$ 20** per person per Full Day  
**US\$ 20** per person per day  
**US\$ 15** per person per day  
**US\$ 5** per person per night  
**US\$ 15** per person per day

